

VET teachers' Continuing Professional Development (CPD)



Professional development:

- Concerning teaching and learning (pedagogical knowledge)
- Concerning the vocational/professional field in/for which they teach (content knowledge)
- Concerning teaching and learning in this specific field (pedagogical content knowledge)

The responsibility and role of the VET teacher differs between countries/VET systems, which means that the need for CPD also differs; e.g., school/teacher responsibility for the whole programme, including workplace-based learning, or a division of responsibility between school and companies/workplaces?

Multi-level CPD system



Universities, Ministries

Local/regional communities

Schools, companies

Individual

Challenges

VET teachers are a diverse group, particularly concerning vocational content of teaching. The meso-, exo-, and macro-levels need to offer relevant CPD opportunities for all VET teachers.

- **Risk:** CPD opportunities designed to be relevant for a broad group of VET teachers, might focus on the more general pedagogical knowledge concerning teaching in learning in VET, and if the connection to content knowledge and pedagogical content knowledge is lacking, this CPD offering might be seen as irrelevant by the individual teacher.
- **Conclusions:**
 - The CPD needs of VET teachers, concerning the specific content and pedagogical content knowledge, are more or less individual and depend on vocational/professional field.
 - High degree of responsibility on the individual micro-level.
 - Need for support to micro-level CPD from the other levels.
 - Even VET teachers who do not have the conditions or capacity to take a high responsibility for their own CPD need relevant opportunities to keep up-to-date as good VET teachers.

