



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Federal Department of Economic Affairs,
Education and Research EAER
**State Secretariat for Education,
Research and Innovation SERI**

Swiss Confederation

Vocational and Professional Education and Training in Switzerland

**Visit of the Children and Education Committee
of the Danish Parliament**

August, 28 2013

State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI)

Josef Widmer, Deputy Director and General Director of General Education and
Vocational and Professional Education and Training

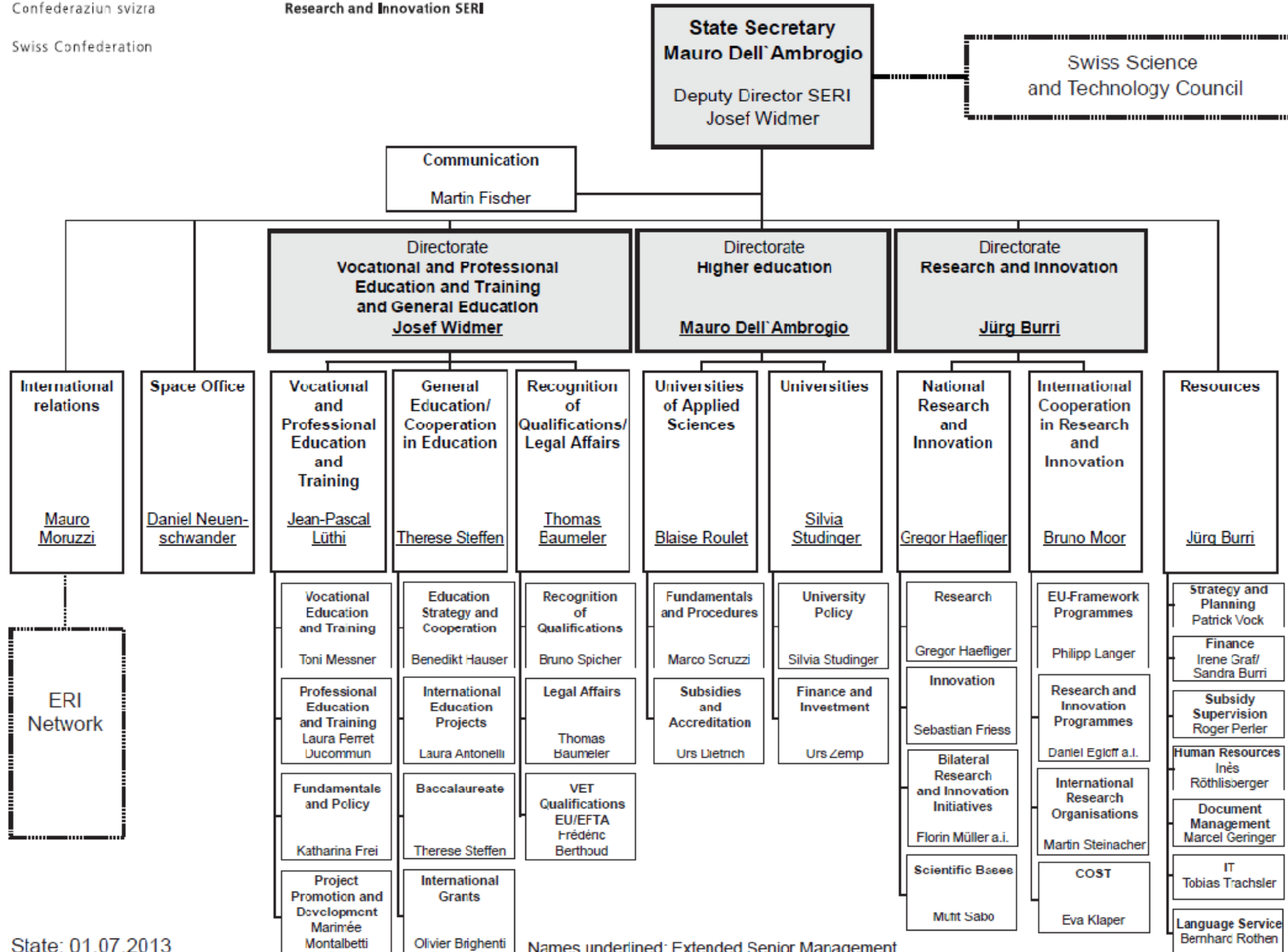
Claudia Lippuner, Project Manager, Section International Education Projects



