

TCA Study visit: internationalising the Spanish VET system. An employability and qualification pathway

Internationalisation and innovative VET practices in Spain: the case of the Basque Country.

25th- 28th November 2019

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

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1. Presentation¹

Quality and relevant vocational education and training, or VET, can provide people, and especially youth, with the knowledge, skills and competencies required for the jobs of today or tomorrow. The provision of relevant job skills can, therefore, be a robust means of empowering people to seize employment opportunities or equip them for self-employment. That means we need to be aware about where we are currently standing and where we are likely to be moving to. In that respect, we have no choice but to acknowledge the infinite number of options we may be facing in our modern and changing society. As Zygmunt Baumann puts it: “Forms of modern life may differ in quite a few respects – but what unites them all is precisely their fragility, temporariness, vulnerability and inclination to constant change.” (Liquid Modernity, 2000).

Change is one of the most difficult things to face, however, change is inevitable. Innovation is the key to the future and the core to our vocational education and training system. The way VET systems try to respond to the medium and long-term developments in their regional and national context, as well as the various exigencies they need to address, are partly shaped by the development paths those systems have taken in the last years.

The Transnational Cooperation Activity (TCA) organised in cooperation with the Regional Government of Basque Country has been designed in the format of a Study Visit. The activity showcases the investment in innovation undertaken by the Spanish region of the Basque Country (Euskadi in basque), which has allowed the development of a distinctive VET system integrated with their labour market and regional context.

Contents and objectives of the event:

Contents:

- The VET system and its organization in the Basque Country.
- Synergies between local VET providers and companies.
- Innovative practices in VET in the Basque Country: involvement of public institutions in the development of the VET system.
- Research and applied innovation at the service of Vocational Education and Training.

Objectives:

- To advance innovative policies on VET systems.

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/node/62861_pl
<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/es>



- To enhance the development of innovative VET systems to respond to the productive and industrial needs of the Basque Country region. This will be based upon an approach which is not only competitive, but is also socially and environmentally sustainable.
- To generate educational policies linked to industrial and technological needs.

Participants' Profile

Policymakers and directors of VET institutions or organisations.

2. Last steps to complete the registration in the TCA

We kindly ask you to finalise the registration process by completing the following e-form and by sending us a draft presentation of your organization.

- e-form with participant and institution details:
http://www.erasmusplus.gob.es/eventos/2019/tca_pais_vasco_25_28_11/
- On Tuesday 26th November, you will be requested to introduce yourself and your institution, in order to get to know each other. We will exchange experiences and debate on the different approaches.
In that respect, we kindly ask you to complete a short presentation on the innovation strategies and activities implemented by your institution, focusing on teaching/learning techniques and interconnections with the institutional and business environment. Your presentation should take a maximum of 5 minutes.
Please send it in advance to unidad.fp@sepie.es by Friday, 22nd November.

3. Agenda

The TCA agenda and its updates will be available on the TCA Web area.

<http://sepie.es/formacion-profesional/seminarios.html>

4. Social and cultural agenda

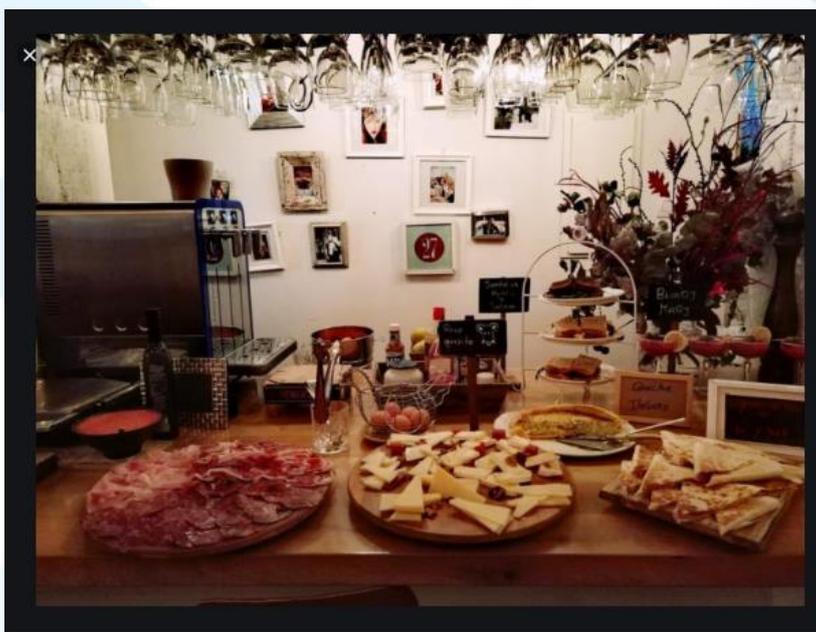
During the organization of this Transnational Cooperation Activity, we have programmed a social and cultural agenda to show the historical and cultural heritage of the Basque Country.

