

Erasmus+ and eTwinning: Creating blended learning mobility projects in IVET

eTwinning is an initiative of the European Commission, funded by the Erasmus+ programme, under the broader umbrella of the European Union's support for education and training.

While Erasmus+ projects enable physical mobility and cross-border learning experiences, eTwinning provides a safe, powerful digital space to sustain collaboration, dialogue and shared creation before, during and after mobilities.

In vocational education and training, this synergy can transform a mobility experience into a longer-term, blended learning journey that supports project continuity, deeper integration of vocational competencies and collaborative knowledge construction.

WHY BLEND ETWINNING WITH ERASMUS+ IN IVET?

- Ensures preparation, engagement, continuity and sustainability of the mobility activities of the project.
- Facilitates digital collaboration across international VET institutions.
- Reinforces the pedagogical purpose of mobility beyond cultural exposure.
- Offers an inclusive platform to co-create, reflect on and evaluate vocational learning processes.
- Promotes shared ownership among all learners – those who travel and those who don't.

BEFORE

BEFORE THE MOBILITY: PREPARING, PLANNING, CONNECTING

Use eTwinning to set up a project that will lay the foundation for a meaningful mobility experience.

ACTIONS TO TAKE:

- Find partners for projects via the eTwinning groups and rooms, using the partner-finding forum to write your project sketch.
- Create a project and (once approved by your NSO) its TwinSpace will be automatically created.
- Initiate communication in the project's TwinSpace among partner schools by introducing teachers, institutions, learners and vocational areas.
- Set shared vocational goals by co-defining the competencies to be developed during mobility (e.g. hospitality customer interaction, machinery operation).
- Prepare learners digitally and interculturally using forums or TwinBoards in TwinSpaces for icebreaking, vocabulary sharing, cultural exchange, etc.
- Design collaborative tasks such as joint research, planning or prototype design relevant to the upcoming physical mobility.

EXAMPLE:

Before a mobility on sustainable agriculture, learners co-create an online glossary of technical terms in their own languages, share video interviews with local farmers and outline joint project ideas to be implemented during the visit.

DURING THE MOBILITY: DOCUMENTING, COLLABORATING, REFLECTING

The TwinSpace serves as a **live collaborative learning environment**, not just a repository.

ACTIONS TO TAKE:

- Encourage real-time updates by using the TwinSpace, photo galleries and discussion threads to document experiences.
- Facilitate joint learning tasks by asking learners from host and visiting countries to work in mixed teams to document fieldwork, vocational practices or challenges.
- Embed reflection by asking learners to post weekly entries, videos or group notes on what they're learning, vocationally and culturally.
- Support non-mobile learners by asking them to comment, peer-review and collaborate online with the mobile participants.

EXAMPLE:

During a mobility in a fashion design school, learners use the TwinSpace to co-develop designs, upload sketches, receive peer feedback and hold live critiques with peers in their home country.

AFTER THE MOBILITY: CONSOLIDATING, SHARING, UPSCALING

Use eTwinning to transform mobility outcomes into long-term learning assets.

ACTIONS TO TAKE:

- Co-create final products such as vocational manuals, portfolios, digital exhibitions or how-to videos to capture the skills developed.
- Evaluate and reflect via the post-project evaluation activities, testimonials and collaborative reviews to consolidate learning.
- Disseminate outcomes by sharing products, stories and insights via TwinSpace and link them to wider Erasmus+ dissemination efforts.
- Plan follow-up activities by using eTwinning to develop new phases of collaboration or launch follow-up Erasmus+ applications.

EXAMPLE:

After a mobility on health and social care, learners collaborate on a multilingual guide to eldercare practices across Europe, shared with vocational schools and local care institutions.

KEEP IN MIND: THE TWINSPACE IS A CO-CREATION SPACE, NOT JUST A REPOSITORY

To fully harness the potential of the TwinSpace:

- Design it as a learning environment with structured activities, interactive content and learner-led pages.
- Encourage learners' autonomy by letting them upload, comment, lead discussions and co-moderate pages.
- Organise content by themes or phases of the Erasmus+ project (preparation, action, reflection, dissemination).
- Use a variety of tools (e.g. forums, blogs, video galleries, wikis, shared files) that support dialogic, social and constructive learning.



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