

# Facilitating transitions from basic education to vocational skills development and to the labour market – the role of vocational orientation and career guidance



**This webinar will start at 09:00 CET (Swiss time)**

# Facilitating transitions from basic education to vocational skills development and to the labour market – the role of vocational orientation and career guidance



**Welcome!**



## Technical Tips



**If you have comments or questions** during the presentations, post them in the chat

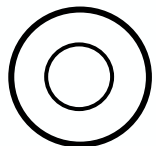


**If you can't hear or see:** close and restart webinar, and close other programs.

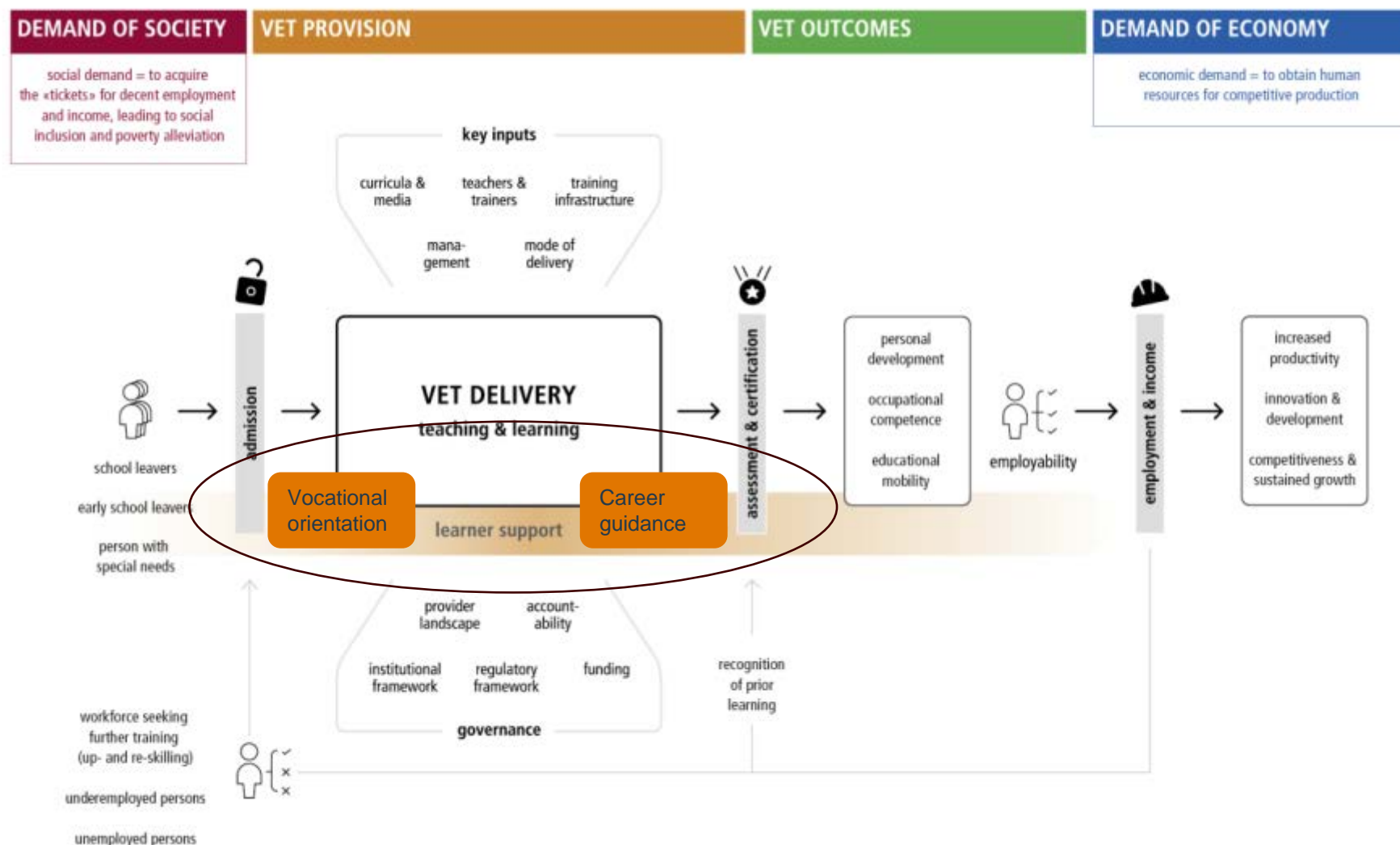


**Microphones are off.**

You are invited to use the chat to post comments or questions.



**This webinar is being recorded** and will be shared with staff for further learning purposes.



**Vocational orientation** takes place during the final years of general education and aims to make young people aware of the world of work and help them to identify the occupational areas which might be interesting for them.

**Career guidance** or counselling provides detailed information on specific training pathways and related jobs. It sometimes includes ability tests and advice regarding admission. It addresses school graduates and drop-outs at the interface of general education and VET as well as job-seekers and employed people who want to develop their skills. It is an important instrument to help different target groups make informed choices when opting for a specific VET programme.

## Meet the webinar team



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Presenter

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Component Manager  
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VTESS Project Laos  
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**Katharina  
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Moderator

Senior Advisor Skills  
Development  
HELVETAS



**Roman Troxler**  
Chat  
moderator

Co-Managing  
Director  
KEK - CDC



## Agenda of the day

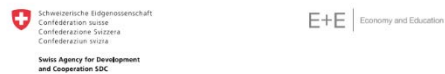
1. Welcome and introduction of topic
2. Presentation Albania, presentation Laos and expert feedback
3. Q&A
4. Breakout groups and reporting back
5. Closing remarks



# Welcome by SDC

## Learning Journey: Interlinking basic education and VSD

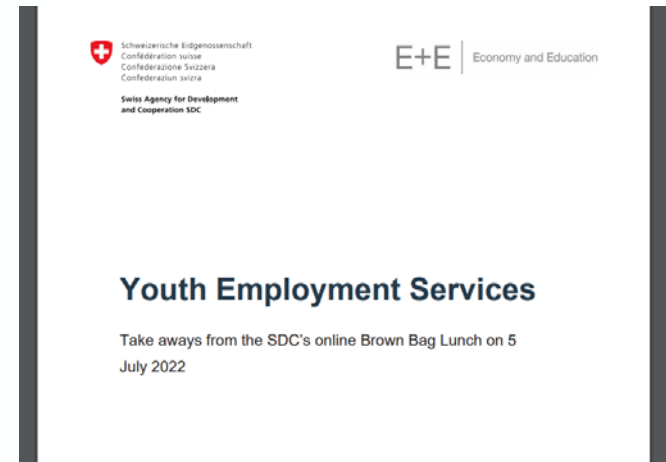
## Brown bag lunch on youth employment services (July 2022)



