

# MOBILITY MATCHMAKING TOOL

*Pact for Skills – Regional Skills Partnership for Lifelong Learning Mobility*

## Exploring Regional Approaches to Education and Skills Supply

RECEIVING ORGANISATION	SENDING ORGANISATION	DURATION
 <p>Deputy Ministry of Vocational Education and Training of the Education Department (Basque Country)</p>	 <p>Region Västra Götaland (Sweden)</p>	 <p>November 2025</p>

### The Exchange

The exchange focused on regional strategies for education, skills, and labour-market collaboration.

The Basque Country provided an inspiring backdrop for in-depth exchanges on how territories can strengthen lifelong learning and anticipate skills needs.

The visit centred on understanding systematic approaches to skills provision, with a particular emphasis on vocational education and training (VET). Throughout the programme, the Swedish delegation explored how regional public authorities in the Basque Country work to foster stronger cooperation between education providers and labour-market actors—an essential component in addressing skills mismatches and responding to shortages in key sectors.



*TKNIKA - Basque Centre for Research and Applied Innovation in Vocational Education and Training (VET)  
November 2025*

Following the match, the institutions began preparing for the study visit in the Basque Country. The exchange allowed participants to gain insights into the **Basque Country's systematic approach to continuous professional development for vocational teachers, as well as its apprenticeship system, where students can combine paid work with their studies.** The visit highlighted innovative practices, such as TKNIKA's publicly funded platform for teacher development, knowledge transfer, and project collaboration. The experience also revealed opportunities for future collaboration, particularly between TKNIKA or VET schools in the Basque Country and regional actors in Västra Götaland, fostering shared learning and potential joint initiatives to strengthen vocational education and industry partnerships.



As a **next step**, Swedish colleagues aim to continue our bilateral contacts, above all with Tknika. They believe there may be potential for interesting collaborations between Tknika or VET schools in the Basque Country and regional actors and schools in Västra Götaland (Sweden).

*The study visit was organised and financed by [TAIEX REGIO Peer2Peer](#), enabling regional authorities to learn from each other and strengthen capacity in key policy areas.*

## Lessons Learnt



### Hosting institution:

- Basque Country's commitment to continuous upskilling for vocational teachers



### Participants:

- Peer learning with other regions inspires local improvements.
- Continuous professional development strengthens vocational teachers' skills.
- Collaboration between schools and industry boosts student engagement.
- Bilateral partnerships create opportunities for innovation and knowledge transfer.

## What do the participants say?



**Maria Nordh**

Department of Research,  
Transition, and Competence  
Västra Götaland Region



“The systematic work on continuous skills development for vocational teachers, and how the “platform” TKNIKA enables that, was inspiring. It was also very interesting to learn about their apprenticeship system, where students can be employed with a salary at a company within the framework of their vocational training, while they study.”



Our membership in EARLALL has given us better knowledge of how other regions work with the issues, and the Basque Country seemed to have a system that we could learn a lot from.



# Join the Regional Skills Partnership for Lifelong Learning Mobility

## What is the Pact for Skills and what is a regional skills partnership?

**The Pact For Skills** is one of the flagship initiatives of the European Education Area, from the European Commission. **EARLALL, as a network of regions and local authorities, is a member of the European Commission's Pact For Skills Initiative.** Through the Pact for Skills, the European Commission is supporting the development of regional skills partnerships. These partnerships bring together different stakeholders to help working-age people in a region learn new skills or improve existing ones. On 17 September 2024, EARLALL launches a regional skills partnership for **lifelong learning mobility**, as part of the Working Group on Mobility.

## What does the Regional Skills Partnership for Lifelong Learning Mobility commit to?

Acknowledging the ambitious targets set in the proposal Europe on the Move, the Regional Pact for Skills for Lifelong Learning Mobility seeks to increase the number of mobilities of Vocational and Educational Training (VET), Apprenticeship, Adult Education, informal education students, in addition to increasing mobilities for those with fewer opportunities. **The Partnership will focus on promoting a culture of lifelong learning and providing opportunities for those with fewer opportunities, by creating solid links between regions in these fields of exchange and by committing to monitoring and evaluating exchanges in these fields.** The Regional Skills Partnership for Lifelong Mobility commits to help to reach the goals of Europe on the Move, with 20% of VET learners by 2030 on mobilities and 20% of all mobilities for those with fewer opportunities and The Partnership commits to networking with regional and local authorities to implement solid cooperation links in the field of VET mobility, with a focus on providing opportunities for apprenticeship mobility and on attracting new members to the Partnership.

### What are the planned activities?

- 1 Sharing inspiration and good practices of mobility, particularly for those with "fewer opportunities".
- 2 Defining the meaning of "fewer opportunities" and how to best involve these people.
- 3 Monitoring and tracking mobility opportunities and mobility in implementation across partners of this Pact
- 4 Developing the concept of lifelong learning mobility promoters, working to expand a network of individuals and institutions committed to educational mobility.
- 5 Expanding the scope of a mobility matchmaking tool to new stakeholders, matching high-quality exchanges and, student mobility and also regional and local staff job shadowing.
- 6 Organising one-off or regular project matchmaking events to prepare for joint mobility projects.

### What are the next steps and how will EARLALL be involved?

The Working Group on Mobility will use upcoming working groups mee to determine the next activities of the Pact for Skills Regional Skills partnership, with the goal of ensuring each meeting has a presentation of best practices and a networking opportunity to interest new members.

The EARLALL secretariat will support this planning process and facilitate meetings and networking with new members.

### **Give your support!**

EARLALL is excited for this opportunity to increase the visibility of the network and to continue its commitment to high-quality lifelong learning mobility through its Regional Pact For Skills - Lifelong Learning Mobility (RSP).

**Contact [communication@earlall.eu](mailto:communication@earlall.eu) if your organisation would like to join the RSP, we can then include your logo in official communication about the RSP activities.**

