

## **META-EVALUATION REPORT of TrACE 2**

**presented by the TrACE 2 coordinator Agenzia del Lavoro della  
Provincia autonoma di Trento**

**meeting Belfast 12<sup>th</sup> May 2015**

### **Introduction**

The purpose of the meta-evaluation of TrACE 2 is offering a tool of reflexivity to all project Partners in line with the project requirement of :

*[evaluating] the process of mutual learning developed by the partnership, particularly in relation to the areas of social inclusion and employment inclusion of young people and elder people [...]( See LLP Application, Box F.5).*

The project has already enshrined an evaluative perspective while using Peer-Review methodology as part of the mutual learning process. Indeed, all along study visits, Peer-Reviewers Partners have been appointed with the task of assessing the quality of the different practices studied, by bringing their specific professional expertise and knowledge of the evaluated subject.

Nonetheless, the project life-cycle has not entailed so far any holistic reflection on the whole learning process developed by TrACE 2.

In line with the guidelines of the European Manual for VET (Vienna: 2009, p. 3), the meta-evaluation develops as a reflective exercise which entails a process of “evaluation of the evaluations” i.e. of a critical reflection on the Peer-Review analysis produced by the project TrACE 2, according to the following scheme:



The critical reflection produced by the meta-evaluation focused on the following dimensions of mutual learning:

- 1) *Labour policies of life-long learning training with particular focus on the activation of young and elder people;*
- 2) *Development potentials in the area of new skills for new jobs;*

### **Methodology**

The meta-evaluation has articulated on a semi-structured survey administered to each Peer-Review Partner through the online software Survey Monkey.

Each Partner responded to the survey between January and March 2015.

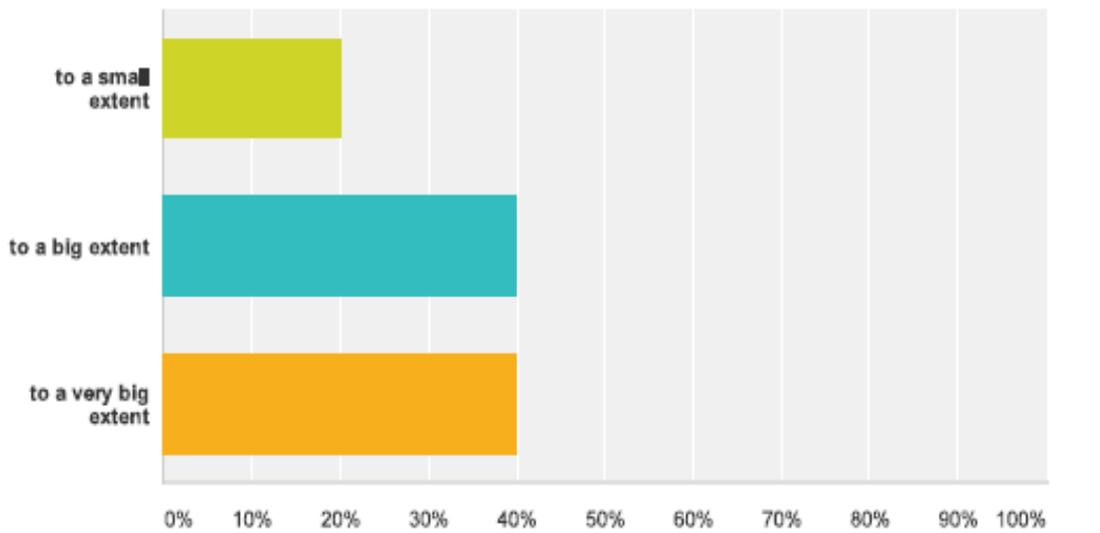
Five questionnaires have been collected in total.

Up to now, the meta-evaluation has focused on 8 practices which have been analysed during the first 4 study visits (Trento – IT; Katowice – PL; Bruges – BE; Lugano – CH).

### **Data Analysis**

To date, the majority of Partners consider the learning outcomes produced by the project in line or superior to the expectation they had before starting the project activities.

**Q5: The learning outcomes developed by TrACE 2 until now satisfy the expectations I had before starting the project**



The Partners participating also to the previous project (ESF-Flanders and DRQP Madeira) deem the mutual learning process developed by TrACE 2 more fruitful than the one developed by the previous TrACE.

Indeed, the usage of the Peer Review methodology has facilitated the exchange of practices in a structured and easy manner. In particular, the usage of the SWOT analysis - although sometimes repetitive – has certainly allowed an immediate detection of problems and weaknesses as well as of strengths and potentials of the practice presented.

This has fruitfully contributed to the improvement of the practice and to the recognition of elements of transferability from a conscious and critical perspective.

A couple of Partners have highlighted the limited time dedicated to the plenary discussion which should be extended to foster mutual learning and active participation, during Peer-Review meetings.

With regard to the first area of mutual learning, the practices “Equal in Business” (Katowice) and “Minerva” (Bruges) have been deemed particularly insightful to enhance labour policies of life-long learning for the activation of young and elder people.<sup>1</sup>

Although the two practices have not deemed to be “transferable” as a whole, Partners have identified several elements of inspiration to be transferred to their respective context.