SDC «How to do» Note  
**Interlinking BE and VSD  
for Labour Market Integration  
and Economic Development**



- [Link](#) to the how to note
- [Link](#) to the webinar on permeability
- [Link](#) to the slide deck on permeability
- [Link](#) to the kick-off webinar



- [Link](#) to the take aways
- [Link](#) to the recording



## Project example Albania: RisiAlbania



# Transformative Career Guidance intervention in Albania



Ermira Shyti

Team Leader  
Career Guidance  
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HELVETAS ALBANIA

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In partnership with:



Implemented by:



# Albania Key data & Challenges (INSTAT)



Albania - one of the youngest European countries with a vibrant youth population

Unemployment remains a challenge for young people

Population: 2.761.785

Young people: 587.888 (50% women)

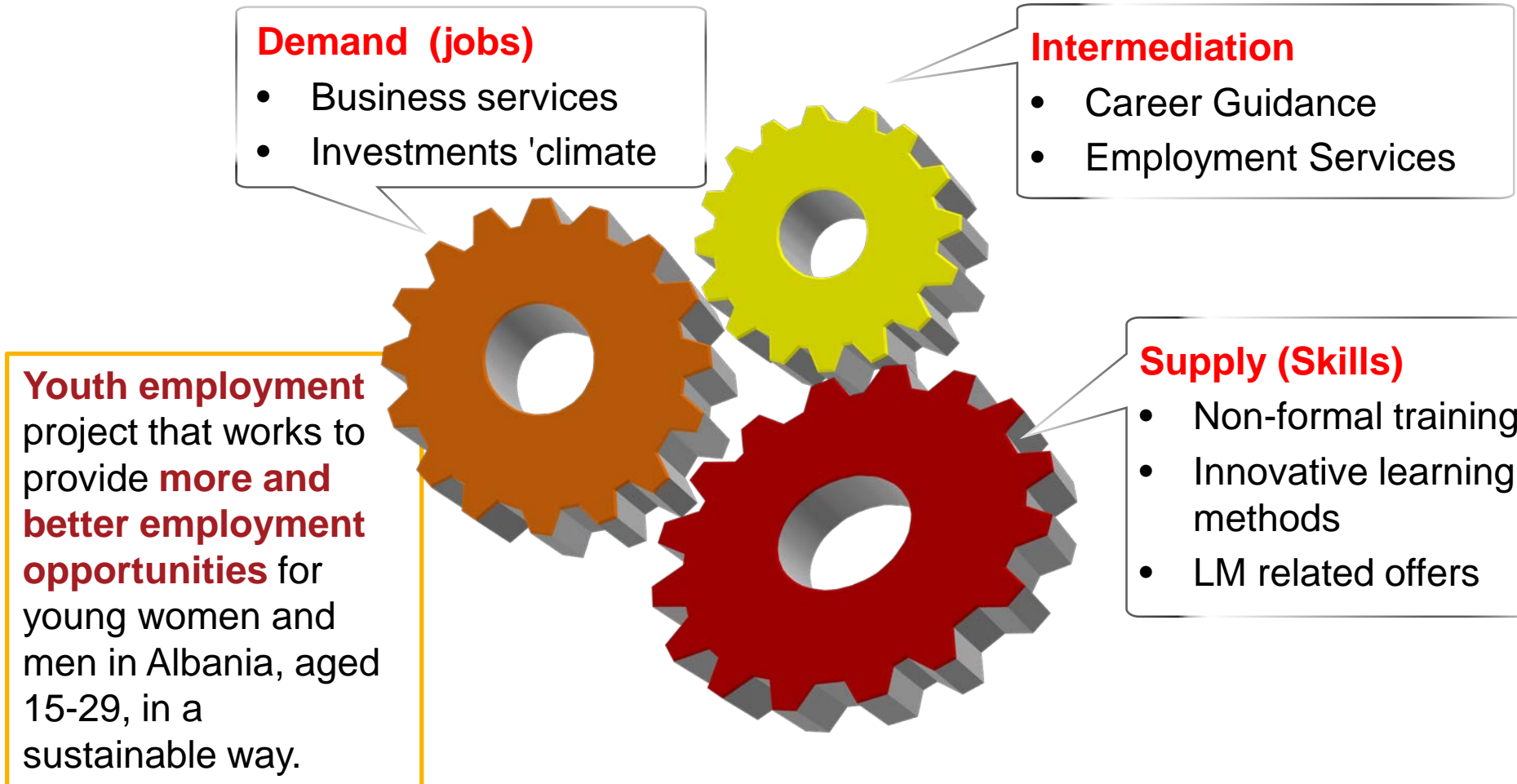
Unemployment: 10.5 %; Youth 22%

NEET: 25.2%

GDP/capita: 6810 USD

Average wage: 600 Euro, min wage 380 Euro

## Short intro about RisiAlbania project Phase 3 *up to 31 Oct. 2025*



# How did we start in 2018?



**Limited and fragmented understanding** of career guidance concept



Career guidance development existed at a much simpler level **only at some universities**



**The education system** has not incorporated career guidance as a guiding principle in designing and delivering the curriculum



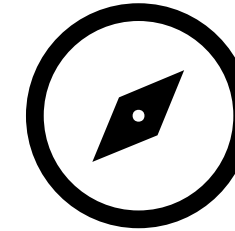
**Career guidance professionals'** preparation was inadequate with no job perspective



**No reliable and comprehensive labour market information**, not translated into user-friendly career information relevant to the different career development stages of young people

## Holistic approach to transform Career Guidance & Counseling in Albania

RisiAlbania designed and adopted a holistic approach to activate and support all the necessary market system pillars in career guidance:



- **Institutional and organizational capacities of providers**



- **Development of content**



- **Development of career advisers**



- **Career guidance promotion towards young people, parents and decision makers**

