



Activity Report 2020

November 2020



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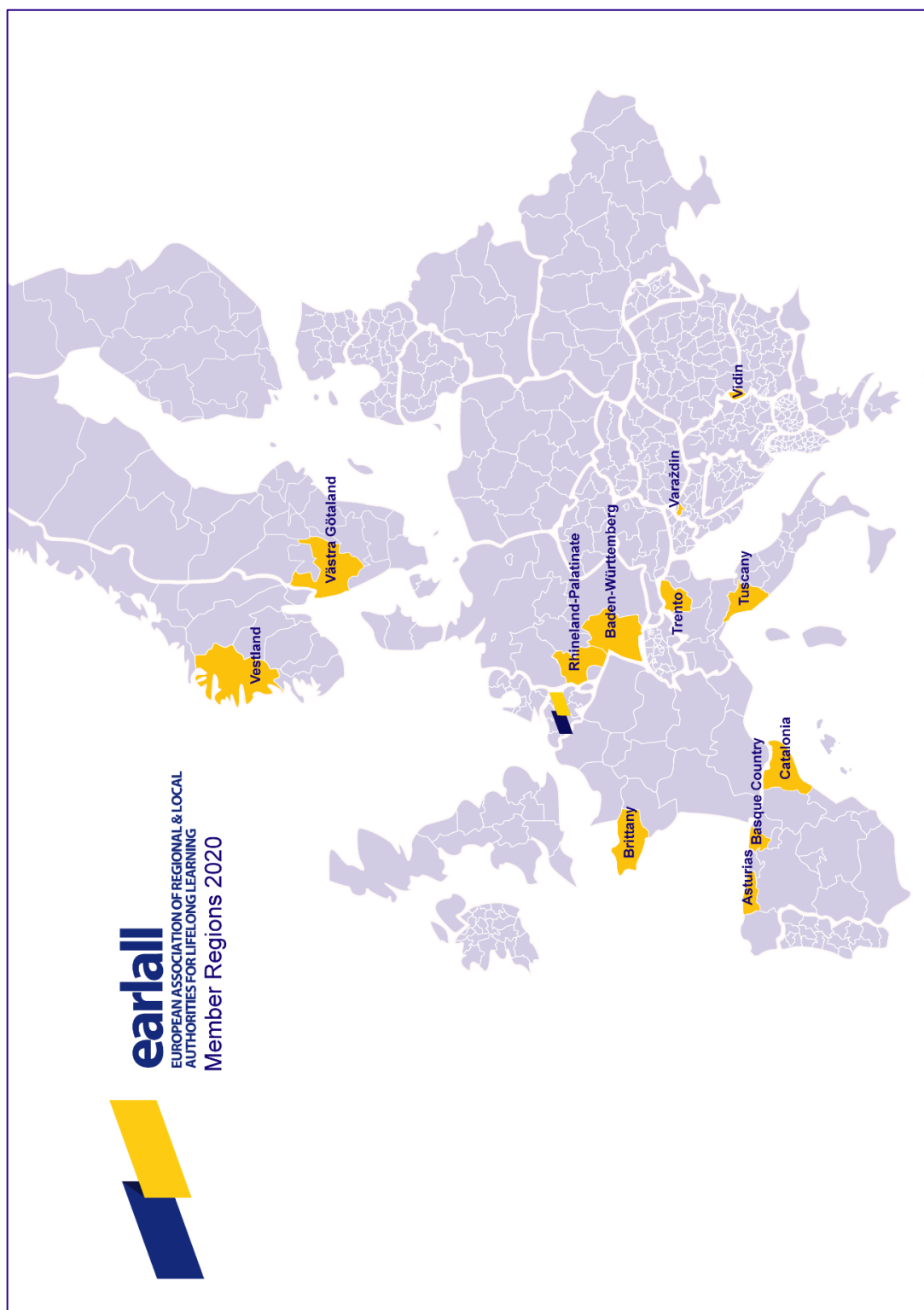
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Member Regions in 2020



Observers: Borås Municipality.

Resilient Skills Ecosystems for a Crisis-proof Future

The COVID-19 outbreak at the beginning of 2020 has had a great impact in all spheres of life, changing the way in which we relate to each other, communicate and learn. In this context, resilience has emerged as a key skill to face such a crisis and be ready for other potential disruptions that might happen in the future. Therefore, EARLALL launched on 28 May 2020 the [Resilient Skills Ecosystems for a Crisis-proof Future initiative](#), emphasising not only resilience as a skill, but also the need of resilient skills governance systems in order to guarantee that lifelong learning never stops and no one is left behind whatever the circumstances.

Goals

- Find regional and local best practices in crisis management and reaction capacity of education and training systems in the context of COVID-19.
- Identify common challenges and potential areas of cooperation to make skills ecosystems more resilient.
- Set a path for regional and local authorities to build strong, resilient skills ecosystems that are crisis-proof.
- Explore new ways in which resilience as a skill can be promoted via curricula as an essential component of key competence 5 (personal, social and learning to learn competence).

Message from EARLALL Presidency (28 May 2020)

The devastating consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic has undoubtedly put a lot of pressure on our regional education and training systems. Education institutions in over 180 countries around the world have closed, impacting almost 90% of the world's student population. Never before have we witnessed educational disruption on such a large scale. Our regions are supporting their education and training centres during this time of crisis to ensure that learning does not stop. It is only appropriate therefore to send our warmest gratitude to the staff of all our regional administrations - to our teachers, trainers, professors, educators, youth workers, etc for their flexibility, devotion and hard work. I would also like to extend my thanks to our learners, apprentices and their families for their commitment to learning despite the difficulties, for their continued efforts and for making us feel proud of what we do.

European cooperation in education and training is now more necessary than ever before. With the sudden closure of schools, universities, adult education institutions and community learning centres, a surge in online and distance learning, and now the partial reopening of education institutions in some contexts, cities and traditional learning providers have forged new partnerships with other stakeholders, including online learning providers and other businesses and organizations with digital resources at their disposal. The governance of education is drastically changing in European regions and cities. Exchanging our experiences, sharing our concerns to try to find the most

appropriate responses to the demands of our territories has been found to be crucial. As Commissioner Schmit remarked on 5 May to the EU Social Affairs and Employment Council, 'We can only overcome this crisis by working together.' And he insisted that 'The post coronavirus recovery will need to put people front and centre.'

It is with those important messages in mind that I believe that, more than ever, EARLALL can provide our regions with the right platform to 'work together' to face our new post crisis scenarios where the digital transition is accelerated (at work and in education and training), where globalisation might have a different meaning, where we need a different approach to collective or public goods and services (green measures, social economy, etc), while safeguarding the well-being of our citizens. The new European Commission's priorities for the next five years, introduced by President Ursula von der Leyen in July 2019, include points that are aligned with EARLALL priorities: a 'Green Deal' to tackle climate change, a reinforced 'European Social Pillar' to support international and internal migration trends, ageing population, and labour market shortages and a 'Europe fit for the Digital age' to promote digitalization and the future of work. In this context, education will have an essential role in successfully embracing these challenges to foster regional development and guarantee the well-being of every single citizen.

