



## **ROUND TABLE ON MULTI-LEVEL GOVERNANCE**

ETF premises, Sala Europa

4 November 2011

*Draft Agenda – version 27 October 2011*

## **Background**

Governance is a key factor when analyzing and measuring the performance of an education and training system; the deployment of governance has a high correlation with the overall effectiveness and efficiency of education and training policies.

Multi-level governance has emerged in the ETF work as an important area of discussion and interest of ETF partner countries. The search for improved effectiveness and efficiency of education and training policies and strengthened performance of education and training systems has had, among other implications, a key impact on the identification of issues and questions that find in the multi-level governance example of Europe a key reference and focal area for debate.

While recognizing the high diversity among ETF partner countries context and experiences, as well as diversity of education and training policies and practices, common trends emerging from the Torino Process implemented by ETF for the first time in 2010, highlight the need for a more focused attention, analysis and development of the governance debate in the ETF partner countries.

In 2011 ETF has witnessed and has been involved in a number of actions and debates at country level, including functional analysis related to strengthening, through governance, the evidence base of policy making; enhancing participation in the policy making cycle through increased decision making power of regional and local authorities; improving performance of Education and Training systems through institutional and functional arrangements; working towards improving quality of education and training systems through a multi-level participation in quality assurance processes; developing understanding of new media for development of dialogue with the civil society and its use in and for policy making. Further, ETF is strategically working very closely with social partners, both in regions and countries, in order to contribute on good and inclusive governance of VET systems

All these activities have brought the debate in ETF on how to approach in a coherent and solid framework governance related questions in partner countries and what and how to share the EU experience in this area contextualizing its methods, efficiency, value.

ETF in cooperation with the Committee of the Regions proposes a one day round table bringing together EU experts and ETF experts to focus on governance and multi-level governance in the EU, its lessons and perspectives and the ETF work in EU partner countries.

### **Objectives of the event**

- Knowledge sharing between EU and ETF experts on multi-level governance and its links with education and training policies and systems
- Identification of possibilities for future co-operation between ETF and the COR

The knowledge sharing will focus on the two areas identified below:

- a) Have an open discussion on the concept of multilevel governance and in particular its impact on education and training policies and systems, identifying key features, examples in different settings, added value and perspectives.
- b) Discuss the possible paths for ETF work in MLG in E&T in the specific context of ETF partner countries, including institutional change processes, capacity issues and possible synergies with the EU.

### **Participants**

The workshop will bring together EU experts, researchers and practitioners, and ETF experts working in different regions and thematic areas. A total of 25 people will attend the workshop that will bring concrete actions for future work in the area of multi level governance in education and training.

## Draft Agenda

09.00 – 09.30 | Opening and welcome  
*Madlen Serban, Director, ETF*

### Session I: Multi-level Governance in the EU

*Chair: Prof. Léonce Bekemans, Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence "Intercultural dialogue Human Rights and Multi-level Governance"*

The morning session will focus on concepts, the EU experience and case studies to highlight key features of multi-level governance in the EU and its added value. Questions and answers following presentations will open up the exchange of knowledge, experiences and perspectives among experts and different country contexts

09.30 – 10.00 | **Multi-level Governance in the EU and the role of CoR**  
*Luc Van den Brande, President - CIVEX, Committee of the Regions*

10.00 – 13.00 | The introductory presentation will be followed by a panel addressing multi-level governance in education and training in the EU, institutional settings, added value and perspectives with case studies from the EU. Presentations will be followed by questions and answers

11.00 – 11.15  
coffee break | **Panel discussion**

- Prof. Jan De Groof, *College of Europe and University of Tilburg*
- Prof. Jarl Bengtsson, *Pascal International Observatory*
- Prof. Edoardo Ongaro, *Northumbria University of Newcastle*

13.00 – 14.30 | **Lunch**

### Session II: Multi-level Governance and education and training in the ETF Partner countries

*Chair: Anastasia Fetsi, ETF, Head of Thematic Expertise Development Department*

The afternoon session will focus on the work of ETF, clarifying focus and emerging questions in ETF partner countries and linking this to the EU experience and cases debated in the morning. The session will continue requiring all experts around the table to openly discuss the opportunities and approaches for engaging in a governance related work in the context of the ETF partner countries. The session will close with a clear identification of opportunities for cooperation and future actions.

14.30 – 15.30 | **Challenges and opportunities for multilevel governance in education and training in the ETF partner countries (ETF)**

- J. Manuel Galvin Arribas, *ETF* – ETF work multi-level governance the framework and key pillars
- Manuela Prina, *ETF* – emerging questions, ETF activities and experiences in the framework of multi-level governance
- Marie Dorleans, *ETF* – ETF work in Tunisia

15.30 – 16.45

**Open discussion on key challenges and issues related to supporting multi-level governance in the ETF partner countries**

16.45 – 17.00

**Conclusions**

*Luc Van den Brande and Madlen Serban*