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Swiss Confederation



State: 01.07.2013

Names underlined: Extended Senior Management



Outline

- **Introduction**
- Vocational education and training (VET)
- Professional education and training (PET)
- VET/PET Partners & VET/PET Funding
- Summary and Results

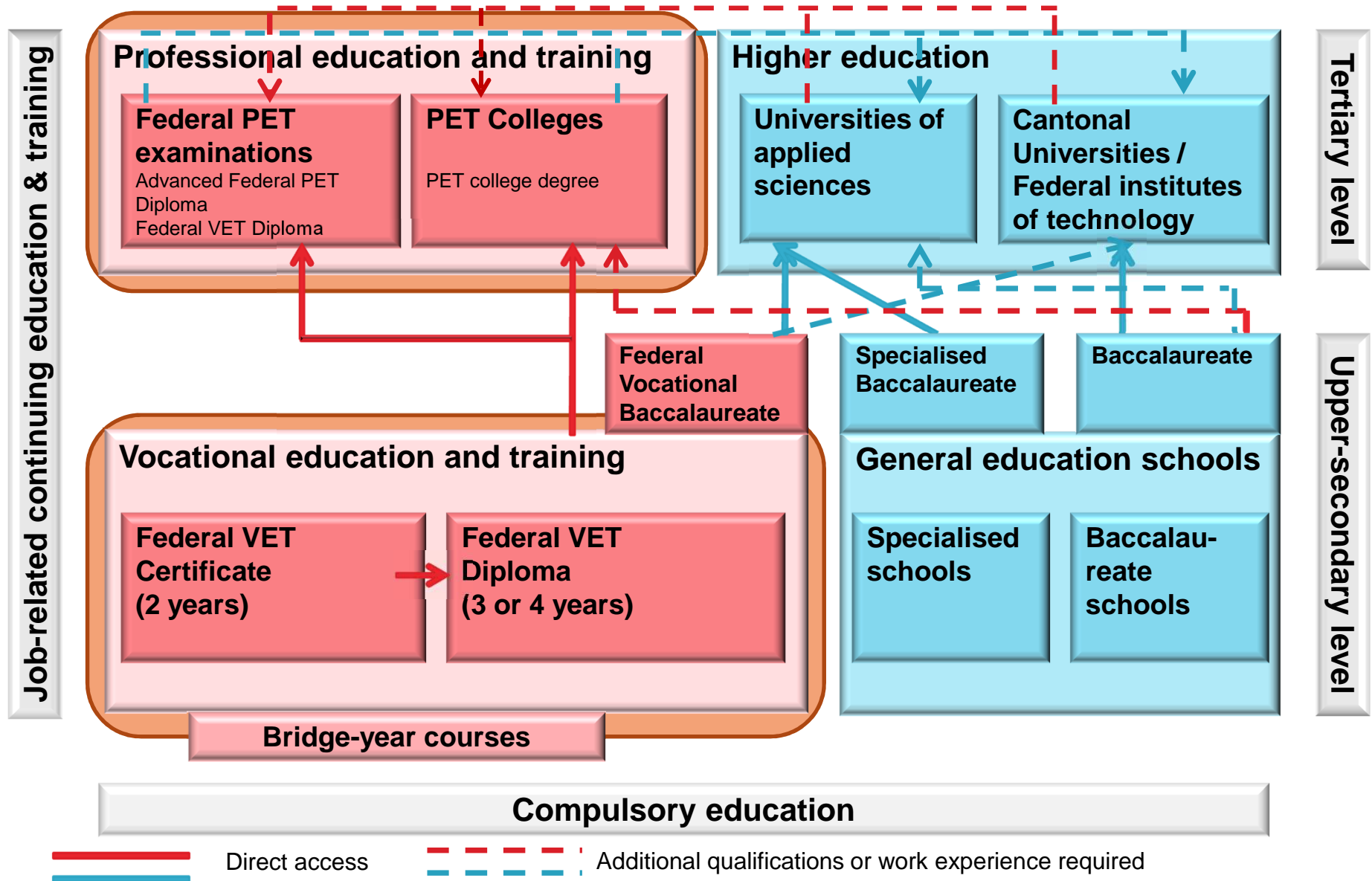


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Swiss Education System – Focus VET





