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Issue 3

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Refining HE Apprenticeships
with Enterprises in Europe

FACTS AND FIGURES

*Programme: ERASMUS+
Support for Policy Reform*

*Action: KA3 VET-Business
Partnership
Apprenticeships/Work-based
learning*

Call: EACEA-40-2016

Starting date: 16 Oct 2017

Ending date: 15 Oct 2019

Welcome to the third **ApprEnt** project Newsletter!

Transversal comparison of case studies

The **ApprEnt** partners have collected existing good practices of “HE apprenticeship¹ programmes” or of other (non-HE apprenticeship) programmes that could be directly relevant, easily transferable or useful for HE apprenticeship level programmes in European HE institutions. Altogether 33 interesting practice cases from nine European countries were collected. Keeping the possible flaws and data gaps in mind, the transversal comparison tries to draw a comprehensive picture about the current status of the **apprenticeship practices** in Europe and, based on that, draws some general conclusions to support future development of such initiatives and programmes in different European countries.

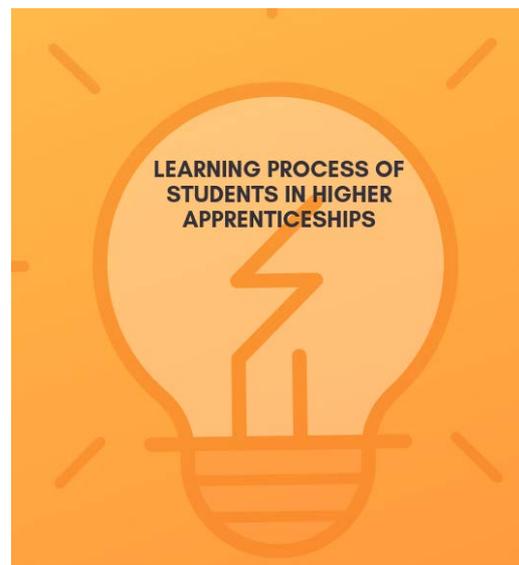
The analysis also embeds the inputs gathered by the project partners in the **national discussion focus groups** organised in each partner country as national dialogue spaces where HEIs and enterprises exchanged impressions and views about (a) the collected Case Studies and (b) the initial SWOT analysis

The transversal comparison is currently available while the collected case studies will be downloadable by the end of July 2019, everything from this web page <https://apprent.eucen.eu/tools/>

¹ For a definition of HE apprenticeship, please have a look at this project web page <https://apprent.eucen.eu/definition/>

Prototype training course

One of the problems preventing the implementation of a better and larger offer of HE work-based learning and apprenticeship schemes is the lack of proper training for HE supervisors on one side and enterprise mentors on the other. This is why **ApprEnt** has designed a **prototype training course for Mentors and Supervisors of Higher Education Apprenticeship programmes**.



The course, which is one of the most important project outputs, intends to give potential users a good basis for training mentors of HEA programmes.

Being a generic prototype structure, it gives enough guidance but at the same time flexibility so that any institution/organisation from any country can adapt the model and its contents to their own needs, taking into account not only the national legal strains but also institutional/organisational limitations (especially those connected to time and resources).

The course will be available on the project website by the end of August 2019 from this page <https://appr.ent.eucen.eu/tools/>

Policy recommendations

With the aim of promoting and expanding the capacity of work based learning and apprenticeships schemes, and based on the experience developed in the course of the project, the **ApprEnt consortium** has drafted a **set** of key policy recommendations which cover 4 different levels of implementation: European level, national level, HE institutions level and business level.

*Interested in testing and applying the **ApprEnt** prototype course in your institution? Do you feel you need further support and information?*

Contact us by email at appr.ent@eucen.eu

The **10 main areas of action** proposed in this document are:

- ▲ Regulations
- ▲ Strategic policy-making
- ▲ Training
- ▲ Mobility
- ▲ Guidance and coordination
- ▲ Quality Assurance
- ▲ Allocate resources
- ▲ Funding companies
- ▲ Transparency
- ▲ Sustainability

The recommendations will be available by the end of **August** 2019 from this project website link <https://apprEnt.eucen.eu/tools/>

Policy consultations

Besides the exchanges held by each project partners with key actors and stakeholders at institutional, regional and national level, **ApprEnt** has organised a few formal consultations around the draft policy paper and recommendations in order to validate the document produced and take on board the views of the all the main stakeholders concerned.

On 14 May 2019 an **online consultation** was held by **eucen** with the collaboration of the partners from the University of Aveiro and the University of Tallinn. A total of 15 external participants attended this consultation, coming from higher education institutions based in AT, DE, EE, ES, FI, IT and RU.

On 23 May the draft policy recommendations were presented to key stakeholders in Brussels during **eucen's** 2019 Policy Talks. The participants, coming from EC bodies and NGOs, showed interest in the content of this document and were keen to discuss its relevance and potential impact.



A second **face-to-face consultation** was held at the University of Tallinn, in combination with the 4th partners' meeting, organised on 28-29 May 2019. Invited guests represented the worlds of Estonian business and higher education and contributed their knowledge and experience in relation to business-university cooperation and work-based learning and apprenticeship schemes.

National valorisation events

ApprEnt is currently organising national valorisation events to promote the outputs and tools developed and to engage the audience in their use. The events are addressed to actors interested in the development or implementation of apprenticeship and work-based learning schemes at higher education level, as well as those who work on the promotion of business-university cooperation. Events have already been organised in Estonia and Austria. Activities are now planned in France, Finland, Portugal, Spain and Italy.

ApprEnt aims to engage and have an impact on several different target groups such as:

- ▼ *Workers, managers, employers of SMEs*
- ▼ *Trainers within enterprises and VET institutions*
- ▼ *Teachers of VET*
- ▼ *Lecturers of HE*
- ▼ *Public bodies*
- ▼ *Learners*

There will be two events in Spain, one in Madrid (date to be confirmed) and another in Barcelona, 8 October 2019, organised by **eucen** and the Fundació Bosch i Gimpera. *Contact us if you are interested in joining!*

apprEnt@eucen.eu



Contact us

Interested in **ApprEnt** and in testing its tools? Become an Associate Partner downloading this **template** and sending it to apprEnt@eucen.eu

Consortium

eucen (BE)
 Université de Bretagne Occidentale (FR)
 Danube University of Krems (AT)
 Tallinn University (EE)
 University of Aveiro (PT)
 University of Turku (FI)
 University of Catania (IT)
 Universidad Complutense de Madrid (ES)
 Chambre Commerce Industrie Brest (FR)
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 Federation of Finnish Enterprises, Southwest region (FI)
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 Fundació Bosch i Gimpera (ES)