As you have all read from EARLALL's newsletter, the Secretariat in Brussels has been actively following up developments and providing timely information on the EU decisions dealing with education and training through a dedicated webpage; four project proposals have been submitted (on building inclusive societies, on building regional capacity in the adult education sector, on skills and labour market alignment and on youth entrepreneurship in rural areas); constant dialogue with the European Commission and other institutions has continued and so has implementation of the EU funded projects involving the association. Lastly, a position paper on Green Skills has been written jointly with the VET providers' network EfVET and it is being disseminated to strategic stakeholders and economic operators. This year's EARLALL General Assembly takes place on 5 and 6 November and will be hosted by Brittany region. It will be dedicated to 'Building Resilient Skills Ecosystems'. We hope that this will be an occasion where we will be able to meet and share our regional strategies regarding skills provision post Covid-19. In the run-up to November, the Secretariat will organise a series of activities that will match our most urgent education and training priorities.

I'm then pleased to announce that in June EARLALL will hold a workshop for its member regions on 'Rethinking VET and adult education systems for long term resilience.' We would like to invite you all to join in a dialogue with representatives from the European Commission and other institutions on how they see the upcoming academic year 20-21 (including mobility actions), what are the headlines of the skills agenda to be published in July, what are the synergies on EU funding programmes that can support the development, acquisition and upskilling of skills and competences, etc. Details will be provided in the near future.

Main activities

COVID-19 report

As a result of the survey carried out by EARLALL Secretariat among EARLALL Member Regions, a report has been published on the occasion of EARLALL Annual Conference

2020, to take place online on 5 November. The report gathers the experience and lessons learnt from 8 EARLALL Member Regions: Basque Country, Brittany, Baden-Württemberg, Catalonia, Tuscany, Rhineland Palatinate, Vestland County and Vidin District.

 Full report available soon.

Online workshop: Rethinking VET and ALE systems for long-term resilience

EARLALL hosted a first online workshop for its Member Regions on 25 June 2020 on the topic of vocational education and training (VET) and adult education systems for a resilient future. The event gathered experts from the European Commission, Cedefop and regional and local authorities in order to share their perspectives about the future of VET and Adult Education and Learning (ALE). The goal of the workshop was to help to build strategies for resilience based on peer-learning, risk-assessment and crisis prevention mechanisms. Speakers agreed that some of the measures implemented had come to stay, and that a blended learning approach will characterise the way in which education and training systems will work in the years to come.




 Workshop report available here: https://www.earlall.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/webinarreport_vet_ae_covid19_25June2020.pdf

Online workshop: EU funds to build resilient skills ecosystems

On 28 September 2020, EARLALL and its Member Regions welcomed representatives from the European Commission at an online workshop during which key EU programmes to fund skills-related initiatives were introduced. Regional and local officers, VET and adult education school headmasters, and relevant stakeholders got first-hand information from the Commission about how they can participate in the upcoming programmes. Even if political negotiations about the EU's next financial period are still ongoing at the Council and the details are uncertain, the main characteristics of the programmes have been already been set out and were shared by Commission representatives.



 Workshop report available here: https://www.earlall.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/webinarreport_28092020.pdf

Online conference: Resilience and skills matching in European regions

In the context of EARLALL Annual Conference 2020 and the launching of the Stride4Stride project ([see page 28](#)), EARLALL will host an online conference on 6 November about the measures taken by its Member Regions to react to the COVID-19 outbreak in the spring of 2020 within their education and training systems, taking also into account the labour market challenges posed by the subsequent crisis.

Thematic areas

Green skills for a green Europe

Building on the “Green Deal” proposal by European Commission’s President Ursula von der Leyen, EARLALL has strengthened its work in promoting a green mindset by means of education and training systems. Green skills and a green meaning for regional development will be key to achieve the 2030 and 2050 objectives of sustainable development and climate neutrality, and the regional and local context will be key in achieving them in a just and inclusive way

Policy

Greencomp initiative and platform

The “GreenComp” initiative, initiated by EARLALL and EfVET at the end of 2019, has taken shape during 2020, and has been joined by EAEA. A statement/policy paper was drafted at the beginning of the year to be presented to the European institutions (DG EMPL, DG ENVIRONMENT, Lifelong Learning Interest Group at the European Parliament) and potential partners in order to promote the idea of a green competences framework that integrate them both as a hard skill (skills for the green economy) and a soft skill (green culture).



In the context of the initiative, a survey was launched in September 2020 among members of the three networks to collect best practices following the feedback given by the European institutions on their utmost interest in collecting experience on the topic. A website launching the GreenComp Platform will be published in December 2020 on the occasion of the Lifelong Learning Week, containing also the results of the survey.

Call to empower cities and regions in the Climate Pact

EARLALL jointly signed a call on 22 June 2020 to empower cities and regions in the Climate Pact and mobilise all actors towards decarbonisation, together with Eurelectric, EfVET, EUROCITIES, ERRIN, Energy Cities and ICLEI. Under the premise that the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak and its economic and societal impacts require to rethink the kind of economy that we wish to recover, the seven organisations encouraged the European Commission and the European Parliament to swiftly design and implement the European Climate Pact, acknowledging the importance of its regional and local dimension.

Four key strands of work are proposed in order to achieve these ambitious goals:

- Triggering concrete measures in cities and regions across Europe
- Mobilising the whole society along the way towards climate neutrality
- Building on existing initiatives
- Ensuring a goal-driven Climate Pact

Two key elements to guarantee a successful implementation will be

- ▀ A skilled workforce for a green industry, to be trained through a reskilling and upskilling effort that allows an efficient economic and industrial transition.
- ▀ The promotion and wide acceptance of a green culture among the population, supported by education and training systems, in order to build green and resilient societies that support the transition towards a zero-net emission EU.

🌐 Full joint statement available here:

https://cdn.eurelectric.org/media/4507/joint_statement_climate_pact_final-2020-030-0423-01-e-h-58CB220C.pdf.

Meeting with Commissioner 's Cabinet

On 17 June 2020, EARLALL Director, Noelia Cantero, jointly with EfVET Office Manager, Valentina Chanina, held an online meeting with the Cabinet of Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights Nicolas Schmit. In particular, the responsible experts for Skills, apprenticeships and VET (Mr Nerlich and Ms Faber) together with Anna Barbieri from DG EMPL (Unit for VET, apprenticeships and adult learning) were present in the discussions. The main aim of the meeting was to discuss the joint position paper by EARLALL and EfVET on Skills for the Green Transition (Green Skills).