Dual-track VET approach: Connecting practice with theory

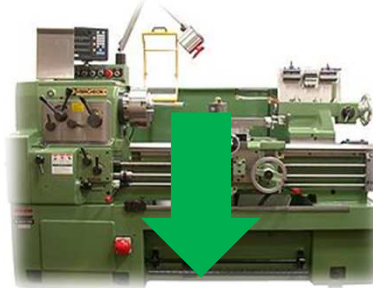
practice



company

3 – 4 days per week

practice/course



**intercompany-
courses**

3-8 per program

theory



**vocational
school**

1 – 2 days per week

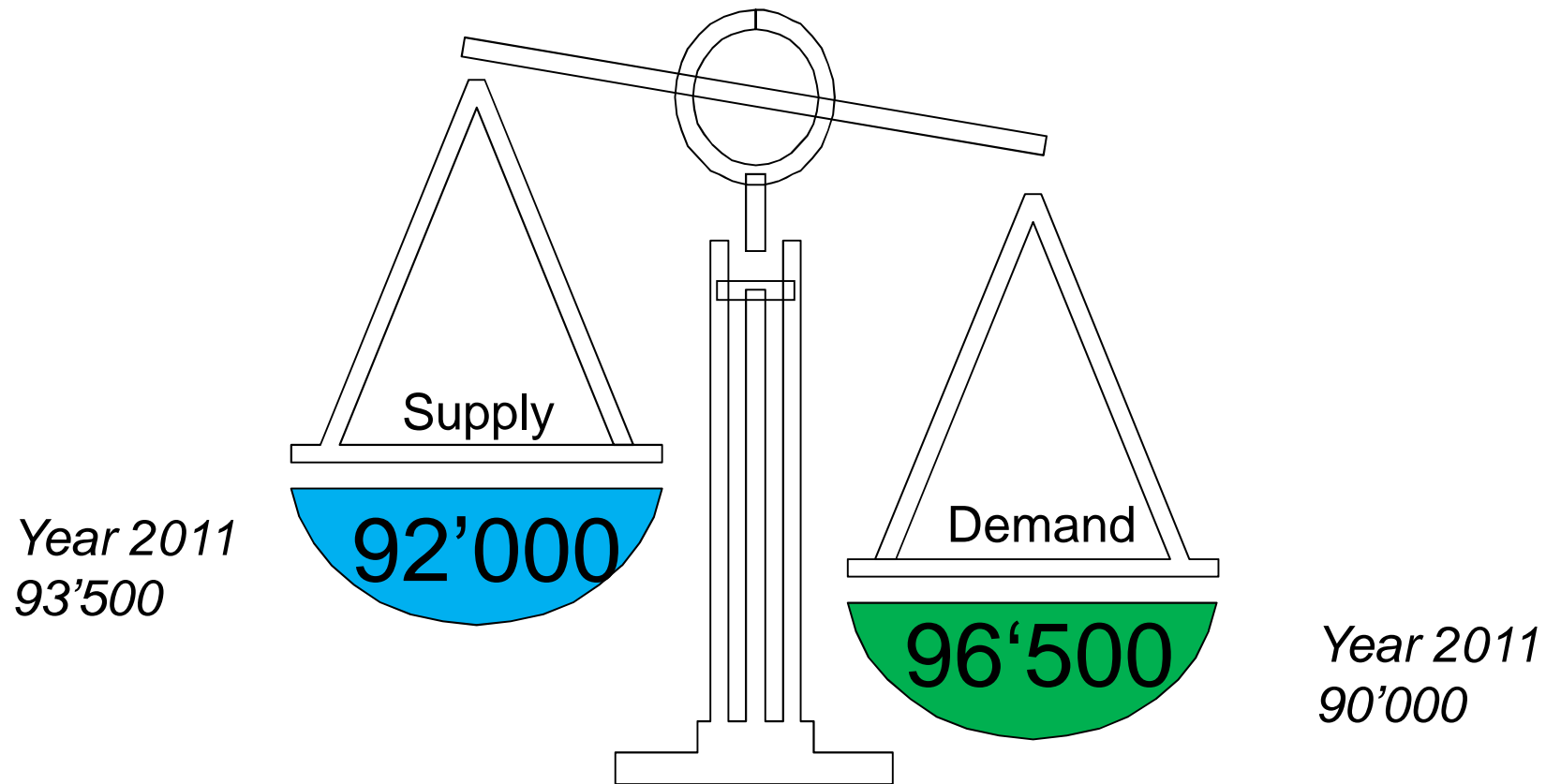
Federal VET Certificate (2 years)

or

Federal VET Diploma (3 or 4 years)