# Innovation – key to success

## Career Guidance Service in Albania

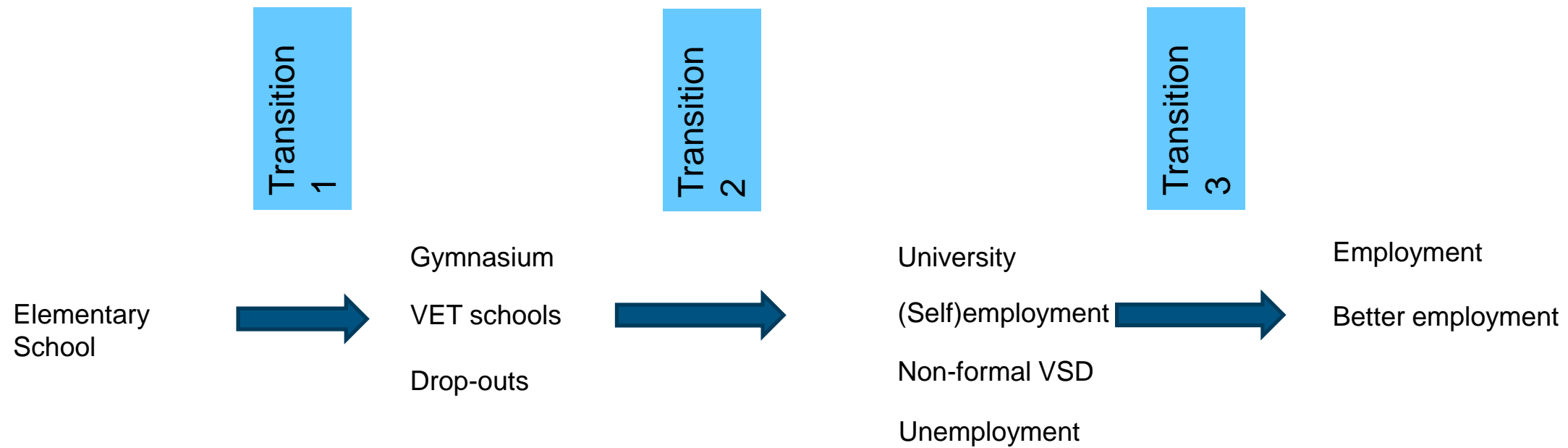
Promotion of CG Services



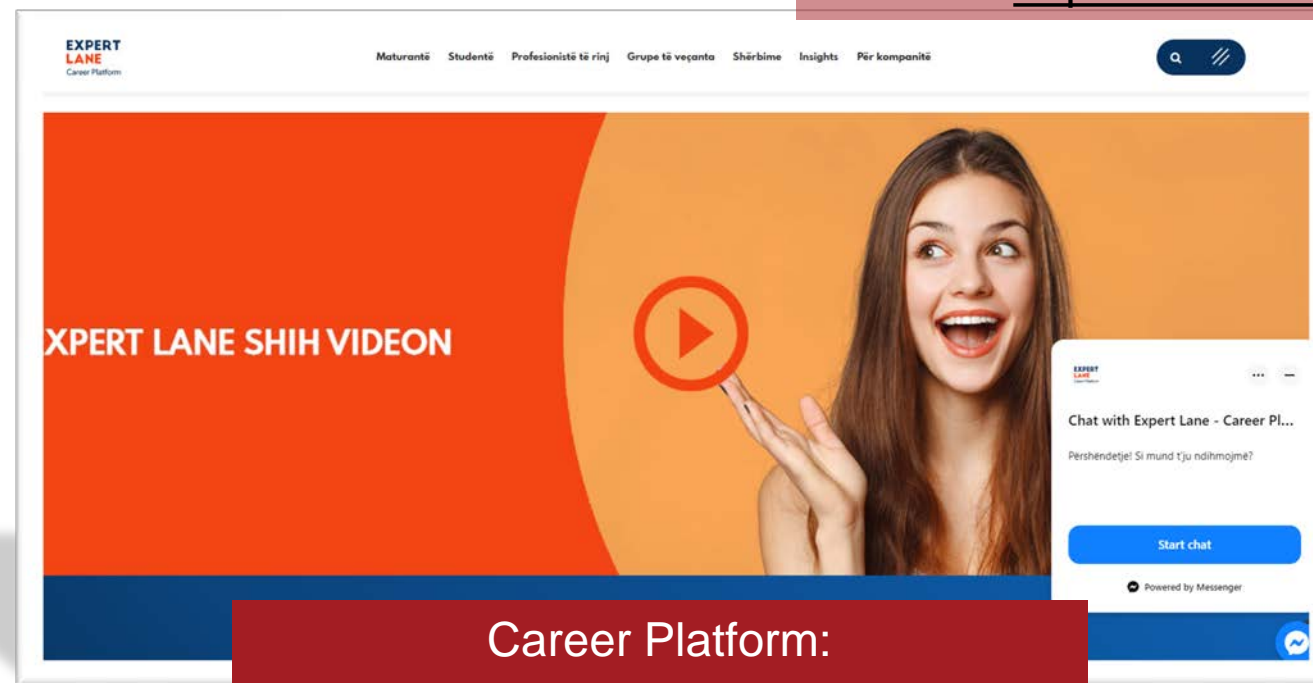
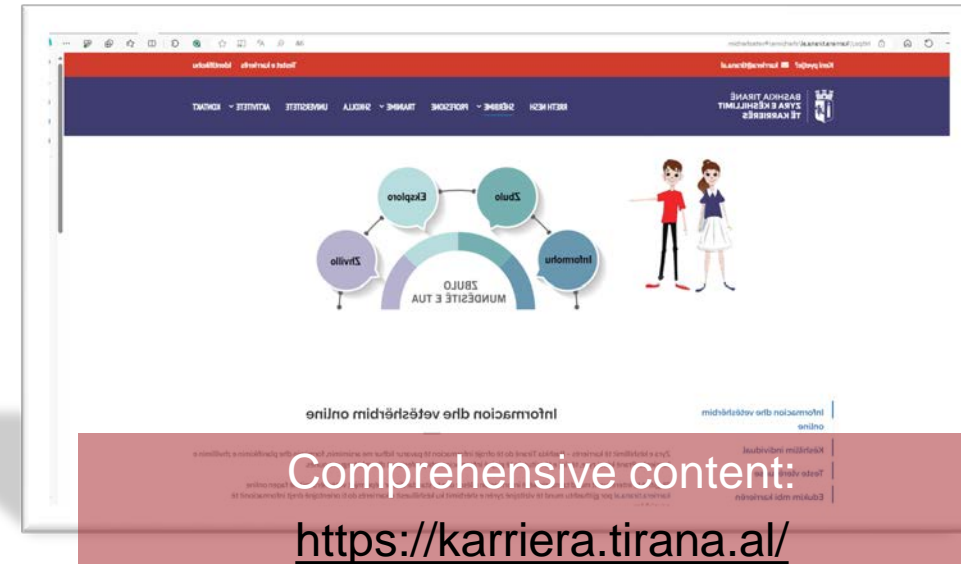
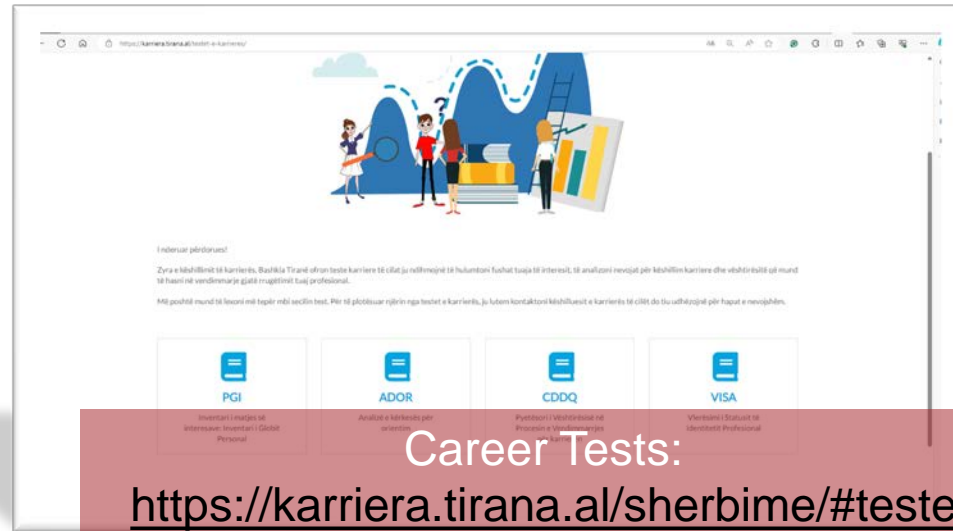
Inspired by the Swiss model, rooted carefully in the Albanian Context supported by Swiss institution

