



ReferNet

partnership
forum

Bundesinstitut für Berufsbildung (BIBB, Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training); Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 114-116; 53113 Bonn

Programme

DAY 1 – Wednesday 20 May 2026 (all times are CET)

09.00 – 09.30	Participant arrival and registration
09:30 – 10.00 <i>Meeting room</i>	Welcome and opening Chair: Ute Hippach-Schneider, <i>ReferNet Germany, BIBB</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Nils Klagge, Head of Section, <i>Federal Ministry for Education, Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (BMBFSFJ)</i>▪ Ioannis Katsikis, <i>ReferNet Coordinator, Cedefop</i>
10.00 – 10.30	Session 1. Presentation of the German VET system: Focus on permeability <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Ute Hippach-Schneider, <i>Division: International VET Comparison, Research and Monitoring, BIBB and ReferNet Germany</i>
10.30 – 10.45	Session 2. Introduction to BIBB <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Janine Grobe-Rath, <i>ReferNet Germany, BIBB</i>
10.45 – 11.00	<i>Coffee Break and family photo</i>
11.00 – 12.00	Session 3. Current Hot VET topics in the Partners' countries: Open discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Chair: Ute Hippach-Schneider, <i>ReferNet Germany, BIBB</i>





	(Input from all partners, max. 3 minutes each, no presentation required)
12.00 – 12.30	Session 4. Recognition and other instruments used in Germany for qualifications obtained abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Jessica Erbe, <i>Division: Recognition of Foreign Professional Qualifications, BIBB</i>
12.30 – 13.30	<i>Light Lunch</i>
13:30	Bus transfer to the company
14.00 – 16.00	Company Visit - apprenticeship in practice <u>KUHNE Maschinenbau Professioneller Maschinenbau;</u>
16:00	Bus transfer to the BIBB
18.00 – 19.00	Guided tour (City Centre), tbc
19.15	Dinner





DAY 2 – Thursday 21 May 2026

09.00 – 09.30	Participant arrival
09.30 – 11.00	<p>Session 5. Excellence in VET</p> <p>Chair: Silke Gadji, <i>Country Manager, Cedefop</i></p> <p>SMEs in VET – Initiative for excellent inter-company training (Inex-ÜBA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nina Jung, <i>Division: Inter-Company Vocational Training Centres, BIBB</i> <p>Latest legislative developments in Bulgaria in modernising the VET system</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adelina Borisova, <i>Directorate in the National agency for vocational education and training, Bulgaria (NAVET)</i> <p>New national policy guidelines for the development of VET in Finland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laura Jauhola, <i>Senior Adviser, Finnish National Agency for Education, Vocational education and training</i>
11.00 – 11.15	Coffee Break
11.15 – 12:45	<p>Session 6. Artificial intelligence in VET + International mobility in VET</p> <p>Chair: Adrienne Huismann, <i>ReferNet Germany, BIBB</i></p> <p>AI in the German VET system</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mortimer Schlieker, <i>Division: Competence Development, BIBB</i> <p>Strengthening international mobility in German VET</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Corinna Porsche, <i>National Agency Erasmus+ for VET, BIBB</i>
12:45 – 13:15	<p>Session 7. ReferNet activity on AI in VET: The way forward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ioannis Katsikis, <i>ReferNet Coordinator, Cedefop</i>



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20 and 21
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THE EUROPEAN NETWORK OF EXPERTISE ON VET

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Vocational Education
and Training

13:15 – 13:30	Session 8. Final reflections of all participants and close of event Moderation: Ute Hippach-Schneider, <i>BIBB / ReferNet Germany</i> and Ioannis Katsikis, <i>Cedefop</i>
13:30 – 14:00	<i>Light Lunch</i>

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20-21 May 2026



Time: 09:00 – 14:00



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