The European Commission welcomed the paper and the initiative led by both organisations. All items raised are on their agenda and have been promoted by von der Leyen's Commission, which believes in a Digital and Green new Europe. The dialogue will continue via DG EMPL that encourages EARLALL and EfVET to take up an active role in facilitating cooperation among stakeholders to face green skills challenges and to leave no one behind.

🌐 Full press release available here: <https://www.earlall.eu/earlall-efvet-met-with-commissioner-schmits-cabinet-to-discuss-green-skills-for-a-green-future/>

Events

Lifelong Learning Week 2019 and 2020: GreenComp



Brussels, 4 December 2019	Organised by EARLALL and EfVET
Online, 2 December 2020	Organised by EARLALL, EfVET and the EAEA

Hosted by MEP John Howarth, EARLALL and EfVET held the "GreenComp?" workshop at the European Parliament on 4 December 2019 to discuss the skills needed for a just green transition and the development a common framework of green competences. The event also counted on the participation of representatives from the European Commission (DG ENVIRONMENT), the European Economic and Social Committee, and the business sector. The event kicked off the partnership between EARLALL and EfVET to promote *GreenComp* and its development.








As a follow-up activity to the unfolding of the initiative during 2020 and the incorporation of EAEA in the partnership, a new workshop entitled “GreenComp: Taking Green Skills One Step Further” will take place online on 2 December 2020. The new *GreenComp Platform* (see page 9) will be introduced to the general public and high-level representatives.

Projects

VET in Urban Centres		FINISHED
Coordinator: Vestland County Council	Erasmus+ KA2 Jan 2018 - Feb 2020	Project budget: 136,714 € EARLALL share: 9,375 €
Project partners: Agenzia Umbria Ricerche, Istituto Professionale per l'Industria e l'Artigianato "E. Orfini," Barcelona Activa, Kranj School Center, RDA - Business Support Centre Kranj, Sotra Vidaregåande Skule, Knarvik Vidaregåande Skule, Fjell Kommune, EARLALL		
 www.veturbaneu.wordpress.com #VETurbanEU		



The “Development of Sustainable Urban Centres with Active Involvement of VET (VET in Urban Centres)” project has pursued the elaboration of governance models to reach an active involvement of VET schools and local businesses in urban planning processes, to create new VET programmes linked to the challenges and needs of urban centres, and to improve the cooperation between VET providers, municipalities and the labour market. The project involves partners from different nature, such as VET schools, municipalities, employment services and regional authorities, who have identified best practices of synergies as a basis for the development of new models.

Project results	Multiplier events
 Local cooperation model  Innovative educational VET programme  Available here: https://veturbaneu.wordpress.com/results/	#VETurbanEU Brussels Breakfast Brussels, 12 February 2020 Project final conference organised by EARLALL in cooperation with the West Norway Office, with the participation of representatives from the European Commission, the European Economic and Social Committee, other EU institutions, civil society, regional & local authorities, and education stakeholders.  Further details: https://www.earlall.eu/vet-in-urban-centres-exchange-and-inspiration-in-brussels/
Project meetings	
 6 th Transnational Meeting Brussels, 11-12 February 2020	

Skills ecosystems & vocational excellence

Regional smart specialisation strategies are progressively taking skills and education systems into consideration for a successful regional development strategy. The Centres of Vocational Excellence initiative by the is a clear example of setting up regional skills ecosystems and connecting them internationally, with excellence and inclusion as main pillars. The initiative has been closely followed by EARLALL and its Member Regions.

Policy

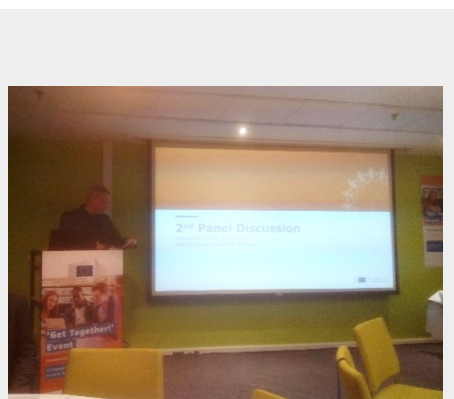
European Alliance for Apprenticeships

EARLALL has been in close contact with the European Alliance for Apprenticeships, led by European Commission's DG EMPL, taking part in its key events and holding regular meetings for the development of joint initiatives.

EAfA Get together! Brussels, 13 February 2020

The event was an opportunity for over 85 EAfA members to examine different key issues of apprenticeships and share experiences. EARLALL was represented by its Secretariat and Mr. Per Nordmark, Senior Officer at Vestland County Council, who moderated a panel on apprenticeships of the future and introduced the VET in Urban Centres project (Erasmus+) to the audience.

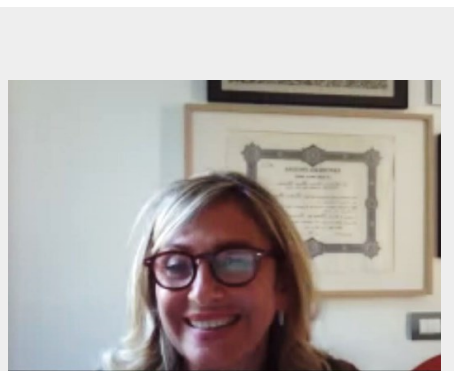
🌐 Event report available here:
<https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=1147&furtherNews=yes&newsId=9559>



High-level discussion Online, 15 July 2020

Chaired by Commissioner Schmit (Jobs & Social Rights), this high-level expert discussion aimed at supporting quality and effective apprenticeships with a strong commitment from all stakeholders. EARLALL was represented by Ms. Cristina Grieco, Tuscany Region's Minister of Education, who highlighted the important role of regional authorities as facilitators of this process.

🌐 Event recording available here:
<https://audiovisual.ec.europa.eu/en/video/I-194066>



New video and brochure

The EAfA launched a new video on “How quality apprenticeships benefit society,” featuring Ms. Noelia Cantero, EARLALL Director, and Ms. Marta Marín, Basque Country’s Delegate to the EU.

Video available here:
<https://audiovisual.ec.europa.eu/embed/index.html?ref=I-184622&lg=OR%22%20id%3D%22videoplayer>



EAfA Action Plan 2021: Priority 3

Priority 3 (“Mobilising local and regional authorities as catalysts for apprenticeships within the local business environment”) of EAfA’s Action Plan 2021 includes direct reference to EARLALL and the role of regional and local authorities in apprenticeship systems:

“EAfA cooperates closely with the European Committee of the Regions (CoR), EARLALL, the Basque Government, the Presidency of the EU Council and other regional organisations on the role of regions and cities in delivering high-quality apprenticeships. Together they also organise joint webinars and conferences.”