Monday 25th November from 19.30 to 21.00: Welcome reception and getting to know each other in an authentic Basque atmosphere with delicious Pintxos at Restaurant Brass (1 minute walk from Hotel Ercilla)

Address: Licenciado Poza 27, 48011 Bilbao

<https://menuen.net/brass#!>





- Tuesday 26th November:** It has been planned an attractive **cultural and gastronomical activity** followed by a traditional dinner.

Like many European countries, Spain is well known for its culinary traditions. Of the entire country, one of the richest foodie destinations is the Basque Country region, which boasts a total of 39 Michelin starred restaurants, one with 2 stars and 4 with 3 stars, which doing the maths comes to a mind boggling 48 stars in total! From Michelin starred excellences to pintxos by the dozen, fresh Atlantic fish and spicy chorizo sausage you will live a great experience.



<https://www.basquecountry-tourism.com/basque-gastronomy/>



- **Wednesday 27th November:** we will visit the **Guggenheim Museum** of Bilbao in the evening. After a guided general presentation of the museum, you will have the opportunity to visit the current exhibitions. You can check the related information on: https://www.guggenheim-bilbao.eus/?_ga=2.193292845.1804930940.1574068852-1924013750.1574068852&_gac=1.155087434.1574068852.Cj0KCQiAn8nuBRCzARIsAJcdIfPtSI5I8Z3KDngl9L1CmOWJnCGG7wVdst_HnWRYwcrIN4OrqbbxAWAaArnOEALw_wcB

The Guggenheim Museum Bilbao² is the result of an extraordinary partnership between the Basque government and the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation. More than a decade after its grand opening in October 1997, the Museum is a reality that has exceeded the most ambitious artistic and cultural expectations, and has contributed in an extraordinary way to the urban, economic, and social regeneration of the city of Bilbao and its surroundings.

Designed by US architect Frank Gehry, the Museum building is a large sculpture made of titanium, limestone, and glass, and has become the most recognizable icon of the city of Bilbao. The exhibition galleries, some boasting surprising shapes, others with orthogonal configurations, are organized around a spectacular Atrium, crowned with a metallic flower over its skylight.

The complex and mutually enriching dialogue between the art exhibited and the architecture of the building, and the versatility of the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao spaces favor a unique museum experience.

After this marvellous experience we will enjoy dinner together.

5. Contact Details for the TCA during the programme

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the TCA, please, contact our TCA-officer Ms Laura González Carrasco, laura.gonzalezc@sepie.es, or directly unidad.fp@sepie.es

During the event: Laura Whatsapp: (+34) 682391297

6. Accommodation

SEPIE has arranged pre-booking of single rooms for the nights of 25th, 26th, and 27th November for all participants at Hotel Ercilla: www.ercillahoteles.com.

