

# etia

Austausch und Mobilität  
Echanges et mobilité  
Scambi e mobilità  
Exchange and mobility

# move



Learning for today's  
working world

Exchange and mobility  
in vocational education

# Mobility programmes in vocational education and training

This brochure offers an overview of the opportunities available for valuable exchanges and practical work experience. Movetia supports projects which provide mobility programmes for VET learners, recent VET graduates and personnel in VET-education, as well as projects which facilitate cooperation between educational institutions. The scheme is aimed at vocational schools, professional associations, vocational training offices, enterprises and other institutions related to vocational education and training.

## Table of contents

### Exchange, mobility and cooperation in vocational education

#### Grant programmes

##### Personalised professional traineeships and professional further education abroad

European mobility for VET learners and recent VET graduates → page 4

European mobility for VET educational staff → page 6

Worldwide mobility for VET learners, recent VET graduates and VET educational staff → page 8

Language assistant programme → page 10

##### Group exchange in Switzerland

Class exchange → page 12

##### Knowledge transfer and research cooperation

Strategic partnerships: Europe → page 14

Sector Skills Alliances: Europe → page 16

Open project fund: Worldwide → page 17

##### Movetia

Information and support → page 18

## About Movetia

The national agency Movetia promotes and supports exchange and mobility in initial and continuing education and training as well as in the extra-curricular field in Switzerland, Europe and worldwide. The Foundation is supported by the State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SEFRI), the Federal Office of Culture (FOC), the Federal Social Insurance Office (FSIO) and the Swiss Conference of Cantonal Ministers of Education (EDK)

# Facts about exchange and mobility programmes

## Recognition of differences and similarities!

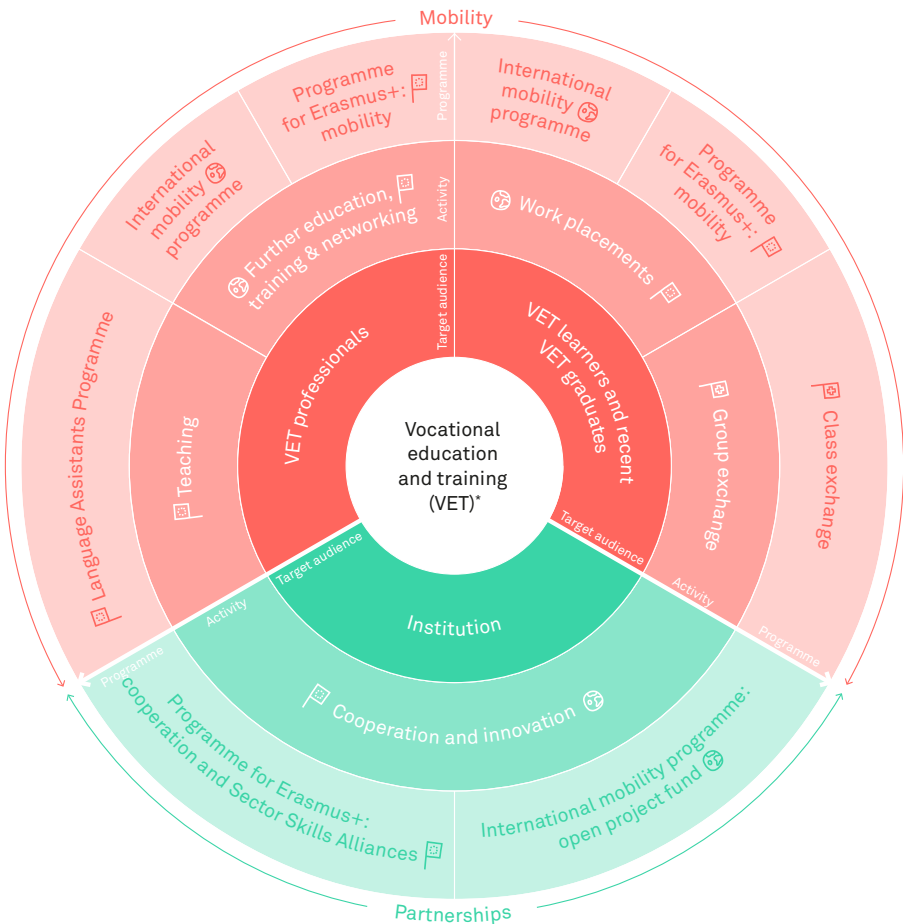
A stay abroad during the vocational education is a defining experience. VET learners develop their technical and language skills and learn to be interested in and open to other professional and social conventions. This lays the foundation for later exchange activities for personal and professional development.