Document available here:
<https://ec.europa.eu/social/BlobServlet?docId=23080&langId=en>



European Pact for Skills

The European Commission has launched a Pact for Skills to help meet COVID-19 challenges, and deliver on the ambitions of the recovery pathway, the EU Industrial Strategy and the green and digital transition. All stakeholders are called to take part in it: industry, public and private employers, social partners, education and training providers and employment agencies.

EARLALL Secretariat submitted feedback to the consultation by the Commission on the topic in October 2020. The Commission is keen to have regional authorities joining the Pact for its launch, and for that reason a meeting with Anna Barbieri (DG EMPL) took place on 27 October. Some of EARLALL member regions participated in it (Basque Country, Catalonia, Baden Württemberg, Vestland and Borås Municipality) and are keen to consider joining the Pact, which will be officially launched on 10 November 2020 during the European Vocational Skills Week.

Events

Smart specialisation and VET seminar

Brussels, 30 January 2020

Organised by the European Commission's DG EMPL and Joint Research Centre

The S3 Skills workshop was held at the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)'s facilities in Brussels on 30 January 2020 to discuss the link between vocational excellence and smart specialisation. The event was based on the notion of vocational excellence as a “new policy concept that aims to maximise the contribution of VET (including at higher level) to innovation and smart specialisation at local and regional level.” Regional authorities (among which EARLALL Member Regions Basque Country, Brittany and Vestland), along with European agencies and institutions, such as the European Training Foundation, Cedefop, EACEA, and several directorate-generals of the European Commission (DG EMPL, DG GROW, DG REGIO), and international organisations (UNESCO-UNEVOC, OECD) were represented in the room.



Full press release available here: <https://www.earlall.eu/vocational-excellence-and-smart-specialisation-strengthening-the-regional-and-local-impact-of-vet/>

EU Digital Education Stakeholder Workshop

Brussels, 3-4 March 2020

Organised by the European Commission's DG CONNECT

Experts from a wide range of domains, such as technology-enhanced learning (TEL), artificial intelligence (AI), pedagogics, and all fields of the education sector (formal, non-formal, informal), among others, gathered to discuss about the prospective European funds for digital education; namely, Horizon Europe and Digital Europe. EARLALL Secretariat took part in the discussions and contributed to the debate about linking local needs to the use of specific digital learning tools.

Key messages pointed at a transition “from digital ecosystems to a digital landscape”, joining the dots to make digital education a transversal topic, and the need of focusing on the (adequate) use of technology rather than on technology itself as the true catalyser for innovation. On the other hand, raising awareness among the education community about all tools available to increase inclusion was the main challenge identified.



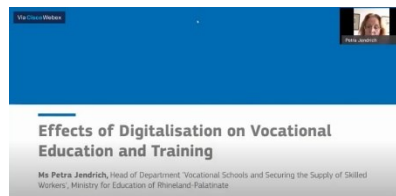
Full press release available here: <https://www.earlall.eu/eu-digital-education-stakeholder-workshop-took-place-in-brussels/>

The impact of COVID-19 on apprenticeships

Online, 29 September 2020

Organised by the European Commission's DG EMPL (EAfA), the European Committee of the Regions, the German Presidency of the Council of the EU, and EARLALL.

Regional best practices to support apprenticeship systems in the context of the pandemic were showcased, with the participation of two EARLALL Member Regions: Basque Country and Rhineland Palatinate.



Petra Jendrich, Head of Department 'Vocational Schools and Securing the Supply of Skilled Workers', Ministry for Education of Rhineland-Palatinate, introduced the effects of digitalization on Vocational Education and Training (VET). Rikardo Lamadrid, Director of Technology and Advanced Training, Department of Education, Basque Country showcased lessons learnt during the pandemic outbreak. He introduced the measures established by the Basque VET system (FP Euskadi) and implemented by VET centres in the region.

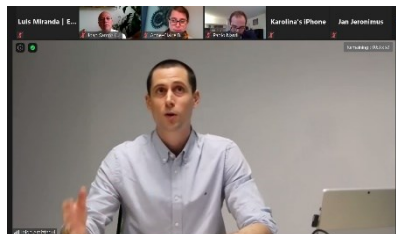
Full video recording available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7LjtQnDuh-8>.

Centres of Vocational Excellence World Café (EURegionsWeek)

Online, 14 October 2020

Organised by the European Commission's DG EMPL and Joint Research Centre, PEEP, and EARLALL.

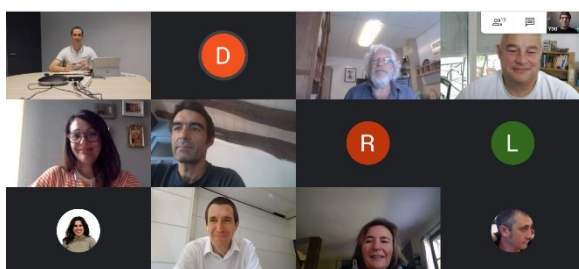
This event was aimed at analysing how platforms of centres of vocational excellence (CoVEs) contribute to create skills ecosystems that drive regional innovation, development and smart specialisation, along with social inclusion. current projects of CoVE platforms were presented during world café group meetings (see table below). Participants were divided into 5 groups, during which the different CoVE pilot initiatives funded by the European Commission in 2019 and 2020 were introduced. Noelia Cantero, EARLALL Director, moderated one of the discussion groups, during which the DIHUB project was introduced by Helsinki Business College. During other of the discussion groups, Iñigo Araiztegui, (TKNIKA, Basque VET Applied Research Centre), introduced the EXAM 4.0 project (Erasmus+, with the participation of EARLALL)



Full press release available here: <https://www.earlall.eu/centres-of-vocational-excellence-earlall-at-euregionsweek-2020-day-3/>.





Projects

EXAM 4.0		ONGOING
Coordinator: TKNIKA - Basque VET Research Centre	Erasmus+ KA2 Nov 2019 - Oct 2021	EU co-funding: EARLALL share: 36,926 €
Project partners: Miguel Altuna VET Centre, Da Vinci College, Curt Nicolín VET Centre, Duale Hochschule Baden-Württemberg, AFM Cluster, 10XL, EARLALL.		
 www.examhub.eu #EXAM4point0		

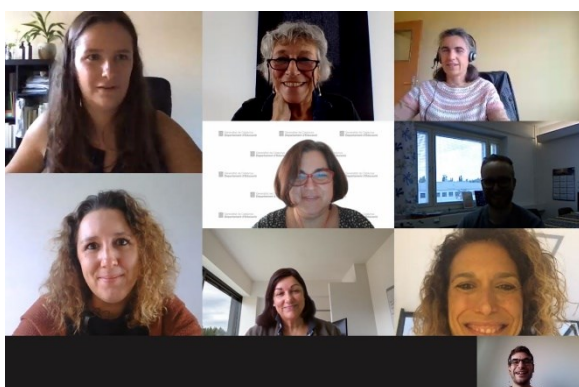


The Excellent Advanced Manufacturing 4.0 project, EXAM 4.0 by its acronym, is one of the five Platforms of VET Excellence approved for funding by the Erasmus+ programme in 2019 under the Centres of Vocational Excellence (CoVE) pilot initiative launched by the European Commission in 2018.

