**WORK PACKAGE 4 – CAPACITY BUILDING**

**TEMPLATE FOR COLLECTION OF GOOD PRACTICES**

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| **Name of the best practice** | Using Symposia to Connect Minds, Predict Demands and Align Curriculum |
| **Country** | Scotland |
| **Description** | As demand for education and skills increases as rapid changes emerge from an industrial, social and economic perspective, City of Glasgow College have started to host a series of Education Symposium addressing these challenges and how the college responds to the needs of society and industry. |
| **Target Group** | Middle and Senior Managers in Faculty and Curriculum |
| **Who is involved? How were they motivated to participate?** | Many teams are involved in the planning, facilitating and management of these events:* Executive Leadership Team
* Senior Management Team
* Curriculum Teams
* Corporate Events Team
* Corporate Communications Team
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| **Benefits**  | The benefits of such events are:1. Initiate strategic dialogue with business and industry leaders.
2. Identify current challenges around skills and the skills gaps to be addressed across industry.
3. Predict and anticipate future skills demands, and use this analysis to shape curriculum and propositions in the future.
4. It considers how educators, professionals and government can work together to anticipate trends and expectations while building sustainable, and resilient partnerships.
5. Identify partnership opportunities for co-creation of curriculum, employability and innovation.
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| **Challenges and how they were overcome** | As with all events with industry timing of these events is critical. * We assess with industry the most suitable time of the event and ensure plenty of time is given to guests to make themselves available to attend, sometime months in advance.

Ensuring focus in discussions is vital. Our symposia are focussed on one industry or area and we have facilitated symposia in:* International Education Symposium (Impact of Digital Learning)
* Procurement & Supply Chain Symposium
* Maritime Symposium
* Mental Health Symposium
* Creative Industries Symposium
* Hospitality & Culinary Symposium
* English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Symposium
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| **Step by step for the implementation of the good practice (transferability to other VET college)** | To implement this best practice, institutions should:* Strategically identify the industry sectors/topic(s) you would like to engage with or address?
* Review the scope & focus of the event.
* Identify key note speakers and make contact for them to participate.
* Identify your audience and make arrangements around event planning.
* Initiate all pre-event planning, including social media and marketing support.
* Host & facilitate event.
* Gather and review feedback from the audience and capture lessons learned for future events.
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**Useful links**

* <https://www.cityofglasgowcollege.ac.uk/about-us/symposia-and-conferences/hospitality-and-culinary-summit>
* <https://www.cityofglasgowcollege.ac.uk/esolconference2019>
* <https://www.cityofglasgowcollege.ac.uk/about-us/symposia-and-conferences/mental-health-conference>
* <https://www.cityofglasgowcollege.ac.uk/rethinkingskills>
* <https://www.cityofglasgowcollege.ac.uk/news-events/news/inaugural-education-maritime-symposia-resounding-success>
* <https://www.cityofglasgowcollege.ac.uk/news-events/news/digital-learning-spotlight-international-symposium>