## Enhanced profile of the vocational institution!

The commitment of vocational education institutions to providing exchange experiences creates an attractive and high-quality learning and work environment.

## Working together for innovative vocational education!

The exchange of everyday work practices, as well as the shared development of innovative ideas, enhances the quality of vocational education for everyone.



\* Vocational schools, professional associations, vocational training offices, enterprises and other Swiss institutions related to vocational training. Destinations: Switzerland, Europe, Global

## European mobility programmes for VET learners and recent VET graduates

While learning more about their chosen field, participants have the additional informative experience of living and working in a foreign culture and different vocational education systems. This is an enrichment not only for the participants but also for the teachers, vocational schools and associations involved.

Settling into a daily working life in a new environment is both a challenging and valuable experience. Recognising and mastering these challenges requires self-awareness and an understanding of the local working environment. Participants can apply these insights and capabilities to their own workplace and everyday life upon their return.

<b>Participants:</b>	VET learners and recent VET graduates* in dual or full-time education
<b>Applicants:</b>	Vocational schools, professional associations, vocational training offices, enterprises and other institutions related to vocational education (public and private)
<b>Activities:</b>	Professional internship in a European company, studying at a vocational school with work experience in a company
<b>Project duration:</b>	1 or 2 years
<b>Period of stay:</b>	14 – 360 days per mobility

\*May apply to mobility programmes starting up to 12 months after completion of their course





## Example of a project

As part of the MobiLingua programme, FREI'S Schulen Lucerne and the Canton of Lucerne offers linguistically gifted school graduates the opportunity of doing a three-year business education which includes a six-month professional internship in London during the second year. This fosters both personal and professional skills on the international stage.

“A stay abroad changes you in a positive sense: it makes you more organised, efficient and independent. You return to Switzerland and see the world with new eyes. My expectations were completely fulfilled. My English is now very good. I can now speak and write it perfectly.”



Violeta Stankovic  
KV student, FREI'S Schulen  
“KV Business English”

## What are the benefits?

### Go on a journey of self-discovery

Participants may improve their self-confidence, discover new ways of approaching situations and tackle their personal fears by mastering new situations independently in a new setting.

### Improve language skills

There is no greater motivation for improving foreign language skills than being in the country or region where a language is spoken. The rapid improvement in language skills gained during a period abroad is also of great value on a CV.

### Add extra value to a professional qualification

Professional horizons are expanded in a professional internship, thanks to the use of new work methods and introduction to a different type of work culture. This experience is also bound to be a bonus on the job market.



[movetia.ch/en/mob-vet](https://movetia.ch/en/mob-vet)



Personalised professional internships and professional further education abroad

## European mobility programmes for VET educational staff

Modern institutions are increasingly realising the value of providing dynamic and engaging professional development for their staff. Carefully selected further education activities enable VET educational staff to exchange valuable experience and knowledge with members of other European educational institutions.

Through this hands-on exchange of expertise, VET educational staff can learn about educational management, trends and innovation in the vocational education system of their host country. As well as setting up a partnership with European institutions, a further aim of these mobility projects is that the knowledge acquired abroad will be applied in home institutions.