Expected outputs are divided into four key strands: a) learning dialogues (state of art and trend forecasting); b) EXAM 4.0 hub (European platform of VET excellence in advanced manufacturing), Advanced Manufacturing workshop 4.0 (designing, modelling and piloting a 4.0 physical space) and VET 4.0 for Advanced Manufacturing (turning the project achievements into impactful initiatives).







Project meetings	Multiplier events
 Kick-off Meeting San Sebastian, 20-21 November 2019  Online meetings 17 March 2020 21 April 2020 22 May 2020 23 June 2020 10 July 2020 3 September 2020* 15 September 2020* 16 October 2020 *Official transnational meeting	TKNIKA Centres of Vocational Excellence Online, 16 June 2020 The EXAM 4.0 project was presented by Unai Ziarsolo (TKNIKA / Miguel Altuna VET centre) at the online conference Centres of Vocational Excellence.  Further details: https://examhub.eu/exam-4-0-was-introduced-at-centres-of-vocational-excellence-online-conference/ Presentations at external events The EXAM 4.0 project has also been introduced by project partners at external events, such as the BILT workshop by UNESCO-UNEVOC (Oslo, 2-3 October 2019) or EfVET's Thematic Teams meeting VET 4.0 (online, 29 May 2020).  Further details: https://examhub.eu/exam4-0-was-presented-at-bilt-workshop-by-unesco-unevoc/ .





BOOST to it! VET's CLIL		ONGOING
Coordinator: Provinciaal Onderwijs Vlaanderen (POV)	Erasmus+ KA2 Sep 2018 - Aug 2021	EU co-funding: 272,017 € EARLALL share: 31,725 €
Project partners: Departamento de Educación, Política Lingüística y Cultura del Gobierno Vasco, Departament d'Ensenyament – Generalitat de Catalunya, ROC Da Vinci College, Seinäjoki Joint Municipal Authority for Education, EARLALL.		
 https://projectes.xtec.cat/clil4vet/ #VETsCLIL		



This project aims at improving the competitiveness and employability of vocational students in a global European market by developing and testing a Massive Online Open Course (MOOC) on the Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) approach, starting by testing an Open Online Course (OOC) in English, which will result in a MOOC; and designing and implementing an electronic open platform that permits to

mutualise the different materials developed in each region/country and to share experiences. This will ensure a sustainable transnational community of VET professionals that allows the exchange of materials.

Project results	Multiplier events
 Test CLIL MOOC  Available here: https://projectes.xtec.cat/clil4vet/enroll/	APAC Annual Convention Barcelona, 1 February 2020 For more than 20 years, APAC has organised its annual convention with the goal of offering teachers and other professionals working in the field of ELT an opportunity to meet up. Maria Pascual and M. Isabel Martínez Peñarroja (Catalonia's Department of Education), presented the new website about CLIL.  Further details: https://projectes.xtec.cat/clil4vet/portada/introduction/
Project Meetings	
 4 th Transnational Meeting Online, 18-19 March 2020  Online Meeting 13 May 2020  5 th Transnational Meeting 29 Sep 2020	

VENHANS		ASSOCIATE PARTNER
Coordinator: EVTA	Erasmus+ KA3 Oct 2019 - Sep 2021	EARLALL share: n/a, associate partner
Project partners: EfVET, EUProVET, EVBB, EUCEN, EURASHE, ENAIP NET, Afpa, Endurance, VDAB.		 VENHANS
 https://www.evta.eu/highlights/venhans/ #VENHANS		
EARLALL's role:  Participation at kick-off meeting: 29 January 2020  Project results' online promotion campaign		

DAMAS		PROPOSAL SUBMITTED
Coordinator: Adult Education Borås	Erasmus+ KA2 March 2021 - February 2023	
Project partners: Government of Catalonia - Department of Education, WIWE-BBQ, Training 2000, GO! Onderwijs van de Vlaamse gemeenschap, EARLALL.		

Entrepreneurial spirit to tackle 21st century challenges

Keeping young talents in rural areas was one of the key challenges identified by EARLALL Member Regions, who are looking to promote an entrepreneurial attitude to foster rural development and take 21st century challenges as a window of opportunity for innovation. The objective is to build local communities which are attractive to live in by boosting innovative ideas to foster economic development and social innovation, in key areas such as sustainable agriculture, green tourism and creative industries.

Events

Youth World Skills Day Twitter Campaign

Online, 15 July 2020

Organised by the Lifelong Learning Platform, EfVET and EARLALL

An online campaign on Twitter was launched to promote Youth World Skills Day. EARLALL published a total of 13 tweets during the day and a total of 80,380 impressions were gathered among the three organising associations, with 22 tweets in total. The campaign was also promoted on other social media, such as Facebook, LinkedIn and Instagram, and partner organisations took part in it, such as Giovanisi and the Goethe Institut (StartNet).



Projects

YESpecialists

NEW

Coordinator: Vestland County Council

Erasmus+ KA2
Oct 2020 - Sep 2022

EU grant: 228,121 €
EARLALL share: 26,394 €

Project partners: Principality of Asturias (Department of Education), Varaždin County Council, Tuscany Region, Ringkøbing-Skjern Municipality, Autonomous Province of Trento and EARLALL.



 #YESpecialists

In a context of high youth unemployment rates and depopulation in rural areas, entrepreneurship becomes a key element to build an adversity-safe future of Europe and a tool to find alternative ways to deal with labour market challenges. Building local ecosystems focused on promoting and enabling youth entrepreneurship with a global perspective can help in tackling these challenges, with teachers and youth workers as key enablers to promote innovative entrepreneurial models in a lifelong learning context. YESpecialist gathers experts from six European regions to create a new innovative

methodology that will build up local ecosystems, introducing non-formal and informal methods into formal education and to promote innovative entrepreneurship concepts.

The project will specially focus on rural areas and will be inclusive regarding young people from vulnerable groups. Cooperation between all actors (authorities, business, NGOs, and schools), with an emphasis on VET teachers and youth workers is key to achieve the project results. Key outputs of the project will be a repository of active youth involvement in local ecosystems at European level, guidelines for building up regional/local ecosystems to promote youth entrepreneurship in rural areas, and a training course for stakeholders aiming at building such ecosystems. The latter will be implemented in two international pilot training courses that will build capacity in rural local contexts while promoting their interconnection at regional, national and European level.

