

Curriculum for Workshop 4: Integrating Soft Skills into VET for Improved Employability

Project Agreement Number: 101183369



**Co-funded by
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Project Details

Program:	Erasmus+
Key Action:	ERASMUS Lump Sum Grants
Project Title:	RoadMap for improving the quality and responsiveness of VET – Theory and Practice
Project Acronym:	RAPPORT
Project Agreement Number:	101183369
Project Start Date:	01/01/2025
Project End Date:	31/12/2027

Deliverable Details

Work Package No:	2
Work Package Title:	Capacity Building Workshops for the improvement of the quality and responsiveness of VET to socio-economic opportunities and social developments to enhance the labour market relevance of skills provision
Work Package Task No:	T2.4
Work Package Task Title:	Integration of soft skills in VET curricula

Coordinator:



Partners:



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Partner Responsible for the development



Version Details

Version Number	Date of Edition
Version 1	07/11/2025

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1. Introduction

This workshop examines the role of soft skills in enhancing employability within VET. It explores how communication, teamwork, adaptability, and problem-solving can be effectively taught, assessed, and integrated into vocational programmes aligned with European competence frameworks.

2. Aim and objectives

2.1. Aim

The aim of the workshop is to strengthen participants' understanding of soft skills and their importance in VET, while building their capacity to embed, evaluate, and promote these competences within curricula and work-based learning.

2.2. Objectives

At the end of the workshop participants will be in a position to:

In terms of knowledge:

1. To explain the importance of soft skills in the contemporary labour market.
2. To identify key soft skills relevant to VET curricula and occupational profiles.
3. To describe effective methodologies for teaching and assessing soft skills.
4. To relate soft skills integration to relevant EU frameworks (e.g., LifeComp, EntreComp, DigComp)
5. To recognize examples of good practices and successful approaches among partner institutions.

In terms of skills:

1. To apply techniques for mapping soft skills to specific VET subjects and occupational areas.
2. To design learning activities and teaching strategies that embed soft skills into technical training.

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3. To develop assessment criteria and tools for evaluating learners' soft skills.
4. To integrate EU competence frameworks (LifeComp, EntreComp, DigComp, etc.) into VET curriculum planning.
5. To adapt good practices and resources for the continuous improvement of soft-skills training in VET.

In terms of attitudes:

1. To value the importance of embedding soft skills as a core component of quality VET.

2.3. List of topics

Topic 1 : Soft Skills Overview

- Subtopic 1: Official definition of Soft Skills
- Subtopic 2: Why Soft Skills matter in VET
- Subtopic 3: Types of Soft Skills
- Subtopic 4: How Soft Skills are Developed

Topic 2: Importance of Soft Skills

- Subtopic 1: Why Soft Skills?
- Subtopic 2: Why in VET?
- Subtopic 3: Role in Validation of Non-Formal and Informal Learning
- Subtopic 4: Benefits from Soft Skills

Topic 3: Categories of Soft Skills

- Subtopic 1: Categories of Soft Soft Skills
- Subtopic 2: Transversal (Universal) Soft Skills
- Subtopic 3: Sector-Specific soft Skills
- Subtopic 4: Emotional Intelligence & Soft Skills
- Subtopic 5: Why EI & Soft Skills Matter in the Workplace
- Subtopic 6: Competence Frameworks and Soft Skills

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Topic 4: Why and How to Integrate Soft Skills in VET curricula

- Subtopic 1: Why Integration Matters
- Subtopic 2: Guiding Principles for Integration
- Subtopic 3: How to Integrate Soft Skills
- Subtopic 4: Effective Training Methodologies
- Subtopic 5: Assessing Soft Skills

Topic 5: Sharing of resources, best practices and success stories

- Subtopic 1: What counts as Good Practice?
- Subtopic 2: Soft Skills Guides
- Subtopic 3: Trainer Development Programs
- Subtopic 4: Online learning Platforms for Soft Skills Development

2.4. Training techniques used

- ☐ Lecture
- ☐ Questions and answers
- ☐ Discussion
- ☐ Exercise
- ☐ Case study

2.5. Workshop Evaluation

- Reaction Evaluation through a questionnaire that includes general evaluation questions and also specific questions evaluating the extent to which the participants feel that specific knowledge and skills are being developed by the specific workshop.
- A learning evaluation tool through a multiple choice test (10 questions)