<b>Participants:</b>	Educational staff in the vocational training sector
<b>Applicants:</b>	Vocational schools, professional associations, vocational training offices, enterprises and other institutions related to vocational education and training
<b>Activities:</b>	Job shadowing, networking, guest lectures, interaction concerning issues of training and further education*
<b>Project duration:</b>	1 or 2 years
<b>Period of stay:</b>	2 days to 60 days per mobility

\*Further education courses are excluded from funding



## What are the benefits?

### Improved technical, didactic and methodological skills

Find out about new teaching and learning methods, aids and work procedures and use the knowledge gained to develop careers further.

### Expand and use a network of relationships

Lay the foundation for a common mobility programme structure by meeting vocational training leaders from other European countries.



[movetia.ch/en/mob-vet](https://movetia.ch/en/mob-vet)



### Example of a project

For prospective or existing vocational school teachers teaching in two languages, the canton of Zurich offers teachers the opportunity to acquire essential methodological, didactic, linguistic and intercultural skills in Great Britain. As part of tailor-made further education programmes, teachers attend various lessons in English colleges and interact with English teachers. They will apply the skills learned in simulated lessons, before transferring these to lessons in Switzerland.

“Participants benefit from interacting in an international, skills-related further training programme with job shadowing. They acquire extra confidence in the language of instruction and can use their skills authentically in bilingual lessons with modern methodology. The VET learners are also pleased about this.”



Mary Miltschev  
Office for Foreign Languages,  
Zurich Secondary School  
and Vocational Training Office

# Worldwide mobility for VET learners, recent VET graduates and VET educational staff

Participation in a mobility project outside of Europe allows VET learners, recent VET graduates and VET educational staff to acquire professional experience internationally. This gives them the opportunity to develop their language skills and knowledge specific to their field in a different cultural context. Such mobility projects are also an opportunity to create connections abroad with a view to more long-term collaboration – so let's get started!

<b>Participants:</b>	VET learners, recent VET graduates, VET educational staff
<b>Candidature:</b>	Vocational schools, professional associations, vocational training offices, enterprises and other institutions related to vocational education and training
<b>Activities:</b>	Professional internship or project work for VET learners and recent VET graduates Exchange relating to training and further education, networking, project development or job shadowing for teaching staff
<b>Project duration:</b>	1 or 2 years
<b>Period of stay:</b>	Unrestricted

## What are the benefits?

### Establishing a reputation as an innovative and cosmopolitan institution

By developing partnerships abroad and setting up attractive projects for both potential participants and a wider public.