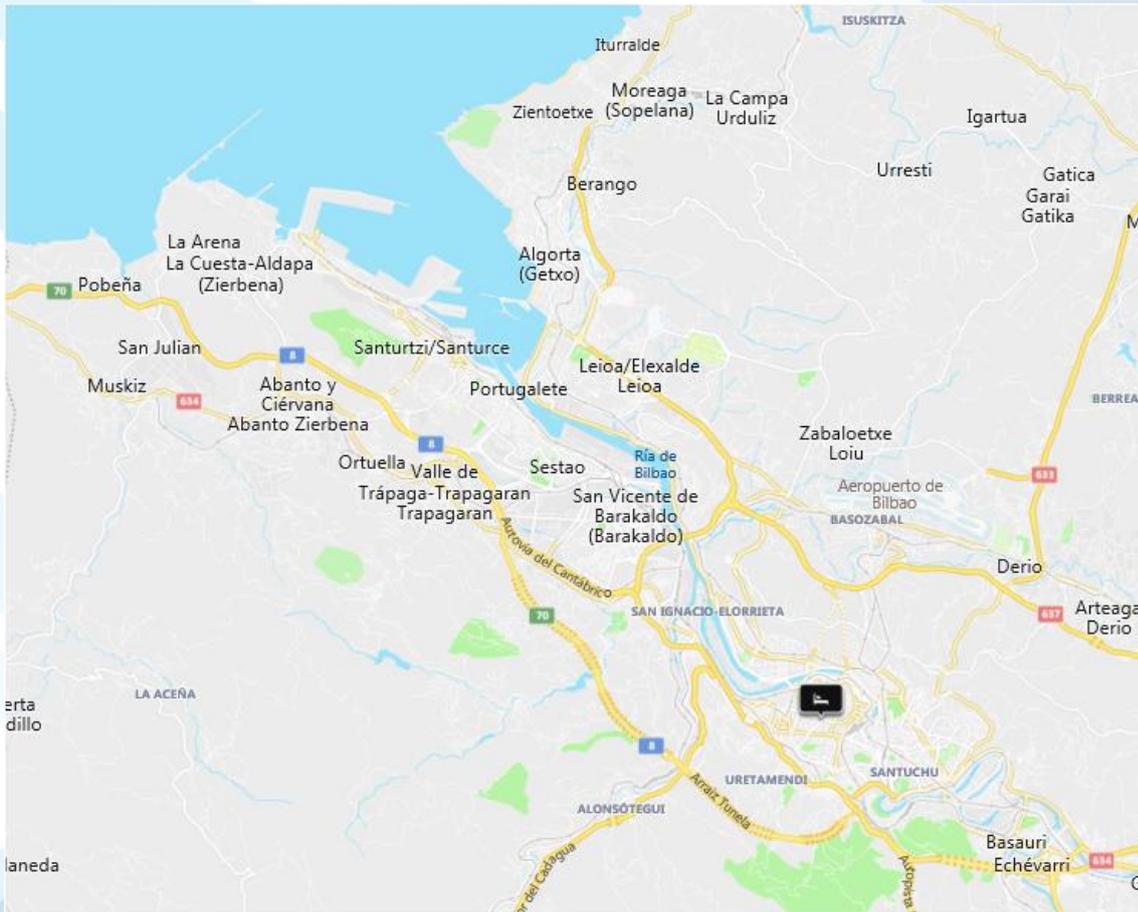
Participants are requested to arrange their own accommodation following the instructions of their Erasmus+ National Agencies.

The contact person at the hotel is Carolina Llarena. Telephone number: 0034 94 470 57 05, cllarena@ercillahoteles.com.

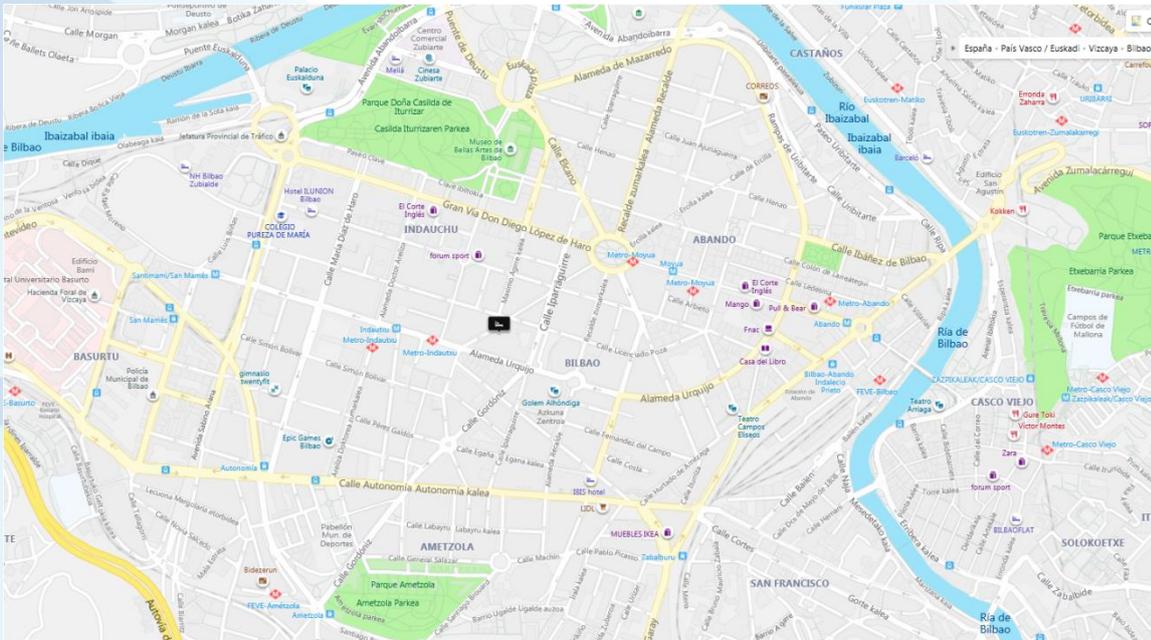
Address: Hotel Ercilla S.A. Ercilla Kalea, 37-39. 48011 - Bilbao