# Transition moments

Transition moments from education to employment



# Self-digitalized solutions





# Our beneficiaries



**20 000+** young People received career guidance services

**55%** of these beneficiaries being women

**400+** young People received job placements

**53.7%** of these beneficiaries being women



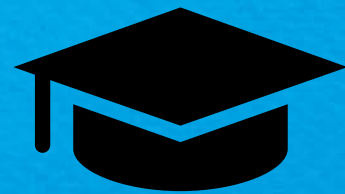
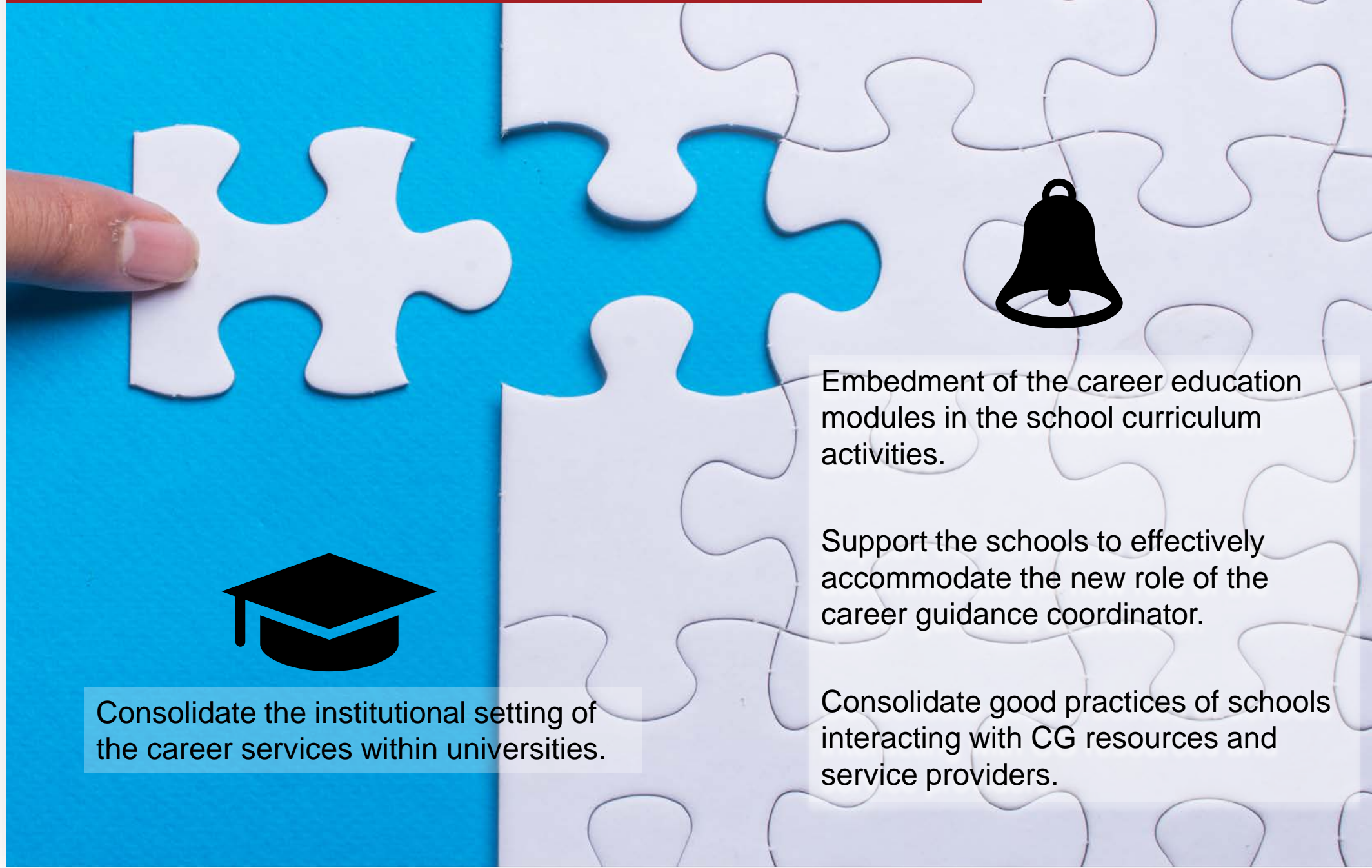
"Navigating Careers, Empowering Futures: our Path, our Potential, your Expertise –  
*Discovering the Future with Tirana Municipality's Career Consulting Services.*"



Media develop career related content

Genta - the forest engineer that produces boats in the village of Prush, near Tirana

# Dealing with challenges



Consolidate the institutional setting of the career services within universities.