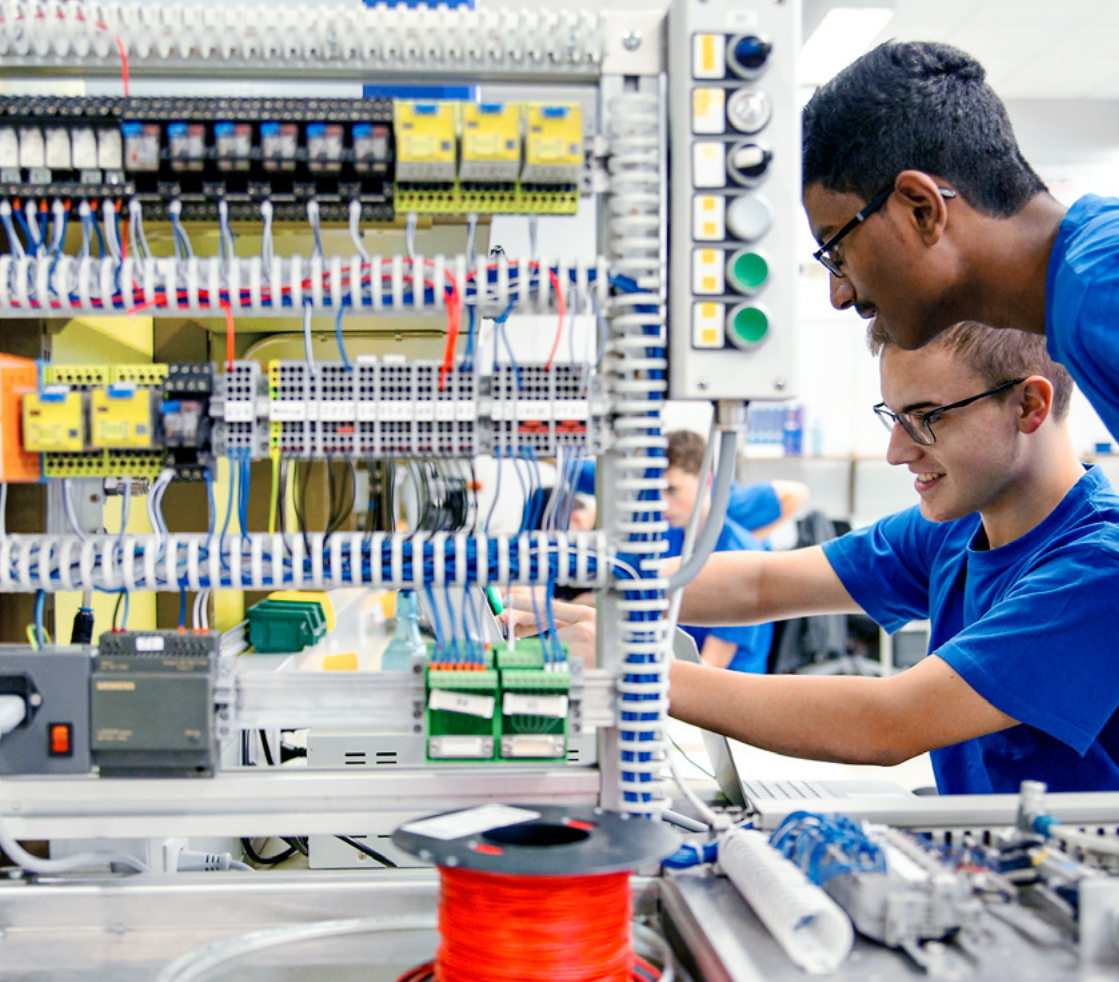
### Allow participants to enjoy a unique, enriching personal and professional experience

Participants will acquire skills and knowledge beneficial to their careers as well as to the institution.



[movetia.ch/en/int-vet](https://movetia.ch/en/int-vet)





### Example of a project

The Thouné IDM professional education centre is launching an international mobility project in partnership with IBBG (a vocational training community of interest for «clothing creators») for 2018-2020. Eighteen vocational training specialists from all Swiss language regions will have the opportunity to visit one of the leaders in the international textile industry market in Vietnam for three weeks. The main objective will be an exchange of skills and knowledge in the field of vocational training, as well as a deepening of the participants' knowledge of the clothing sector at the production site itself in order to integrate this into the course in Switzerland.

## Language assistant programme

Movetia sends young foreign teachers to Swiss vocational schools as support for foreign language courses or bilingual and immersive subject instruction. In turn, by working in schools abroad, Swiss teaching assistants can improve their foreign language knowledge and become acquainted with another educational system.

### Swiss vocational schools appoint a language assistant

<b>Participants:</b>	Secondary level II schools; also other levels on request
<b>Applicants:</b>	School principals
<b>Activities:</b>	Assisting with foreign language courses
<b>Appointment:</b>	Usually 10 months or 1 school year
<b>Number of hours:</b>	12 hours a week (16 lessons of 45 minutes each)
<b>Salary costs:</b>	Charged to the host school

### Swiss teaching staff working in a host school abroad

<b>Participants:</b>	Teaching staff up to 30 years of age, with max. three years' professional experience
<b>Activities:</b>	Assisting with foreign language courses
<b>Appointment:</b>	6 – 9 months (depending on the host country)
<b>Salary costs:</b>	Vary according to the host country



### Example of a project

Two English-speaking teaching assistants were appointed by the KV Zurich Business Schools for the first time in the 2017/2018 school year. The language assistants introduced their culture to the class. Direct access to the foreign language taught by young teachers from abroad was appreciated by VET learners. This approach, which started as an experiment, has proven itself to be successful: the school will appoint language assistants again for the next school year.

