Introduction to the Danish VET system
Education in focus

• In Denmark our future, wealth and prosperity relies on our knowledge and capability to innovate

• In a society where raw materials are limited, education becomes vital for the development of society

• Education has led to the society we have today and that’s why education is extremely important in Denmark
The Danish way of education

• The Danish educational system emphasizes independent thinking and responsibility for his or her own career, project-/group work and creativity

• Investment in education, innovation and research becomes the ”raw material” in a society where extraction of raw material and production are not naturally occurring

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The Danish VET system

• Denmark has an inclusive and flexible VET system where all young people have an opportunity to obtain relevant competences for smooth transition to the labour market

• Programmes are organised according to the dual principle, shifting between college-based learning and work-based learning (apprenticeship) in enterprises

• A typical VET programme (EUD) lasts 3½ years with a 2:1 split between workplace and college-based training, although there is considerable variation between programmes

• In Denmark we have 117 independent state institutions that offers basic VET education programmes. The vocational colleges receives funding from the Government

The Danish VET system

- VET is organised into 12 broad entry routes (for technical, agricultural, commercial, social and healthcare programmes)
- 106 vocational education and training programmes are offered*1
- Approx. 38% of a youth cohort obtain a vocational education
- More than 300 different qualifications at level 3-5 in the Danish qualification frame*2
- 5% of the students will usually end up taking a higher education

*1 Source: Improving Vocational Education and Training, The Danish Ministry of Education, 2014
How to start on a vocational education?

GF1
Basic education for the youngest students, direct from 9/10. class

GF2 Under 25

GF2 Over 25

Main education

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Basic Programme

• Students from primary school who knows which programme they wish to take from the beginning, can take a targeted basic programme with a view to realizing their wishes

• Students who need to try out their skills and interests, can take a broader basic programme to identify their wishes

• Some students need to brush up their knowledge from basic school, while others wish to choose higher levels in the general subjects to be able to continue to higher education afterwards
Basic programme

Basic entry routes in Denmark
1. Motor vehicle, aircraft and other means of transportation
2. Building and construction
3. Construction and user service
4. Animals, plants and nature
5. Body and style
6. Human food
7. Media production
8. Business
9. Production and development
10. Electricity, management and IT
11. Health, care and pedagogy
12. Transport and logistics
Main programme

- After the basic programme, the students are admitted to the VET main programme.
- The student must enter a training agreement with a company.
- It is in the main programme that the most important part of the practical training takes place.
- The students shift between learning in a company (practical training) and at the college.
- The school-based periods are organized as blocks that are between 5 and 10 weeks.
- 50-70 % of the training period takes place in a company.
- 30-50 % during the school-based programme.
What is EUX?

- Keeps all options open
- Practical understanding + theoretical level on higher level
- Being skilled and at the same time have admission to further education including the university
Adult learning (GVU)

• Basic adult education is for adults who are minimum 25 years old with at least two years relevant work experience, but without formal qualifications

• Individual study plans, which recognize prior learning, are used
Adult vocational training (AMU)

• Adult vocational training (AMU) provides participants with skills and competences relevant to the labour market

• AMU is primarily directed towards specific sectors and jobs

• Programmes may either deepen a participant's knowledge in a particular field or extend it to related fields

• AMU programmes (around 3 000) last an average of one week and are created, adapted or discontinued in response to labour market needs
Vocational education

Basic education

1. module
2. module

½ Year ½ Year Year 2 Year 3 Year 4

Practice School Practice School Practice School Practice School Practice School

Technical eux

Mercantile eux

Academic ability Test Practice School Practice School

Main course

Vocational education

Eud

Vocational education combined with gymnasium

Eux

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Main programme
– practice and school
The VET System – stakeholders

Approx. 50 committees is cooperating with the Danish VET schools to make sure that the educations are updated and goes along with the skills that are needed in the industry.

The committees sets the agenda for the educations e.g.:
• The length of education, structure (split between school and practice in a company)
• The Learning Outcome
• Content eg. minimum levels
• Assessment plan
• Practical education
• Final exams (how to run them)

The committees approves the companies who offers students apprenticeships.
For further information….

More about the Danish VET system
http://eng.uvm.dk/upper-secondary-education/vocational-education-and-training--vet-

Description of the Danish VET educations
http://certsupp.uds.dk/