



Hanse Parlament

Conference “Erasmus+: An opportunity to modernise education, training, youth and sport systems for the 21st century”

Transnational cooperation in the VET sector

Dr. Max Hogeforster

Athen, 16th January 2014



Background

- **non-profit** network, working actively in the interests of small and medium enterprises since 1994
- association of more than 50 chambers of commerce, industry and crafts as well as similar associations around the Baltic Sea, representing more than 470.000 SMEs
- Objectives of the Hanseatic Parliament are:
 - to develop a strong, innovative economic region
 - to promote small and medium-sized businesses
 - to initiate outstanding qualifications, study courses and VET
 - deepen networking and co-operation



Significance of SMEs

1. Strengthening of SMEs best way to strengthen European regions
2. SMEs are the economic, cultural and social backbone
 - + 99% of all european companies
 - + **up to 70% of all jobs**
 - + **80% of all training positions**
 - + Family owned
 - + responsible management
3. What do SMEs need to stay Competitive and boost their innovation level ?





Survey 2013

What does your company need most urgently to boost innovation ?





Future needs of SMEs

- Biggest challenge for European SMEs: **lack of skilled workforce**
- Growing competition for young talents, increased by demographic development
- In many regions clear mismatch between needs of labor market and graduates
- SMEs need closer cooperation and exchange with universities to increase innovation level and stay competitive



Baltic Sea Academy

- Foundation of a Baltic Sea Academy as a unique link between SME organizations and educational institutions on 22nd of February 2010; Started with 10 members, 16 members in 2013



Innovation

- Product Innovations
- Process Innovations
- Concrete solutions



Qualification

- Dual study courses (work based learning)
- further training courses
- vocational training



Transnational cooperation in the VET sector

Two examples of transnational projects

The screenshot shows the homepage of the 'Dual Vocational Training for SMEs in the BSR' project. It features a header with a map of the Baltic Sea Region and a photo of three people in a meeting. A left sidebar contains a navigation menu with links: Home, About the project, Project partner, Concept Papers, Workshop Presentations, International Training (highlighted), for Students, for companies, Media, and Links. The main content area includes the title 'Dual Vocational Training for SMEs in the BSR', a brief description, and a call to action to fill out a questionnaire. Below this is a large graphic with the text 'Start a fruitful cooperation now!' and 'Internationalise your company!', along with a photo of a group of people and a laptop.

Dual Training

The screenshot shows the homepage of the 'Skills Energy BSR' project. It features a header with the project title, a 'Skills Energy BSR' logo, and the 'Lifelong Learning Programme' logo. A navigation bar includes links: ABOUT THE PROJECT, PARTNER, QUALIFICATION, RESULTS, and INTRANET. The main content area is titled 'Partner' and features a map of the Baltic Sea Region with red pins indicating the locations of 10 partners from 5 countries. Below the map, it states '10 Partners from 5 countries are involved in the Project:' and provides a link to view details. A photo of solar panels is visible on the right side of the page.

Sector Skill Alliance



1. Dual Vocational Training in the BSR

Program: Leonardo da Vinci, Transfer of Innovation

Duration: 2 years

Partnership: 12 partners from 6 countries

Partner structure: Chambers, Training Centres,
Universities

Overall objective:

Transfer of dual study programs to Lithuania and Finland and elaborating possibilities for dual programs in Estonia and Poland



1. Advantages of dual study courses





2. Pilot: Sector Skill Alliance BSR Skill Energy

Pilot project: Skill Alliance “Energy saving technologies, including sustainable construction” is formed and developed with 10 partners from five countries, 2013 - 2015

Overall Objective

Development of concepts, curriculum, teaching materials, **implementation and examination regulations** for

- a) young people with good practical skills (WP 2)
- b) Further education (WP 3)
- c) Dual study courses (WP 4)





2. Skill Energy BSR – WP 2

WP 2 Professional training for young people with good practical skills

- Analyses and forecasts of the educational and labor markets in Lithuania (P4), Latvia (P6) and Poland (P8)
- Development of country-specific concepts for the performance and recognition of a vocational training for young people with practical talents (and maybe poor school skills)
- Most ambitious measure of the project, but most needed

Goal: give young drop outs new perspective, re-integration into the vocational training system



Experiences from VET projects

- Vocational trainings must fit real needs, thus it is important to involve employers and stakeholders, e.g. SMEs, at early stage
- Work based learning essential; dual system depends on the creation of company – based training positions
- Interest of SME economy must be gathered in umbrella organizations like chambers, schools etc.
- Transnational cooperation very useful, but measures need to be adapted to national systems, no size fits all



www.hanse-parlament.eu

Thank you very much for your attention

HANSEATIC PARLIAMENT

OBJECTIVES | SECRETARIAT | CONTACT

Home Members Projects News Events Information Links

WELCOME TO HANSEATIC PARLIAMENT!

SME's in the Baltic Sea Region - on Top of Europe

In September 2004 the association of the Hanseatic Parliament was founded in St. Petersburg. It has a non-profit structure and no commercial goal of its own. Members of the association are more than 45 Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Chambers of Skilled Crafts and other institutions who promote small and medium-sized businesses from all Baltic Sea Countries (Germany, Poland Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Russia, Finland, Norway, Sweden and Denmark).

The association is located in Hamburg and is registered at the register of associations at the district court Hamburg.

- Strengthening of the economic competitiveness of the Baltic Sea region and development of an intensive cooperation with a high spatial identification
- Support of the medium-sized economy and the skilled crafts, in particular all transnational activities and international cooperation's
- Promotion of the vocational training, excellent education of businessmen and executives of the medium-sized economy in form of dual bachelor studies as well as further training
- Furtherance of the economic and cultural development in the partial regions of the Baltic Sea Region as well as support of the experience exchange and a cooperation orientated on regional strengths.
- The work of the Hanseatic Parliament is co-financed by the BSR QUICK Project which is part-financed by the European Union (European Regional Development Fund and Neighbourhood Instrument).

The work of the Hanseatic Parliament is co-financed by the BSR QUICK Project which is part-financed by the European Union (European Regional Development Fund and Neighbourhood Instrument).

 [Click here to view the Hanseatic Parliament Image Brochure](#)
(left-click to view / right click to download)

NEWS

 Follow us on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/HanseParlament

8th Hanseatic Conference
- Programme and
Organisational Information

Participate in Innovation Survey 2013

10 Steps
to a New Regional Policy

Hanse-Parlament established
an innovation network for SMEs
in the Baltic Sea Region

B2B-Meeting Riga 2013

Calendar

Translator