“The KV Zürich Business Schools teaching staff appreciated the opportunity to involve native speakers in their language or technical courses, because they see them as added value for the students.”



KV Zürich Business Schools,  
Renata Schuh, Team leader  
of the language assistance  
programme KVZ



### **What are the benefits?**

#### **Native speakers bring a fresh breeze to the language classroom**

Taking current lesson topics from their home countries, language assistants build bridges with students' everyday environments.

#### **Targeted support of students**

Language assistants facilitate lessons with half-sized classes and groups, so that various learning levels can be targeted and met.



[movetia.ch/en/sap](https://movetia.ch/en/sap)



## Class exchange

Classes from different language regions in Switzerland meet to experience a foreign language learned at school within its culture. Exchanging views, learning new things and sharing experiences with people of the same age: these ingredients are enough to enthuse students from vocational schools for foreign languages.

The sponsorship programme supports class exchanges for mutual visits from primary, secondary and vocational schools and encourages teaching staff to prepare their students for unforgettable exchange experiences.

- Participants:** Teaching staff and their VET learners
- Applicants:** Teaching staff and school principals in schools in Switzerland or swiss schools abroad
- Activities:** Mutual class exchange, joint camp, half-classes and rotation exchange
- Project duration:** 1 school years
- Encounter:** Minimum 2 days (both classes will take a trip for at least 1 day)





## Example of a project

René Affolter, a teacher at the Emme learning centre, planned and implemented a five-day bilingual exchange with Romain Degors, a teacher at the Biel vocational educational centre. After one introduction day in Bern, the students discovered Langnau biligually with their tandem partners. Along the route of a “village obstacle course”, a variety of attractions were visited before a meeting took place with the Langnau ice skating club (SCL Tigers). Bowling, indoor mini-golf, discussions about career plans and other activities were also part of the exchange. This was then followed by a two-day stay in Biel.

“Languages are very important in everyday life. They can open doors to a successful career. Joint games, activities, sports or mealtimes were particularly important to the students.”



René Affolter  
Teacher, Emme learning centre

## What are the benefits?

### Using language already acquired

When preparing to meet the other class, students discover that they already know more than they think they do. Their motivation for learning the foreign language increases and they develop communication strategies during the exchange.

### Expanding the competencies of teaching staff

Exchanges with colleagues allow teachers to enhance their teaching methods.



[movetia.ch/klassenaustausch](https://movetia.ch/klassenaustausch) [in German, only national exchange]

## Strategic partnerships: Europe

The collaboration of vocational education institutions, companies and organisations in the working world fosters communication throughout Europe. Discussions with the various stakeholders in a project enable the exchange of proven practices and improves the quality of basic and further professional education. As participating partners, Swiss institutions have a decisive influence on the exchange and introduction of innovation and good practice. By ensuring the institutional establishment of contemporary insights, the participating institutions and their staff learn about and teach using state-of-the-art educational practices, and are involved in the ongoing development of basic and further professional education.

### Two types of project are sponsored:

#### Good practice exchange

Enabling the set-up and expansion of international knowledge transfer networks

#### Innovation support

Enabling the development, implementation and transfer of innovative products or methods

- Participants:** Personnel from public and private vocational education institutions
- Applicants:** Public and private institutions in the field of vocational education
- Activities:** Promoting cooperation and networking between institutions, developing and/or implementing innovative procedures, recognising and validating knowledge, facilitating qualifications and competencies, improving the assignment of professional staff, supporting diversity and integration, promoting entrepreneurial thinking and action
- Project duration:** 1 to 3 years



### Swiss participation in cooperation projects as an associate partner

Movetia supports Swiss institutions that wish to participate in a project sponsored under Erasmus+. One of the participating institutions from an Erasmus+ programme country undertakes the coordination of a project and submits a funding request to its national agency. Concurrently, the Swiss institution applies for financial support from Movetia.



### Example of a project

National professional associations from the field of welding technology develop common standardised training guidelines and learning plans for specific welding procedures and set up a pilot training course with trainees and trainers.