More specifically, the high level of personalisation developed by the practices has been considered “an effective response to the needs of the workers and of the corporation”.

Among the various areas of intervention, Partners have deemed particularly useful to capitalize the knowledge emerged from the first area of mutual learning in the framework of the Youth Employment Guarantee (YEG) to reactivate young unemployed people, also through vocational and professional re-qualification.

With regard to the second area of mutual learning developed by the project, once again the experience developed by the practice “Equal in business” of Katowice has been deemed particularly significant to foster the mutual learning for the development of

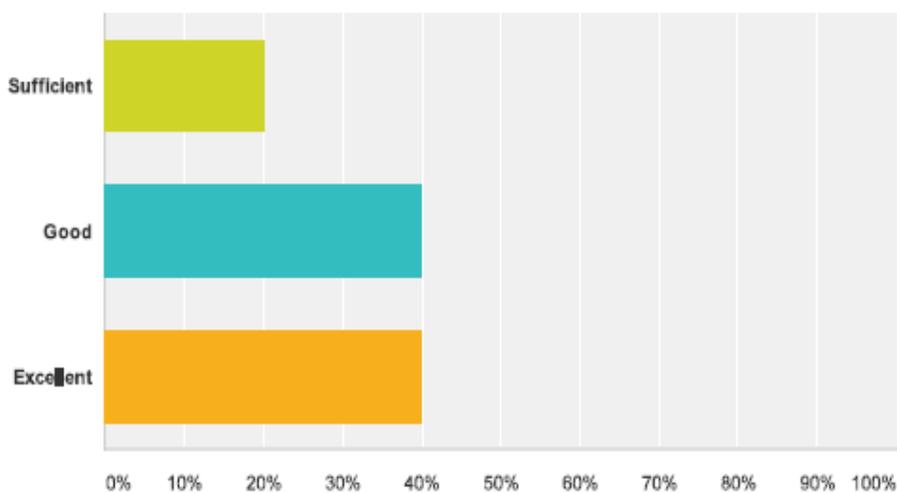
<sup>1</sup> 80% of respondents, identified these practices as “very significant”.

potentials in the area of new skills for new jobs.<sup>2</sup> The practices studied in Switzerland have also been appreciated by the majority of Partners.

Although the second area of mutual learning is involving Partners less than the first area, the elements of transferability learnt in Peer Review, proved to be particularly useful also in the perspective of validation and certification of competences.

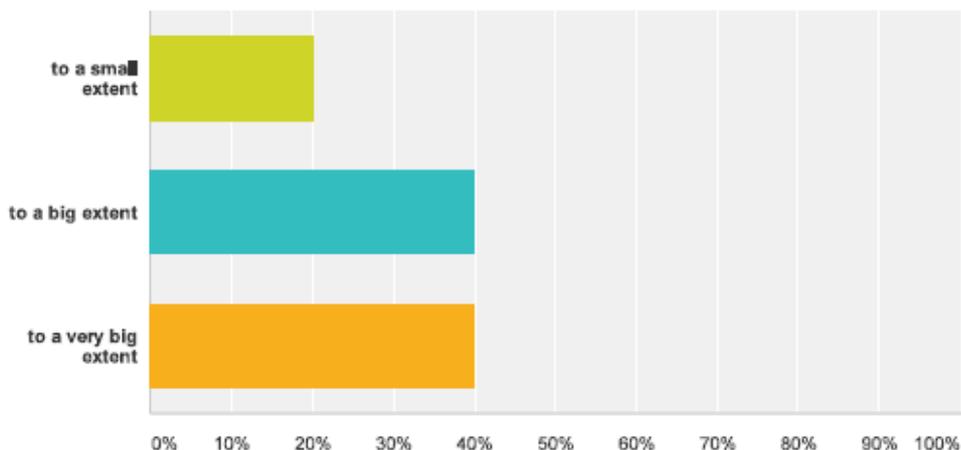
By and large, the majority of Partners seems to be satisfied with the quality of the mutual learning process developed by TrACE 2.<sup>3</sup>

**Q8: How do you assess the quality of the mutual learning process developed by TrACE 2?**



Finally, Partners generally consider the good practices analysed by TrACE2 as particularly significant to facilitate the development of policies/projects for the improvement of the dimensions of empowerment, capability and activation of the individual.<sup>4</sup>

**Q7: To which extent the good practices developed by TrACE 2 facilitate the development of policies/projects for the Empowerment, Capability and Activation of the individual?**



<sup>2</sup> 80% of respondents, identified these practices as “very significant”.

<sup>3</sup> 4 out of 5 respondents consider the learning process either as “good” or “excellent”.

<sup>4</sup> 4 out of 5 respondents consider that the participation to TrACE 2 has facilitated the development of policies/projects to a “good” or to an “excellent” extent.

## **Proposal to develop the project final Evaluation**

According to the project a last evaluation step should be taken at the end of the project:

*Final evaluation on the degree of achievement of the project objectives (innovation and representation) and evaluation on the degree of achievement of the partners' expectations (self-assessment will be formalized through the preparation of an ad hoc form).*

The proposal is using the same methodology of the Interim Meta Evaluation.