Project meetings

-  Kick-off meeting | Online, October 2020
-  Regular steering committee online meetings every two weeks





Fostering inclusive societies

Ageing societies, international and internal migration, and the impact of digitalization need to be seen as catalysers for social innovation and sustainable development, rather than challenges to be solved, with especial regard to the local and regional dimension. In this context, education and training policies will set the foundations on which the future of Europe will be built, and special attention should also be given to principles such as upskilling and reskilling of adults and mature workers, life competences, volunteering and intergenerational learning.

Policy

ESF Transnational Cooperation Platform

The ESF Transnational Cooperation Platform of the European Commission has been relaunched for the new programming period 2021-2027 under the premise that “the new ESF+ aims to make EU funding more flexible, simple and effective.” The work of the platform will be organized from 2021 under four communities of practice:

-  employment, education and skills
-  social inclusion
-  results-based management
-  social innovation

 More information available here: <https://ec.europa.eu/esf/transnationality/content/esf-transnational-cooperation-platform-fresh-start-support-managing-authorities-intermediate>.

On another note, in July 2020, EARLALL provided feedback to the “Quality and efficient Apprenticeships” paper of ESF Learning and Skills network through the Lifelong Learning Platform. This document, drafted upon the last meeting of the 2014-2020 programming period held in Madrid on 25-26 June 2019, “explores and highlights the potential for further transnational cooperation between ESF Managing Authorities in relation to the implementation and improvement of apprenticeships/Dual VET in the EU by using ESF and ESF+ support.” The paper has not been published yet.


Projects

RegALE		NEW
Coordinator: European Association for the Education of Adults (EAEA)	Erasmus+ KA3 Jan 2021 - Dec 2023	Project budget: 623,937 € EARLALL share: 76,147 €
Project partners: Varaždin County, Vestland County Council, Hellenic Adult Education Association (HAEA), AONTAS, Estonian Non-Formal Adult Education Association, Learning and Work Institute, vhs Baden-Württemberg, Vuxenutbildningen Borås, University of Siena, EARLALL.		

RegALE (Regional capacity for Adult Learning and Education) aims to set up or reinforce networks of adult education organisations and to create synergies with regional/local authorities in order to increase their impact and sustainability. This will be achieved by increasing the partners' capacity (and of their networks, stakeholders, partners and members at their level of action) to respond to their challenges, build cooperation structures, and promote an adult education culture in communities, cities and regions.

RegALE will contribute to reinforcing adult education provision at regional and local level and to bringing stakeholders together to build dialogue and cooperation. The project will support adult education associations to react to challenges and to embrace present and future opportunities.

Project meetings

 Kick-off meeting: online, January 2021 (expected)

NeAR

PROPOSAL NOT SELECTED

Coordinator: University of Siena

AMIF

Not selected for funding

Project partners: vhs Baden-Württemberg, Basque Government, City of Stuttgart, Catalan Employment Service, Government of Catalonia (Department of Employment, Social Affairs and Family), Tuscany Region, Support Group Network (SGN), City of Mölndal.

The NEAR project aimed to develop, pilot and evaluate innovative approaches of immigrant-driven social orientation and integration programmes for third-country nationals in European cities and regions. The leading and fundamentally new principle of NEAR is that immigrants themselves are the main actors of the orientation process. Local communities, regional institutions, municipalities, NGOs, sports clubs, cultural groups and other organisations have a supporting role. The project was not selected for funding under the AMIF call 2019 and further options will be explored for its realisation in the upcoming year.

Building regional capacity

European regions and municipalities are in direct contact with citizens, and therefore are very much aware of their needs, but an increase in knowledge of a wider perspective and technical requirements is required to act as a bridge between them and Europe and build a cohesive, yet diverse, European Education Area. With a new programming period beginning in 2021 and ongoing negotiations throughout 2020 on the EU budget and new programmes, EARLALL has promoted the development of regional and local capacity to maximize efficiency and effectiveness in programme management and European tools and instruments.

Policy

Erasmus+ Coalition joint statement on the revised proposal for EU Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027

This joint statement was signed by more than 50 stakeholder organisations, among which EARLALL, under the leadership of the Lifelong Learning Platform and the European Youth Forum. The document stresses that the European Commission's revised budget allocation for the Erasmus+ programme published on 21 July 2020 will not be enough to deliver on the ambitious and much needed goals of the future programme for learning mobility, cooperation between organisations and support for policy reform across all sectors, not to mention its contribution to implementing the European Education Area, EU Youth Strategy and the European Green Deal, among other priorities. Valuable new features such as the programme's Inclusion and Diversity Strategy, whose actions aim to ensure broader access and participation, will have little impact without significant additional funding.

🌐 Full joint statement available here: http://llplatform.eu/ll/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Joint-statement_Erasmus-Coalition_MFF-proposal-2020.pdf

European Structural and Investment funds, and Cohesion Policy

Organised by the European Commission (DG REGIO, DGEMPL, DGAGRI) on 30 June 2020, EARLALL participated at the 12th Structured Dialogue meeting with ESI Funds' partners group of experts. Participants were given a short update by the Commission on the state of play of programming the funds for the 2021-2027 period that would be discussed and approved during the German Presidency of the Council in the second half of 2020, including the Next Generation EU instrument.

🌐 More information on Next Generation EU available here (Council conclusions): <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/45109/210720-euco-final-conclusions-en.pdf>.

EARLALL also took part in the "Engaging Citizens for Good Governance in Cohesion Policy" conference, hosted in Brussels by the European Commission on 6 February 2020.

🌐 More information available here: https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/conferences/citizens_good_governance.

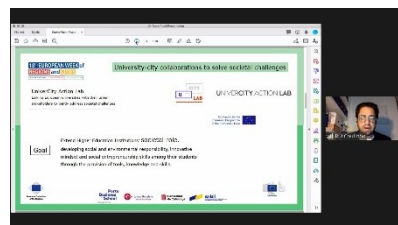
Events

Multi-actor cooperation at regional/local level for HEI & VET engagement (#EURegionsWeek)

Online, 6 October 2020

Organised by Porto Business School, Barcelona Chamber of Commerce, Catalonia's Department of Education and EARLALL

EARLALL and the KEYMOB project partnership, led by Barcelona's Chamber of Commerce, joined forces with Porto Business School in a workshop aimed at promoting initiatives fostering regional engagement in higher education (HE) and vocational education & training (VET). The KEYMOB project, along with the UniverCity Action Lab and the REACT projects.



Full press release available here: <https://www.earlall.eu/euregionsweek-2020-multistakeholder/>.

Cohesion 2.0 in education and employment (#EURegionsWeek)

Online, 13 October 2020

Organised by the Goethe Institut (StartNet) and EARLALL

EARLALL and the StartNet initiative by the Goethe Institut hosted a joint workshop in the context of the European Week of Regions & Cities to link inspiring regional practices with a European dimension in the fields of education and employment with current EU policy discussions regarding the MFF, the future of cohesion, educational, social and economic policies. The session counted on a variety of views by the European Parliament, the University of Verona, the Principality of Asturias and the City of Turku.