² <http://www.guggenheim-bilbao-corp.eus/en/bilbao-guggenheim/introduction-and-history/>





TCA location in the Basque Country



Hotel location in Bilbao.





Basic room according to hotel specifications.

www.ercillahoteles.com

7. Venues

We will have the opportunity to develop the activity in several institutions located in Bilbao and in San Sebastian with extensive experience with the Erasmus+ programme and the field of VET, which we thank for their collaboration. The institutions are:

- **Petronor:** it is the largest refinery in Spain and exports over a third of its production. It employs 945 employees and has indirect employment of 6,200 people. The visit to Petronor requires specific security measures such as a printed copy of the passport in advance. Therefore you will receive an email regarding this issue.
<http://petronor.eus/es/sobre-petronor/>
- **CPES Somorrostro BHIP:** VET and secondary School.
<https://www.somorrostro.com/>
- **TKNIKA:** it is a VET investigation centre as you will see below <https://tknika.eus/en/>
- **CIFP Usurbil LHII:** VET school. <http://www.lhusurbil.eus/web/Default.aspx?lng=ES>
- **CIFP Miguel Altuna LHII:** VET school.
<https://www.maltuna.eus/en/>
- **Escuela de Hostelería de Leioa:** VET school in cooking and hospitality.
<https://www.hostelerialeioa.net/en/index>

SEPIE arranges the transportation to every institution.

Every morning, we will meet at the pick-up point at the hotel entrance and will take the bus together from the hotel to the venue.



8. Travel information

How to get to the hotel from the airport of Bilbao:

- **By taxi:** 15 km (27€ - 30€).
- **By bus:** Line **A3247**.
Frequency: every 20 minutes.
Stop at: Plazo Moyua (300 meters from the hotel).
Tickets: available at the green booth next to the Bus stop.
Price: 1,45€.

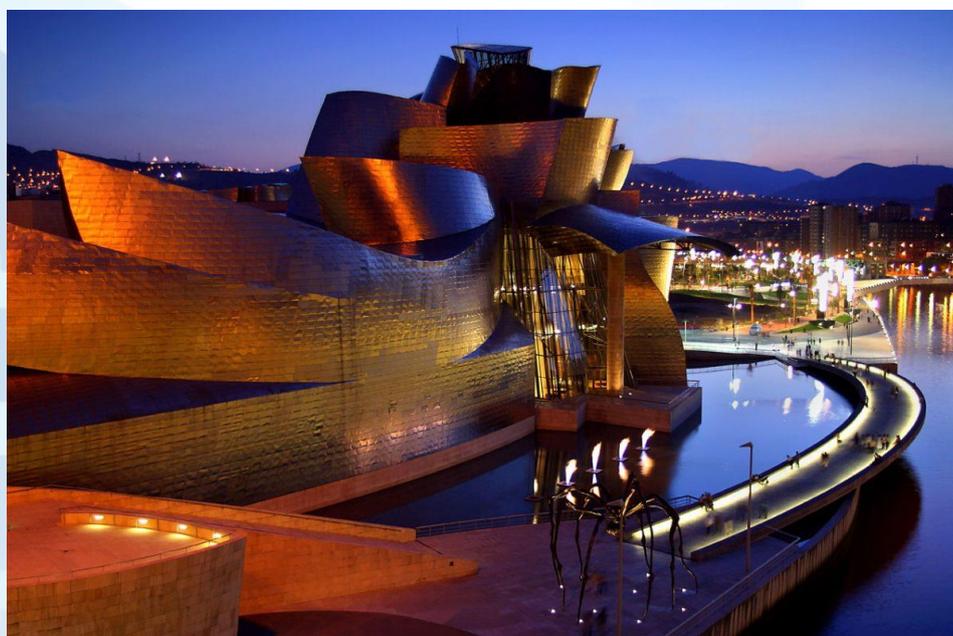
The following link will show you how to get to the hotel from the Plaza Moyua.