Apprenticeship market (August, 31 2012)



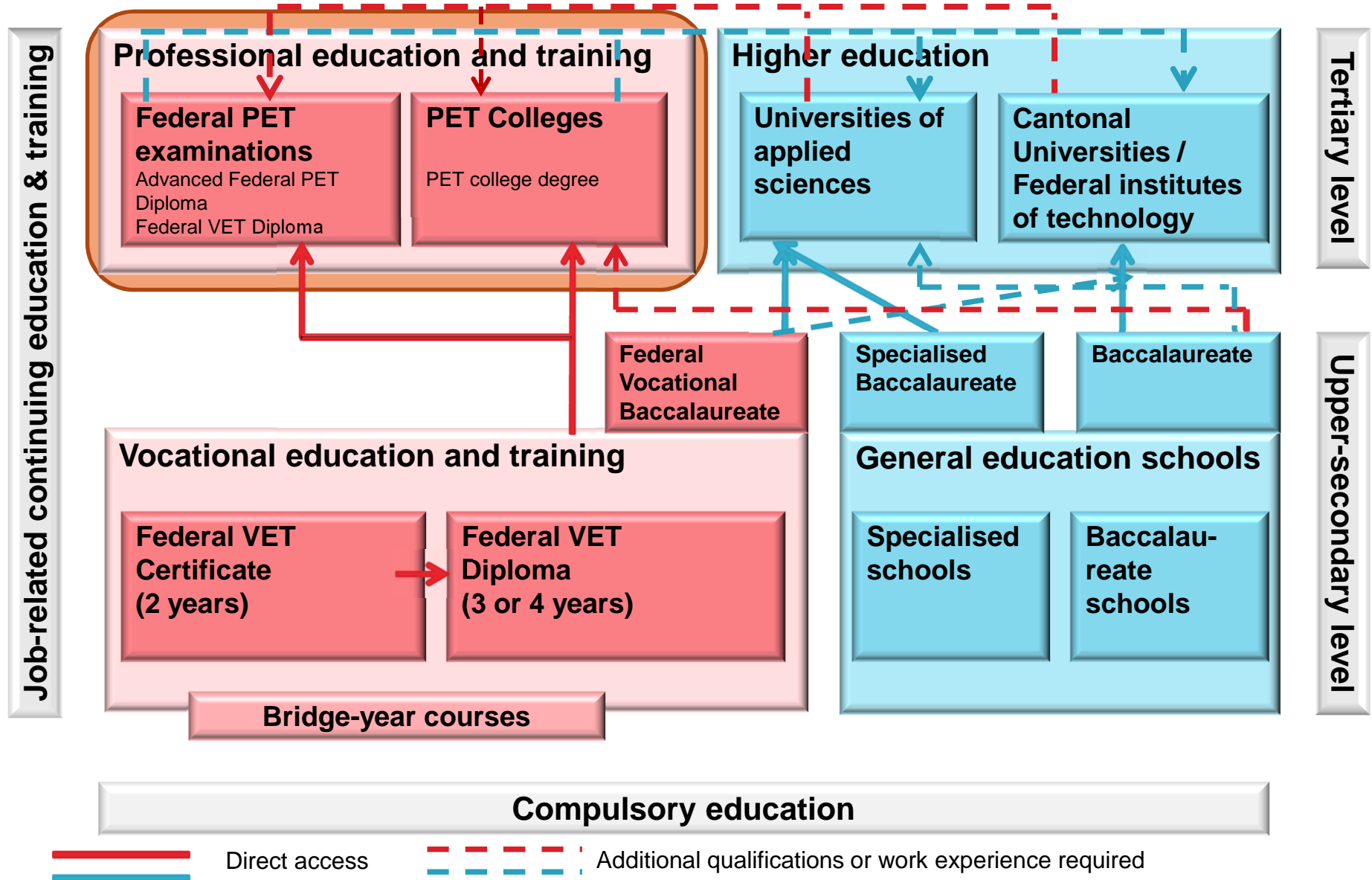


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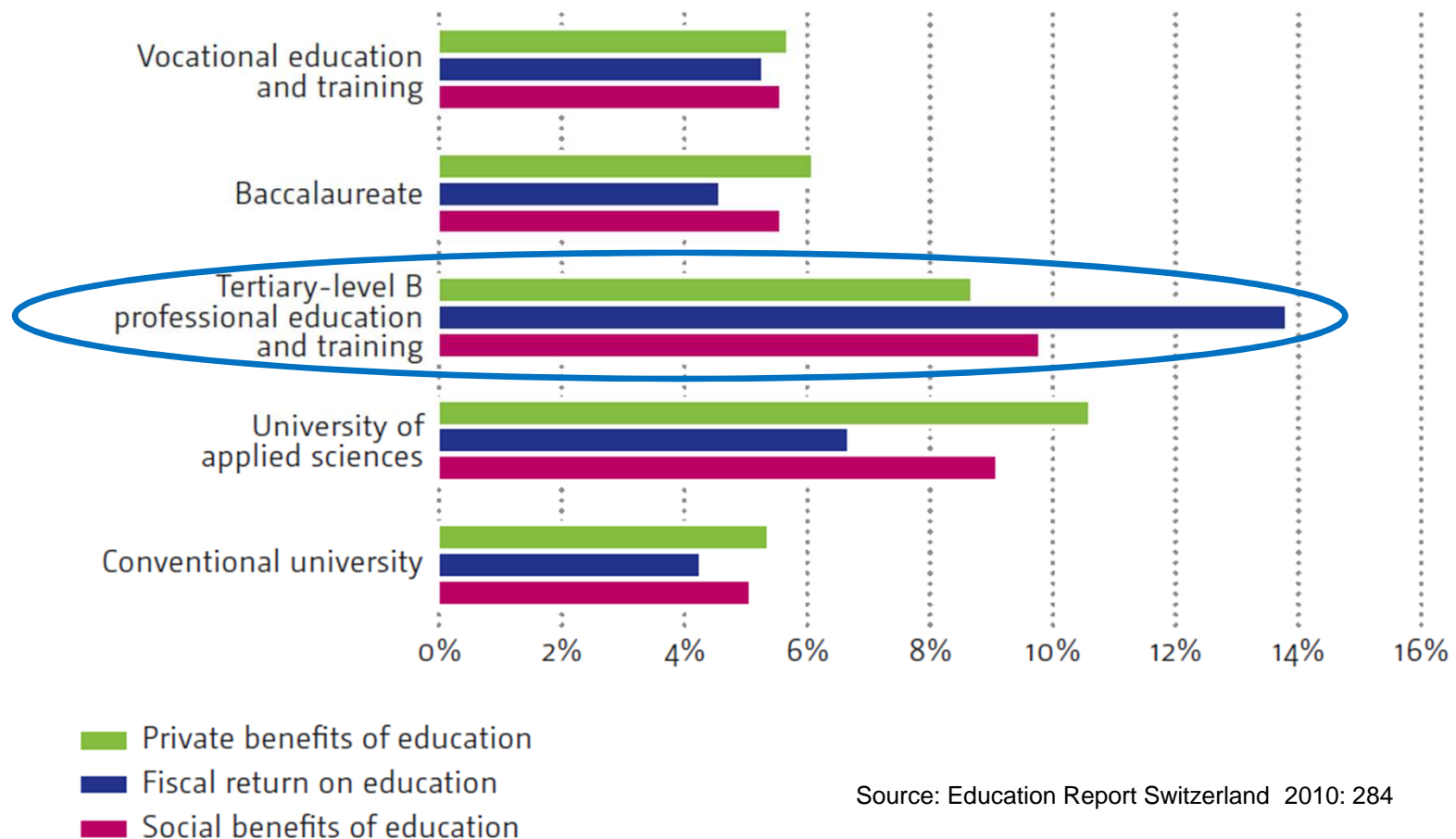
Swiss Education System – Focus PET





Private, fiscal and social returns on education (men)

Benefits derived from a higher level of education compared to the next-lowest level of education



