Enhancing permeability between HE and VET in Germany by ULLL
Tensions and added value

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Agenda

- Gap between VET and HE
- VET + HE: Dual study programmes
- Advancement through Education: Open Universities
- Permeability between HE and VET
- Tensions and added value
Gap between VET and HE

Institutional orders of VET (dual system) and Higher Education (Baethge/Wolter 2015, 100)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distinctive criteria</th>
<th>Higher education</th>
<th>Dual system of VET</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Guiding principle</td>
<td>Academic professionalism</td>
<td>Vocational competence in firms and labour markets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political governance</td>
<td>Länderr governments</td>
<td>Corporatist: (self-)governance by social partners, regulated by federal law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financing</td>
<td>Public by the Länderr governments</td>
<td>Mainly by private enterprises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Status of the learners</td>
<td>Students</td>
<td>Apprentices with employment contract</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location/organisation of learning processes</td>
<td>Universities; institutions independent from workplaces</td>
<td>Firms; integrated in work processes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conditions for access</td>
<td>Abitur; A-level degree</td>
<td>Certificate of access not legally required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Areas of employment</td>
<td>Academic professionals in public and private administrations, research and leading positions;</td>
<td>Skilled work in production and service industries</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VET + HE: Dual study programmes

- Dual system is the most important component of the German qualification model; declining attractiveness.

- **Dual study programmes** are a significant new approach to combine HE and VET (Number of participants doubled up to 100,000 in the last 10 years).

- Key feature are **two learning locations**: university and business. Vocational practice and study are closely integrated in terms of organisation and curriculum.
Advancement through Education: Open Universities I
Advancement through Education: Open Universities II

- funding initiative from 2011 until 2020
- more than 100 universities involved, 73 projects
- concepts for extra occupational studying and lifelong learning for professionals, persons with family duties, job returners
- permeability between vocational and academic education and integration of new knowledge into practice
- strengthening of the international competitiveness by profiling in lifelong learning

www.offene-hochschulen.de
### Permeability between HE and VET

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>Social work (BA)</th>
<th>Mechanical Engineering (B.Eng.)</th>
<th>Management of Healthcare and Social Services (MA)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flexible learning pathways</td>
<td>vocational qualification or aptitude test and present occupation professional certification as social worker</td>
<td>Vocational education + 3 years professional occupation + aptitude test</td>
<td>Abitur + 3 years professional occupation + aptitude test or vocational qualification + 2 years professional occupation or Meister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flexible study modes</td>
<td>Blended learning</td>
<td>on-campus learning + on-the-job-learning</td>
<td>Distance learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connecting theory and practice</td>
<td>Biographical competence portfolio</td>
<td>On-the-job-projects (WBL) E-journals</td>
<td>Case studies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tensions

- no long tradition for RPL in Germany
- flexible modes of delivery provide challenges for organisation
- experience based and reflective learning are not common (esp. at universities)
Added Value

- Widening access and enhanced permeability between VET and HE
- Focus on the lifelong learner (instead of institution or sector)
- Innovation – programmes can go beyond HE and VET education
Bibliography


http://valeru.net/germany


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Thank you for your attention!

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