<https://www.google.es/maps/dir/43.2632934,-2.9361596/Hotel+Ercilla,+Ercilla+Kalea,+37-39,+48011+Bilbao,+Vizcaya/@43.2618626,-2.9381295,17z/data=!4m9!4m8!1m0!1m5!1m1!1s0xd4e5028388181dd:0x1b0d1daf36a39f01!2m2!1d-2.9386205!2d43.2610987!3e2?hl=es>

9. Certificates of attendance

Certificates of attendance will be given on the last day of the event.

10. General information about Bilbao



<https://www.basquecountry-tourism.com/directory/guggenheim-museum-bilbao/>



Bilbao is the modern face of the Basque Country. The city has been able to successfully mix traditional Basque culture with a new vision for the future. Old industrial complexes along the river Nervión were torn down and new projects to improve infrastructure and the overall growth of the city were started. Bilbao now boasts having the Guggenheim Museum designed by architect Frank Gehry, a timeless Metro system designed by Sir Norman Foster, an airport from Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava and a community center (Alhondiga) designed by Philippe Starck.

Further information at:

<https://www.bilbaoturismo.net/BilbaoTurismo/en/tourists>



<https://www.guggenheim-bilbao.eus/en/exhibitions>



11. General information about San Sebastián



<https://tourism.euskadi.eus/>

San Sebastián, or Donostia as it is called in Basque, has a circular bay with pristine white sand beaches that have long attracted wealthy beach-goers in search of sun and sophistication. This is what made the city famous during the Belle Époque era and it is also where Queen Maria Cristina established her royal summerhouse.

La Concha, the most beautiful urban beach in Europe, is adorned by luxurious beachside mansions as well as the famous spa called La Perla (The Pearl). Its boardwalk is lined by an ornate white railing that has become a symbol of the city.

San Sebastián is also famous for its high-quality cuisine and its pintxos. And the best place to go to try some of them is the Parte Vieja, the charming old city center.

Further information at:

<https://www.sansebastianturismoa.eus/en/>

12. Content-related information³

Tknika is a centre promoted by the Deputy Ministry of Vocational Education and Training of the Education Department of the Basque Government and focuses on Innovation and applied research in Vocational Education and Training. Tknika's team includes a wide variety of professionals with different profiles related to these key areas:

- Technological innovation and intelligent systems, specialised in research of new technologies in order to develop new market niches in the Basque Country. Its objective is to reduce the lapse of time between the development of a new technology and its introduction into the Basque society.
- Complexity management, under the Continuous Improvement Department, which aims at contributing to the excellence of the Basque Vocational Training System. It supports

³ <https://tknika.eus/en/>



VET institutions in their development and in reaching their objectives, focusing on three main needs: improvement plans in terms of transformations, generational replacement and support for innovation and upgrading.

- Learning and high performance, focused mainly on researching, designing and applying methodological models that improve learning processes within the scope of vocational research.
- Applied innovation in strategic settings, which, in collaboration with all the agents of the Vocational Training system, provides social acknowledgement of the role of innovation and entrepreneurial initiative. Their activities have two main goals: to design and develop initiatives and encourage and promote the transformation of vocational training institutions.
- Leadership of the internationalisation strategy of the Basque Country's Vocational Education and Training system, a worldwide reference.
- Biosciences and Sustainability, committed to the creation of work areas that clearly bet on a sustainable human development. Sustainability is a paradigm for thinking about a future where environmental, social and economic statistics are balanced in the search for a better quality of life.

In collaboration with:



Tknika

Ikerketa Zentroa Euskadiko LHn
Centro de Investigación en FP Euskadi
Basque VET Research Centre