Source: Education Report Switzerland 2010: 284

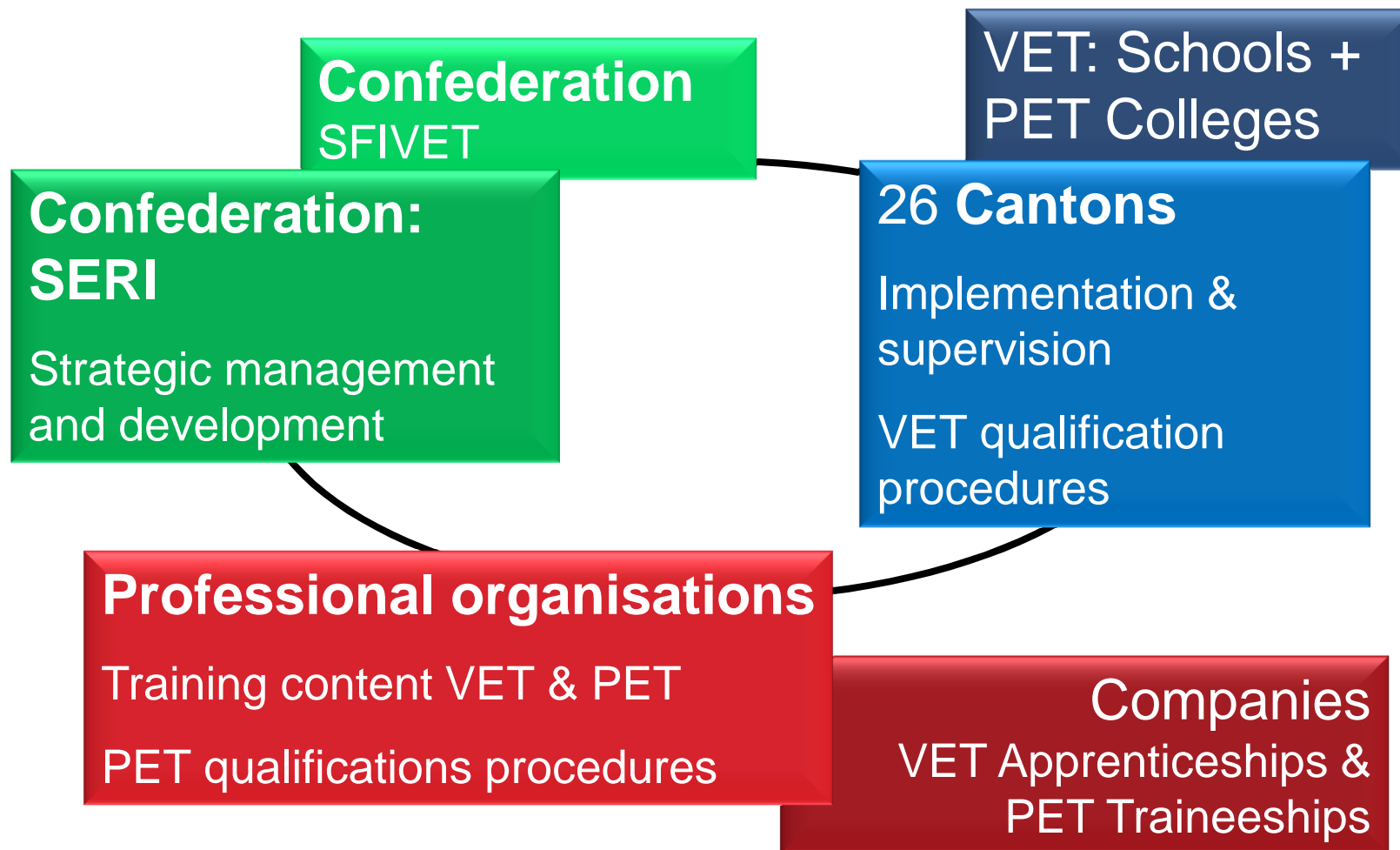


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One mission – Three partners





Swiss VET/PET Funding

Public funding

(2010: CHF 3.4 billion)