Embedment of the career education modules in the school curriculum activities.

Support the schools to effectively accommodate the new role of the career guidance coordinator.


Consolidate good practices of schools interacting with CG resources and service providers.

Thank you and do not hesitate to reach out at



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# Project example Laos: Vocational Training & Employment Support Services (VTESS)



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development  
and Cooperation SDC



# Coaching for Employment & Entrepreneurship (C4EE)

## LAOS

# CONTEXT OF LAOS

- Young population, 60% under 25 years old
- Least developed country in Southeast Asia
- Relies heavily on its neighboring countries, primarily China, Thailand and Vietnam
- Ethnically diverse, 47% from ethnic groups
- Over 200 ethnic groups (different language, culture, spiritual belief)
- Low level education
- Lack of private sector and non profit associations in the target provinces



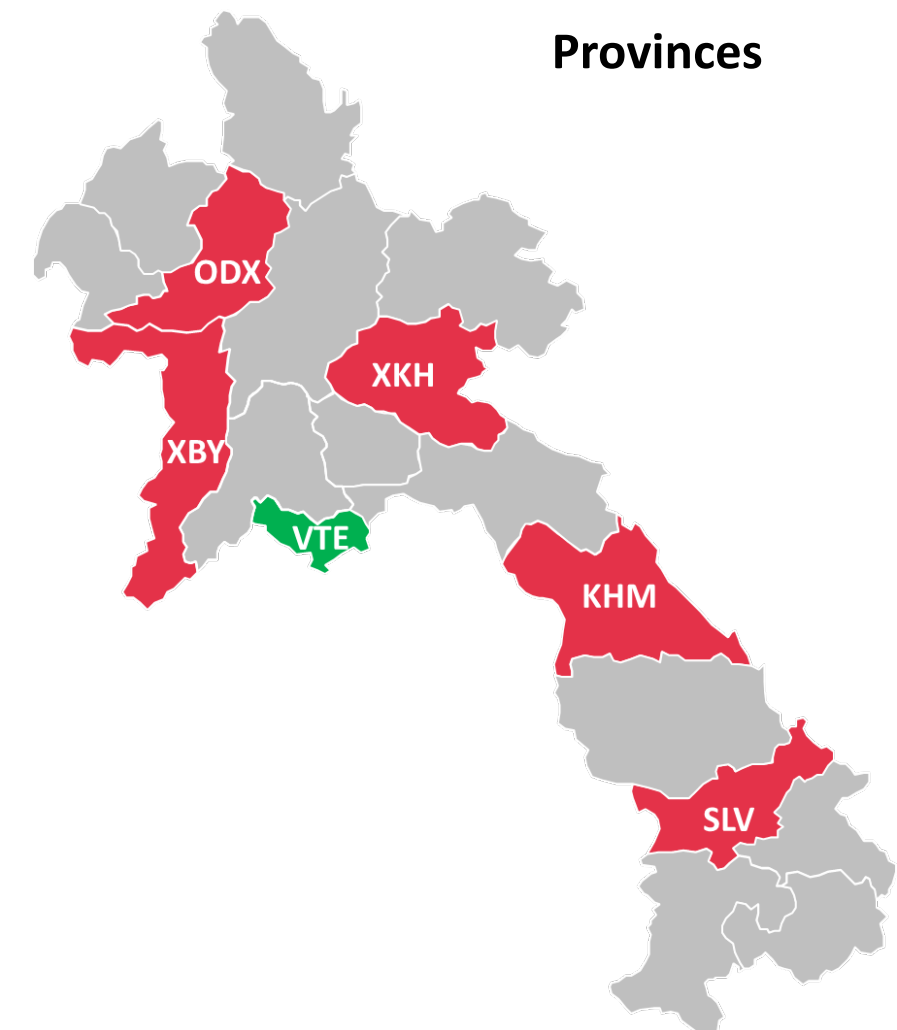
*Coaching participants exploring variety of professions, Xiengkhouang, Laos*

