



BEST PRACTICE IN ADULT EDUCATION FOR A JUST TRANSITION

**ETRE, Ecoles de la
transition écologique**
VET in Green Professions

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Co-funded by
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– VET in Green Professions

Context and Initiative Details

Name of the initiative	ETRE – Ecoles de la transition écologique (« Schools for the ecological transition »)
Geographical scope	National (with the aim of having a school in every department of France)
Sources of funding	Local : Occitanie Region European : FSE + Corporate sponsorship from multiple companies
Duration of the initiative	2017-Ongoing
Target audience	NEETs (Not in Education, Employment or training)
Social justice focus area	Socio-professional integration, sustainable job development, eco-citizenship education
Goals of the initiative	Offer free practical and vocational training in green and greening professions, lasting from 1 week to one year, for young people aged 16 to 25 who are not in school or employment.

Good Practices Description

Stakeholder engagement in the process

ETRE schools are organized as a network, they share their experiences, pool their tools and meet several times a year. The network has set up a 9-month incubation program, accessible via a call for applications, enabling a pre-existing associative structure to create and host an ETRE school in its area.

Graduating courses are certified by the French national education system.

Methodology used (if available)

Eco-citizen commitment is the common denominator of the training courses: giving young people the tools to act personally and professionally for the ecological transition.

Teaching approaches (if available)

The 3 types of training offered by the network's schools:

- Remobilization. 10 days to 2 months of hands-on experience and professional networking. The aim is to work on basic life skills (teamwork, self-confidence, punctuality, etc.).
- Pre-qualification. 3 to 6-month job trials. The aim is to define the professional orientation of participants within the framework of tomorrow's sustainable manual jobs.
- Qualification. Internal or external preparation for a certified vocational diploma in sustainable manual jobs. The duration is variable and welcomes anyone from the age of 16 who is no longer in employment.

Challenges and outcomes

Key factors contributing to success

Extended coverage throughout France.

- Even if an independent association can host a school, they must continue to operate as a network to ensure that experience and tools can be shared.
- The flexible duration of the training courses available
- All areas of the school, from the canteen to the garden, are designed as tools for training and integration.
- The focus on sustainable jobs enables to rely on sectors where employment is growing.

Encountered difficulties and challenges

As the project targets individuals with low levels of education and distant from the job market, the main challenge is to instill a commitment to complete the training. Since the school's principle is also to work on the individual's holistic well-being, this includes housing, mobility, physical and mental health, etc. Having a positive influence on all these aspects is a necessary challenge to prevent dropouts.

Recommendations

At the macro and meso levels, ETRE schools are proposing ways of rethinking a whole range of professions, particularly in the building industry, in line with sustainable development objectives.

Impact

- 87% of young people return into employment, training, work experience or voluntary work
- 75% of young people in training become eco-citizens
- Around 500 young people trained in ETRE schools by 2022 (latest figures available)

(Source: <https://www.ecole-transition.eu/>)