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SMART-VET PROJECT

SMART VET Erasmus+ K210-VET Small scale

Smart Skills Training Guide for International Mobility

A trainer's overview of the Guide's six core skill modules — built to help VET learners thrive in international mobility placements.

Erasmus+ KA210-VET | SMART-VET Project

Funded by the European Union

Erasmus+ Enriching lives, opening minds.

About the SMART-VET Project

OVERALL OBJECTIVE

SMART-VET (“Skills Mobilization and Resourceful Training in Vocational Education and Training”) is co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union. Its central output is the Smart Skills Training Guide — a modular resource that equips VET learners with the transversal “smart skills” critical for international mobility and professional integration.

BY THE END, LEARNERS WILL BE ABLE TO

1. Erasmus+ KA210-VET small-scale partnership involving partners from Malta, Italy and Spain.
2. Grounded in research, surveys and interviews with learners, educators and host organisations across Europe.
3. Modular design: usable independently, in classroom pre-mobility training, or as a self-paced online course.
4. Free to download at maltavocational.com/smartvet, licensed CC BY-SA 4.0.

Why Smart Skills Matter

Employers and host organisations consistently say the same thing: technical training gets learners in the door, but “smart skills” determine whether they thrive once abroad.

92%

of talent professionals say soft skills matter as much as, or more than, technical skills (LinkedIn Learning, 2023)

85%

of employees experienced workplace conflict in the past year — more likely across cultural lines (CIPD, 2019)

40–50%

of VET learners report real difficulty with decision-making and problem-solving on mobility placements (SMART-VET survey)

Who This Guide Is For

1 VET Learners

Especially those preparing for, or currently undertaking, an international mobility placement.

2 Educators & Trainers

Staff who support mobility preparation and soft-skills development before departure.

3 Sending Organisations

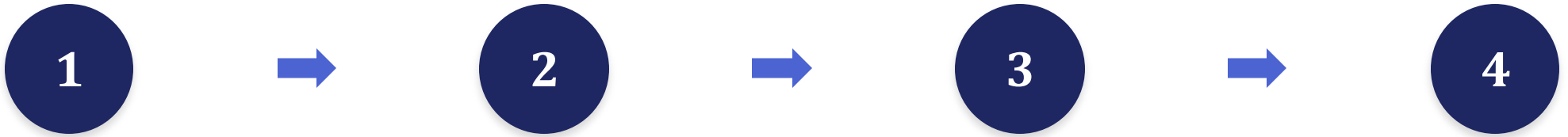
Schools and training providers coordinating mobility programmes end to end.

4 Host Companies & Mentors

Employers receiving international trainees who benefit from shared expectations.

How Each Module Is Built

Every module in the Guide follows the same four-part structure — and so does every deck in this series.



Theory

A short, research-backed background on the skill and why it matters for mobility.

Real Examples

Real-life scenarios and case studies drawn from VET learners' mobility experiences.

Practical Activities

Role-plays, simulations, case studies and self-assessments to build the skill.

Reflection

Guided questions that help learners connect the content to their own experience.

The Six Modules

Each module has its own companion trainer deck in this series.

1

Adaptability & Resilience

Handling change, culture shock and uncertainty with a growth mindset.

2

Effective Communication

Verbal & non-verbal skills, active listening and crossing language barriers.

3

Interpersonal & Teamwork Skills

Building trust, empathy and resolving conflict in multicultural teams.

4

Critical & Creative Thinking

Questioning assumptions and finding innovative solutions to real workplace problems.

5

Decision-Making & Problem-Solving

Structured tools for choosing well under pressure and uncertainty abroad.

6

Professional Ethics & Work Attitude

Honesty, integrity, respect and responsibility across workplace cultures.

Six Modules. One Set of Skills for Life Abroad.

Continue with the companion deck for each module to deliver a full pre-mobility training programme, or select individual modules to match your learners' needs.