# VTESS Project in Brief

## Project Objective:

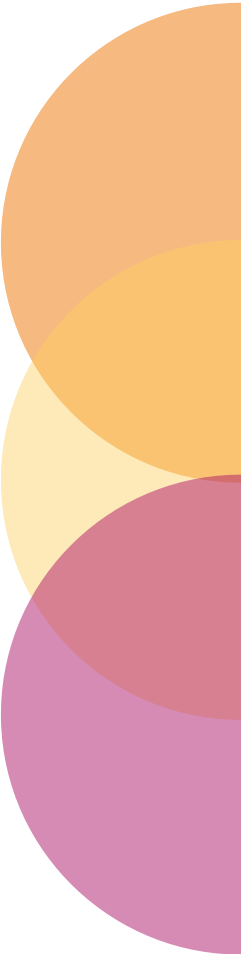
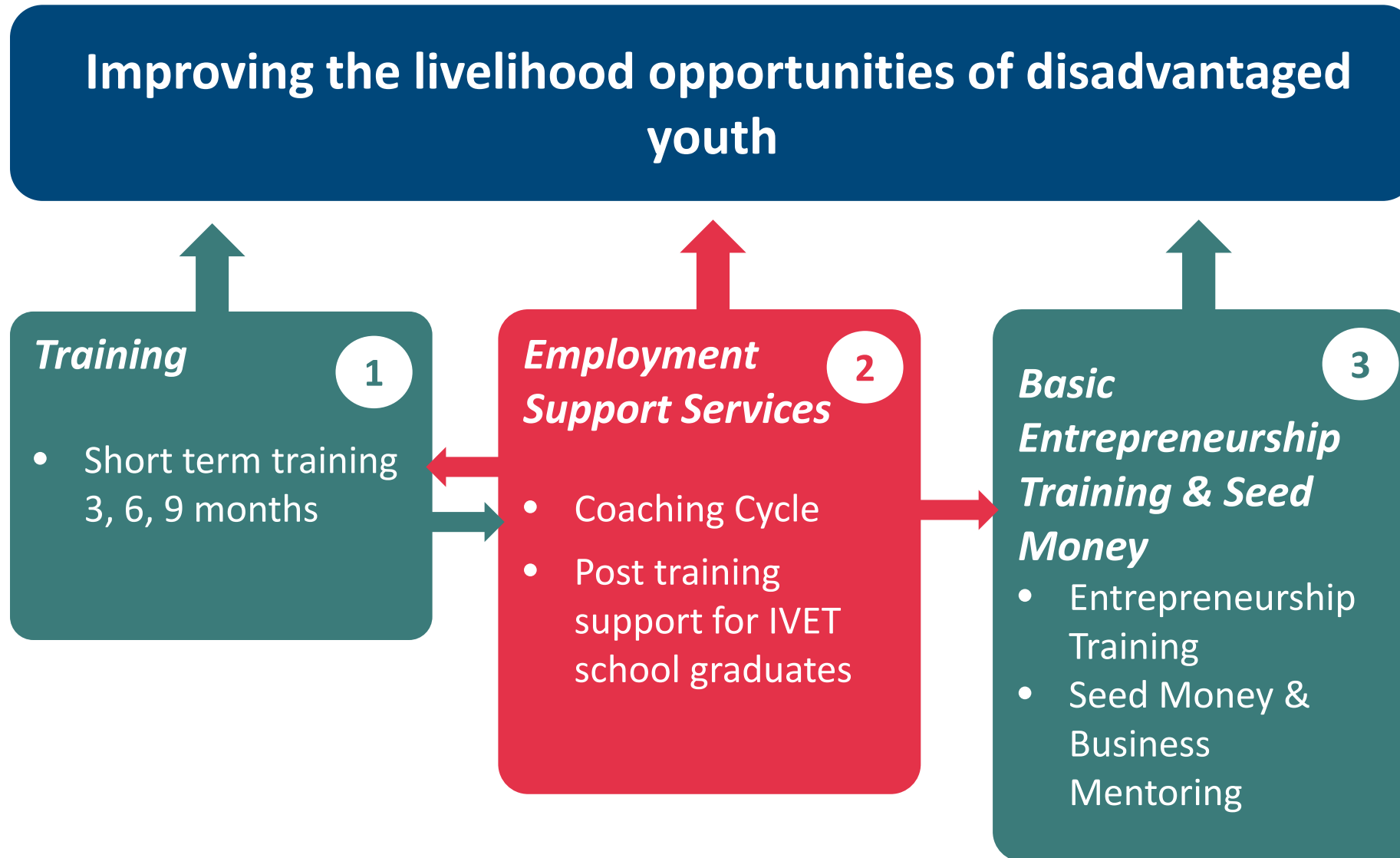
**Improving the livelihood opportunities of disadvantaged youth**

- **Ultimate beneficiaries:** Disadvantaged youth, 15-35 years of age with primary and lower secondary education only
- **Project duration:** Phase 1: Aug 2019 – Nov 2023 → **Phase 2: Dec 2023 – Nov 2027**
- **Donor:** Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
- **Implementation:** Consortium Swisscontact in collaboration with Luzern University of Applied Sciences & Arts (HSLU)
- **Main govt. partners:** MoES (and MoLSW)





# KEY COMPONENTS OF VTESS PHASE 1



## FULL COACHING CYCLE

### LONG TERM COACHING (9 MONTHS)

- 50 coaches trained
  - 60% female
  - 26% from ethnic groups
- 854 ESS participants enrolled in the long Coaching Cycle
  - 66% female
  - 36% from ethnic groups

EMPLOYMENT RATE

**72%**

## POST TRAINING SUPPORT

### SHORT TERM COACHING (2 WEEKS)

- 409 IVET graduates accessed post training employment support
  - 41% female
  - 63% from ethnic groups

EMPLOYMENT RATE

**48%**

## LESSONS LEARNED

- Low interest from participants to join technical training at the IVET schools
- Few training providers
- High interest in on-the-job training
- Disadvantaged youth need immediate support and struggle to commit long term
- Lack of variety in partner organizations, 85% from government, 15% from non-profit associations
- High interest in self-employment

## ADAPTING C4EE TO LAOS



- Enterprise Based Training  
Approaching small businesses in the provinces to provide short term 'on the job training' to participants of the coaching cycle
- Shortening the duration of the Coaching cycle, from 12 months to 9 months
- Project added Vientiane Capital to have more variety in terms of partners
- Basic Entrepreneurship & Seed Money