### What are the benefits?

#### Transfer of successful methods and procedures

Participants benefit from new and proven teaching and learning methods and international exchanges of resources and procedures, as well as the general experience and knowledge of others.

#### Promoting innovation

Combined resources can be used to promote educational innovation and disseminate the results obtained at a local, regional or even national level.



[movetia.ch/en/coop-vet](https://movetia.ch/en/coop-vet)





Knowledge transfer and research cooperation

## Sector Skills Alliances: Europe

Sector Skills Alliances are transnational projects with the objective of further developing qualifications for one or more job profiles in a particular sector. The qualification requirement for the professional sector is identified and determined so that professional training is updated by adapting the courses on offer.

**Participants:** Personnel from public and private vocational education institutions  
**Applicants:** Public and private institutions in the field of vocational education  
**Activities:** Establishing and assigning the qualification requirement in a particular professional sector; Developing and providing shared training content (job-related learning) for specific professional training in a professional sector; Implementing strategic approaches with clear activities, milestones and defined outcomes to promote growth, innovation and competitiveness in a certain professional sector.

**Project duration:** 2 – 4 years




[movetia.ch/en/coop-vet](https://movetia.ch/en/coop-vet)

## Open project funds: Worldwide

This «carte blanche» project fund serves to test initial cooperation and mobility experiences with new partners in countries outside of Europe and to develop existing partnerships further. The innovative nature of the projects is important.

Movetia will finance a maximum of 60 per cent of the project costs.

- Participants:** VET learners, recent VET graduates, VET educational staff
- Applicants:** Public and private Swiss institutions and organisations in the fields of education and youth work
- Activities:** Professional internships, joint project work, further education
- Project duration:** max. 2 years

 [movetia.ch/en/carteblanche](https://movetia.ch/en/carteblanche)



## Need more information?



### **Possible partner countries: international projects**

EU: EU member states, EFTA countries, former Yugoslavian Republic of Macedonia, and Turkey



Worldwide: The focus is on countries outside the Erasmus+ programme countries



### **Benefit from diversity: mutual exchange**

To comply with the principle of reciprocity, Movetia also supports people resident in the EU coming to Switzerland (incoming mobilities). The precondition for this is that people from the Swiss institution submitting the application complete a stay abroad related to the same project (outgoing mobilities).



### **Enhancing vocational education: becoming a project promoter**

Applications for financial support and sponsorship registration can be submitted using the relevant online forms. Institutions can apply individually or as a consortium consisting of at least three vocational education institutions. Individuals cannot apply for sponsorship funds.



The relevant application deadlines must be observed.

You can find more information about the various programmes at [movetia.ch](http://movetia.ch)

# What support does Movetia provide?

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## **Creating opportunities: financial support**

You can find a detailed overview of the financial support provided for each programme on the relevant pages of the Movetia website. Additional funds are provided for the participation of people with disabilities and higher financial support requirements.



## **Quality through clarity: advice and quality assurance**

The vocational education team provides advice for individuals. You will receive important information for developing your personal project and completing the application from members of this team.

Movetia is also responsible for evaluating project applications, compiling reports and paying the agreed grant funds.

Quality requirements, which are binding and checked by Movetia, apply to each mobility and cooperation project. Assessment criteria consist of a formal, financial and content test.



## **National networking: for a common culture of mobility**

A variety of information events offer all persons interested in vocational education a platform for networking and exchanging experiences. This experience is very valuable for the design and organisation of individual projects and for the promotion of a shared mobility culture in vocational education.



## **International networking: preparing visits (only for swiss institutions)**

You may apply for financial support for a preparatory visit in order to become acquainted with international partner organisations and/or further develop initial project ideas.

[movetia.ch/en/preparatory-visits](https://movetia.ch/en/preparatory-visits)





Information, deadlines, news and current events: [movetia.ch](https://www.movetia.ch)

The vocational education team is happy to answer your questions.  
Contact us to arrange a consultation.

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