Full press release available here: <https://www.earlall.eu/cohesion-2-0-earlall-at-euregionsweek-day-2/>.

Projects

BRIDGE+

PROLONGED

Coordinator: vhs Baden-Württemberg

Erasmus+ KA3
Jan 2018 - Jun 2021EU co-funding:
EARLALL share: 54,008 €











Project partners: Ministerium für Kultus, Jugend und Sport Baden-Württemberg, Basque Government – Directorate for Training and Learning, Lärcentrum/City of Östersund, IUC-Z Group/Östersund, STVG, Foundation EC-VPL, EARLALL.





www.bridgeplusproject.com | #BRIDGEplusEU



In the context of the “Building up Regional Initiatives to Develop Skills-based Guidance: A digital multi-actor approach” project, the participating municipalities and regions, together with their partners, aim at building up, testing and implementing new strategies of skills intelligence on a regional level – supported by innovative technology. These regional initiatives shall include relevant groups of actors, above all companies, career guidance organisations, educational institutions and individuals, and interlink them in the framework of personal and virtual networks and platforms. In trainings, these actors will learn how to use innovative technology for competence management and career guidance according to their needs. They will also be motivated to use the tools as *bridges* to the partners, allowing a constant dialogue on future work and learning – the most important pillar of labour market skills intelligence.


Project results	Multiplier events
<ul style="list-style-type: none">  National survey (report)  Policy paper  Skills development groups  Development of companies' working methods  Curriculum for company training  Scenario for the BRIDGE+ training OLE <p> Available here: https://bridgeplusproject.com/useful-documents/</p>	<p>Euroguidance conference 2019 Vienna, 7 November 2019</p> <p>In the context of the event, BRIDGE+ had a dedicated workshop that was introduced by Ms. Michaela Marterer (STVGg) and Ms. Andrea Bernert-Bürkle (vhs Baden-Württemberg).</p> <p> Further details: https://bridgeplusproject.com/2019/11/12/bridge-at-euroguidance-conference/</p> <p>EARLALL webinar on resilience Online, 25 June 2020</p> <p>Andrea Bernert-Bürkle, project coordinator, showcased how the BRIDGE+ project has proven to be more relevant than ever in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p> Further details: see page 7.</p>
Project meetings	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">  5th Transnational Meeting Online, 14 May 2020 	

KEYMOB		PROLONGED
Coordinator: Barcelona Chamber of Commerce	Erasmus+ KA2 Jan 2018 - Jun 2021	EU co-funding: 225,240 € EARLALL share: 15,150 €
Project partners: Departament d'Ensenyament – Generalitat de Catalunya, Fundació Catalunya Europa, NOTUS Applied Social Research, Střední škola ESOZ Chomutov, Kaufmännische Schule 1, FREREF, EARLALL.		 Key skills in youth mobility
 https://www.earlall.eu/project/keymob/ #KEYMOB		

The aim of the Key Competences for Mobility is to develop cooperation between training centres, companies, regional and municipal governments to develop curricular tools and the necessary logistical and organizational agreements for the development of the transversal competences of the apprentices on a context of international mobility.

The project is focused primarily on the key players in the international mobility of the apprentices, and on the regional and municipal institutions and the intermediary bodies that necessarily collaborate in the success of such mobility. Secondly, it is directed at the apprentices, in order to improve the quality of their learning of transversal competences on an international context.



Project results	Multiplier events
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Curriculum for the development of apprentices' transversal skills Analysis of transnational mobility of apprentices Guide for teachers and training centres <p>Available here: https://www.earlall.eu/project/keymob/</p>	<p>European Week of Regions & Cities 6 February 2020</p> <p>"Multi-actor cooperation at regional/local level for HEI & VET engagement" joint workshop organised in cooperation with the Porto Business School.</p> <p>Further details: see page 26.</p>
Project meetings	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online meeting 11 November 2019 	

Stride4Stride			NEW
Coordinator: Brittany Region	Erasmus+ KA2 Oct 2020 - Sep 2022	EU co-funding: 139,463 € EARLALL share: 10,072 €	
Project partners: Tuscany Region, IRPET, Region Västra Götaland, Gothenburg Region, Basque Government (Department of Education, Linguistic Policy and Culture), Vestland County Council, Hardanger Municipality, Varaždin County, “Arboretum Opeka” VET school, Srednja strukovna skola, EARLALL.			
 #Stride4stride			

With the objective of aligning the education and training provision with regional smart specialisation strategies (S3), the Stride for Stride project will work on building up the concept of Regional Skills Ecosystems. Six regions (Catalonia, Basque Country, Tuscany, Brittany, Varaždin, and Vestland) in five European countries (including high achievers, such as Croatia, mid-achievers, such as Norway, and low-achievers such as Spain, Italy and France when it comes to skills matching according to the European Skills Index 2020) will improve their capacity to identify skills needs and adapt their training provision accordingly. And this process needs to be done by engaging four main axes: public authorities, education centres (VET in this case), companies and the individual. Four workshops corresponding to the four steps of skills governance (adaptation, anticipation, transmission and use) will be organised between 2020 and 2022, with a double European-regional perspective that allow all the previously mentioned actors build together skills intelligence systems by means of exchanging their experiences (both

though workshops and study visits) and taking part in multi-stakeholder open discussion hubs.

Project meetings

-  Pre-kick-off meeting conference: Online, 6 November 2020
-  Kick-off meeting: Online, November 2020

EU-Learn

PROPOSAL SUBMITTED



Coordinator (single beneficiary): Lifelong Learning Platform

European Parliament (co-financing of citizens' engagement actions)
Dec 2020 - Jun 2022

EU co-funding: 60,000 €

Affiliated partners: All Digital, Solidar, Unimed, AEGEE, Dlearn, Fedec, WOSM, ESN and EARLALL.

EARLALL's role:

-  Organising webinars about green skills, EU tools, EU Pillar of Social Rights.
-  Supporting or leading Twitter campaigns




Governance & management

New statute

The new EARLALL statute, approved by the General Assembly on 20 November 2019, were officially published by the *Moniteur Belge* on 21 April 2020.


Associate Members

During 2020, EARLALL Secretariat has received the application of the following organisations to become Associate Members of the network, to be approved by the General Assembly on 5 November 2020:

-  Adult Education Borås
-  Movetia
-  GO! onderwijs van de Vlaamse Gemeenschap





EARLALL Annual Conference 2020

EARLALL Annual Conference 2020 will take place online on 5 November:



-  9.30 -11 h Board meeting
-  11.30 - 13 h General Assembly

Partnerships and cooperation with other networks

Liaising with the European institutions:

-  EAfA and Apprenticeship Support Services ([see page 13](#))
-  ESF Transnational Platform ([see page 23](#))
-  Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition
-  Lifelong Learning Interest Group at the European Parliament, promoted by the Lifelong Learning Platform and EAEA, with the involvement of the CULT Committee.