**THANK YOU!**





Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

# Expert feedback

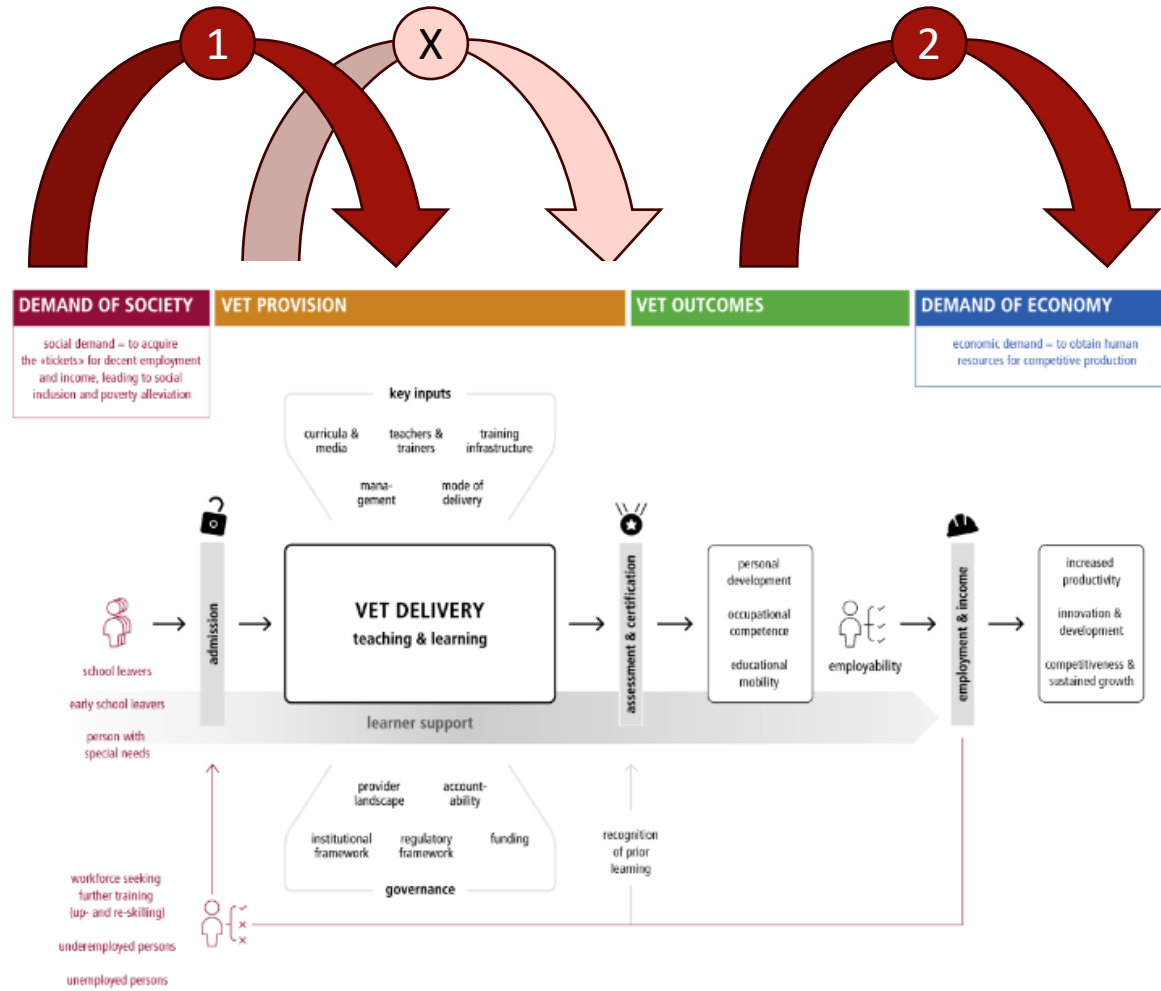


# Welcome

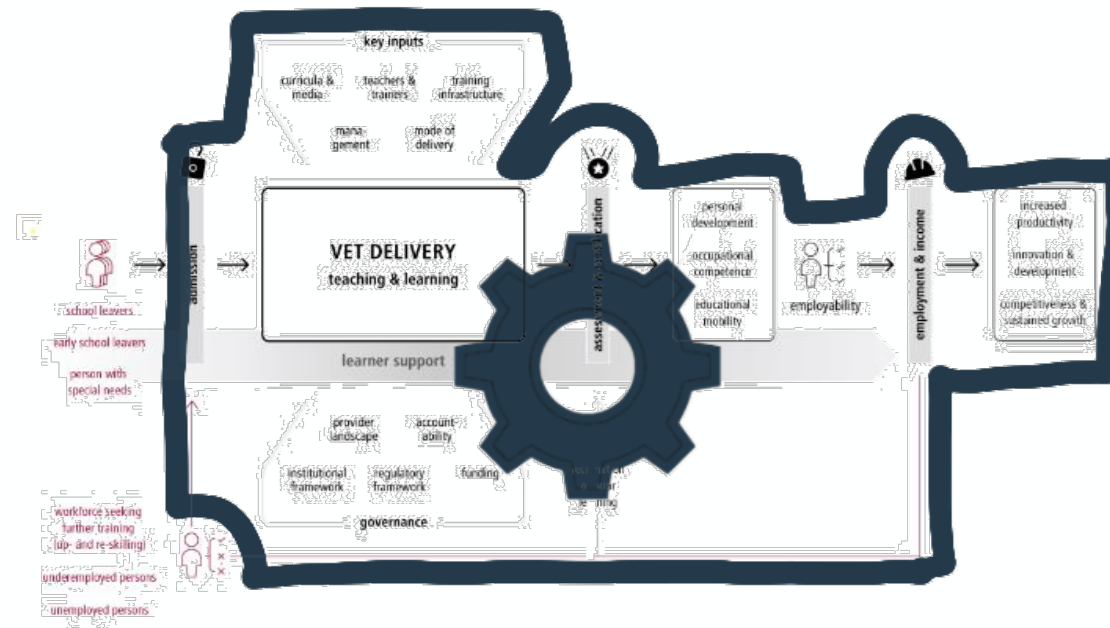


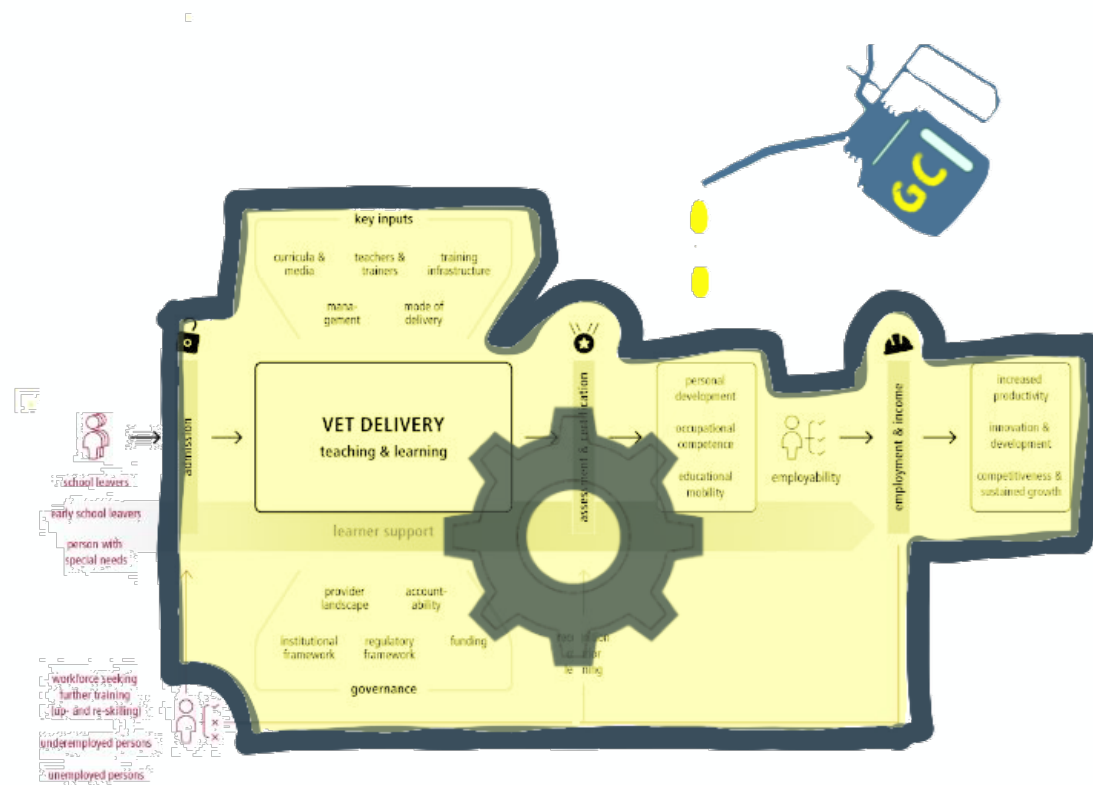
Michaela (“Misha”) Henn  
Presenter

involas GmbH, Offenbach am  
Main/ GErmany



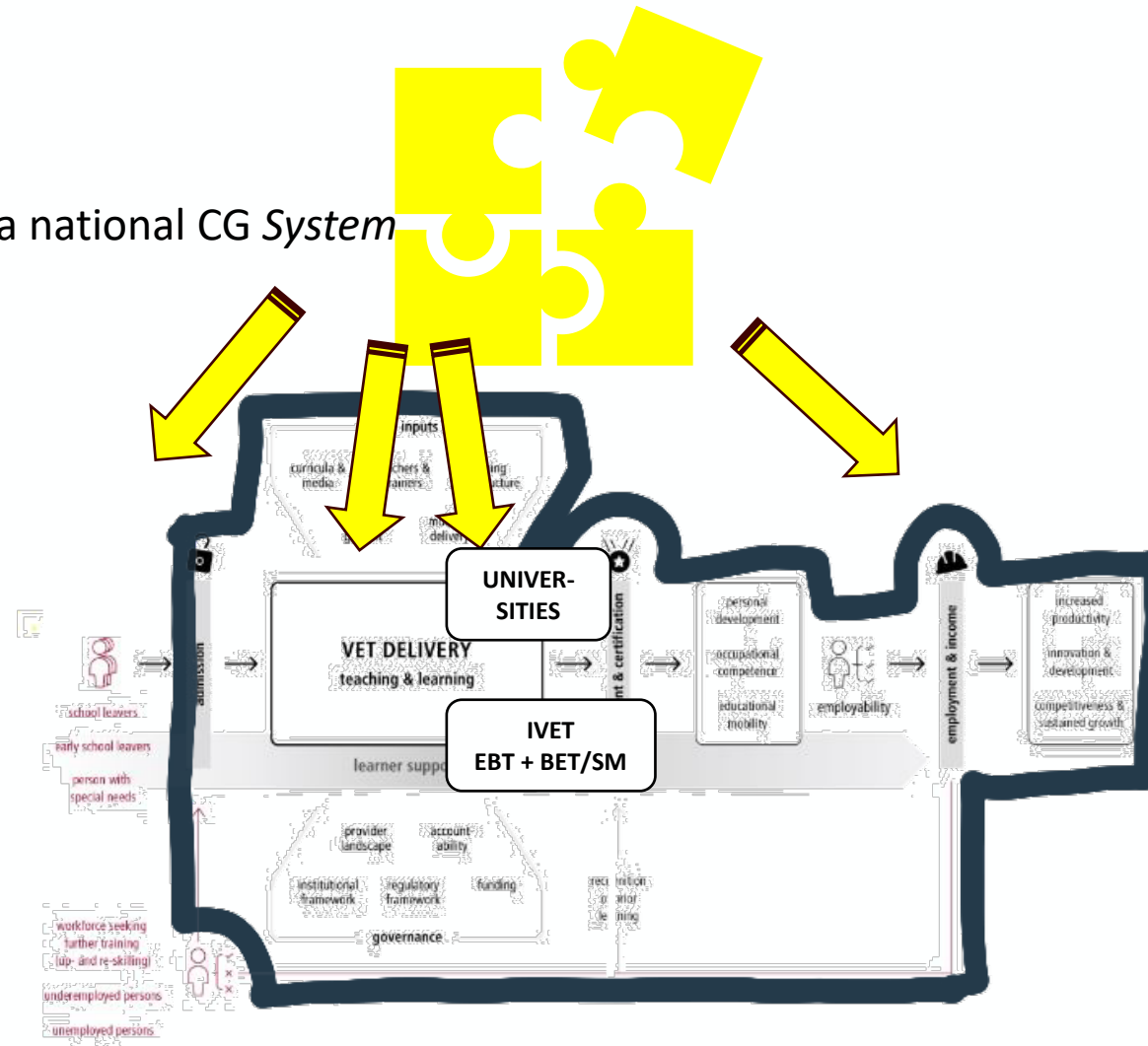






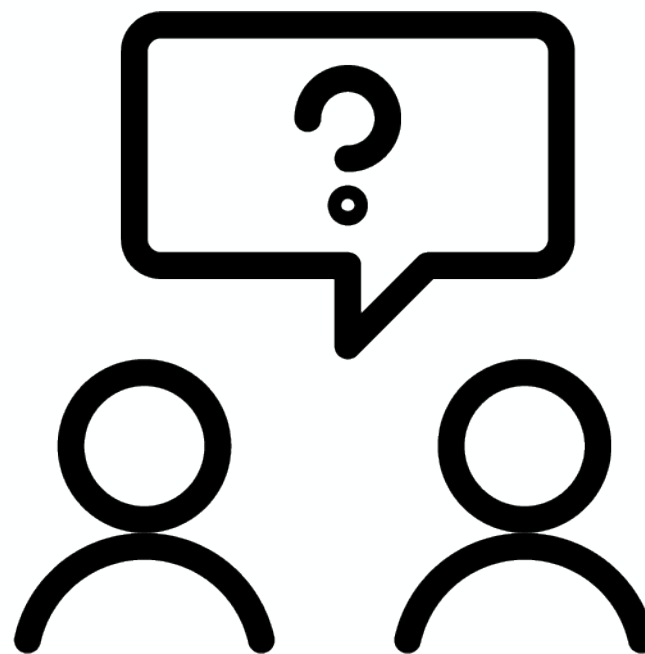


## RISI Albania: Pieces of a national CG System



## VTESS Laos: Coaching Programme (ESS) for vulnerable groups of beneficiaries in (rural) provinces

## Q&A





## Breakout groups

- Goal: ask questions about implementation in the presented projects (Albania, Laos) respective the two transitions in general (Michaela) and contribute with your own examples and experiences.
- You can choose from three groups: 1) Albania, 2) Laos, 3) vocational orientation and career guidance in general
- 15 minutes of discussion
- Reporting back to plenary: 2 highlights



**Thank you!**