Liaising with civil society and other stakeholders:

-  **Lifelong Learning Platform**, umbrella organisation of civil society networks at European level working in the field of lifelong learning.
-  **Other partners**, such as EfVET, the EAEA, and the Goethe Institut.

- ➔ **UNESCO stakeholder** application submitted in March 2020 and currently under consideration by the institution.

Communication strategy

EARLALL's dissemination strategy continues with its aim to raise the online and offline profile of the network through its activities on the network's official website (updated in

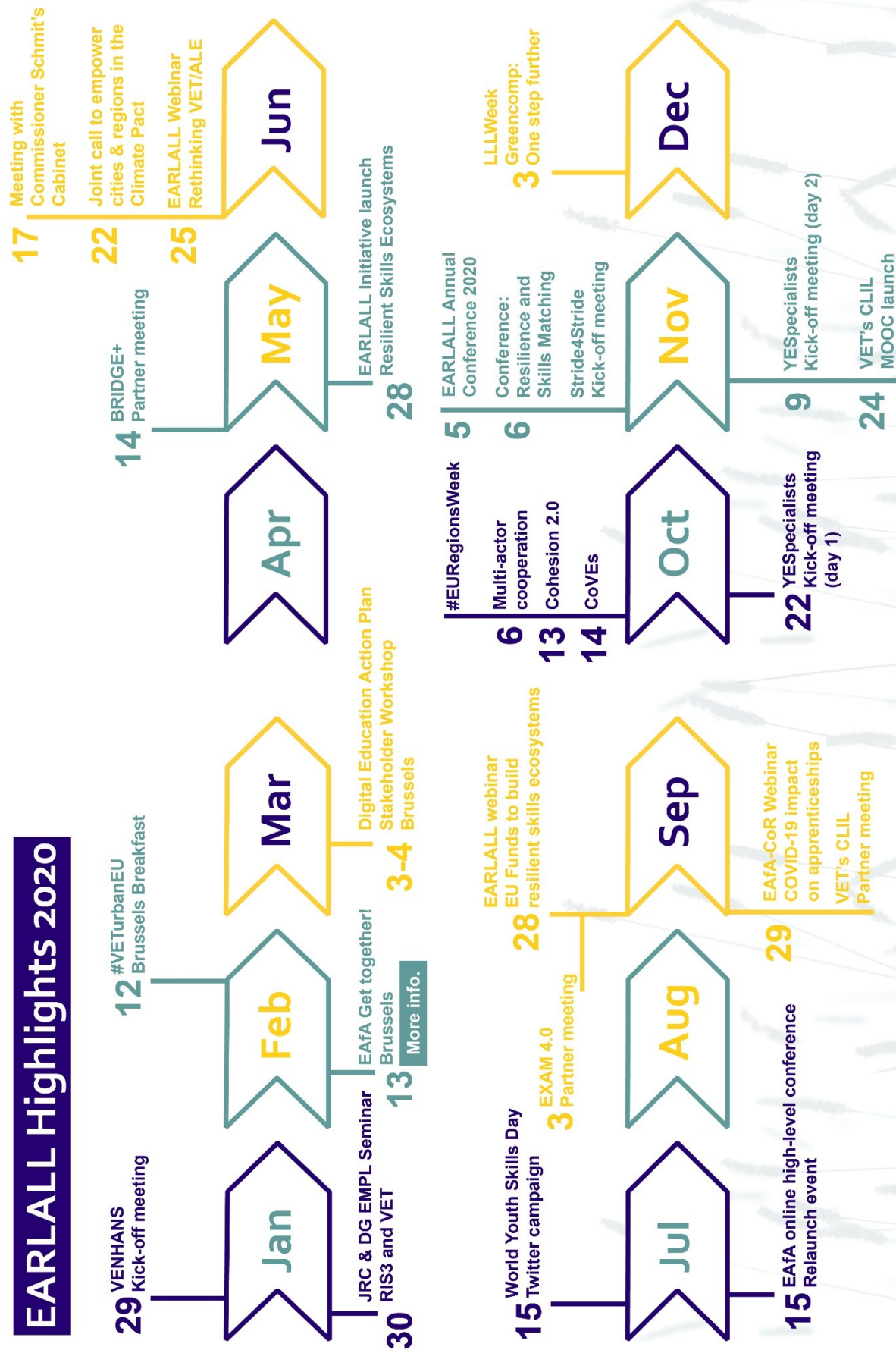
2019), social media channels and live and online events. The impact of COVID-19 has been reflected in the transformation of planned events into an online format and the postponement of some of them.

Data for online communication channels

	Data 2019 (31 Dec)	Targets 2020	Data 2020 (7 Oct)
Twitter	1,044 followers	1,500 followers	1,354 followers
Facebook	238 followers	350 followers	284 followers
LinkedIn	108 followers	200 followers	310 followers
Website	1,910 users	3,500 users	2,700 users
EARLALL Insights	377 subscribers	550 subscribers	459 subscribers

An upward trend is identified in all channels, even if some data falls short to the targets and aims forecasted for 2020. This can be explained by forecasts being based on a two-year basis; a clearer trend is now identified for the last three-year period and will feed into the forecast and targets for 2021.

EARLALL Highlights 2020



Annex

Projects funded by the European Union

PROJECT	DESCRIPTIVE TITLE	DURATION	EU FUNDING EARLALL	EU FUNDING PROGRAMME
VET in Urban Centres*	Development of Sustainable Urban Centres with Active Involvement of VET	2018- 2020	9,375 €	Erasmus+ KA2
BRIDGE+*	Building up regional initiatives to develop skills-based guidance: a digital multi-actor approach	2018-2021 [prolonged]	54,008 €	Erasmus+ KA3
KEYMOB*	Key Competences for Mobility	2018-2021 [prolonged]	15,150 €	Erasmus+ KA2
Boost for CLIL in VET*	Foreign language and acquisition of marketable skills for VET	2018 - 2021	31,725 €	Erasmus+ KA2
EXAM 4.0*	Excellence in Advanced Manufacturing 4.0	2019 - 2021	36,926 €	Erasmus+ KA2 (CoVE)
YESpecialists *	Youth Entrepreneurial Spirit Specialists	2020 - 2022	26,394 €	Erasmus+ KA2
Stride4Stride*	Stride for stride for skills anticipation/adaptation in European regions	2020 - 2022	10,072 €	Erasmus+ KA2
RegALE*	Regional Capacity for Adult Learning and Education (ALE)	2021 - 2023	76,147 €	Erasmus+ KA3
NEAr - New Europe Around**	Empowering newly arrived third-country nationals for an active participation in local communities	2020-2022		AMIF

**In green, proposals submitted in 2020 that were not selected for EU funding.



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

*



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