Confederation: approx. $\frac{1}{4}$

Cantons: approx. $\frac{3}{4}$

Inputs from Economy

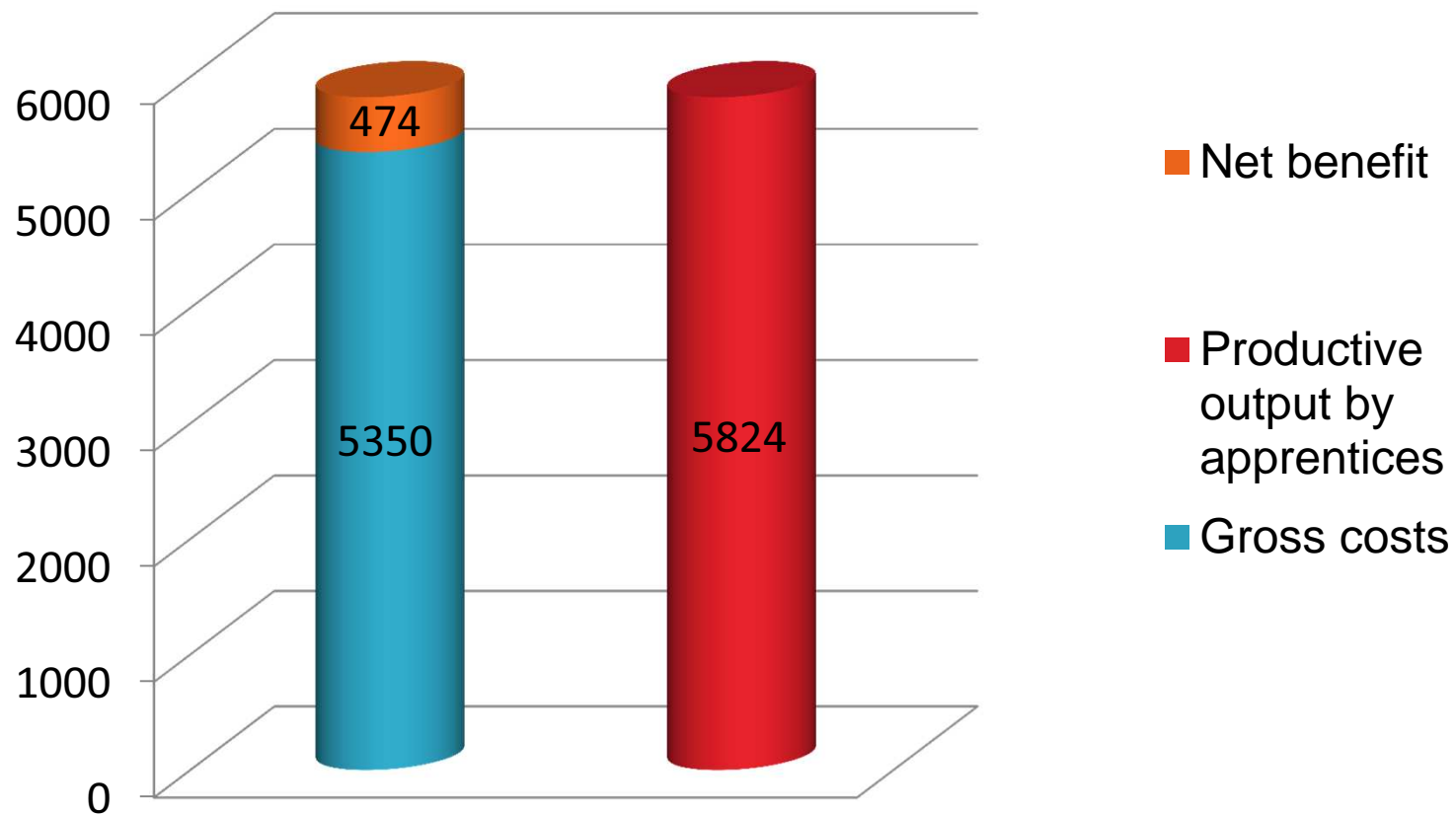
(Professional organisations, companies)

Groundwork (e.g. definition of training content)

Around 30-40% of Swiss companies offer VET apprenticeships



Cost/benefit ratio for Swiss companies offering VET apprenticeships in million Swiss Francs (2009)



Quelle: Wolter & Strupler 2012



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Summary and Results

Strengths of the Swiss VET/PET System

Full integration in the Swiss education system

→ Permeability

Labour-market orientation

→ Dual-track approach to learning

→ Important role of professional organisations

Based on cooperation between Confederation, Cantons
and Professional Organisations

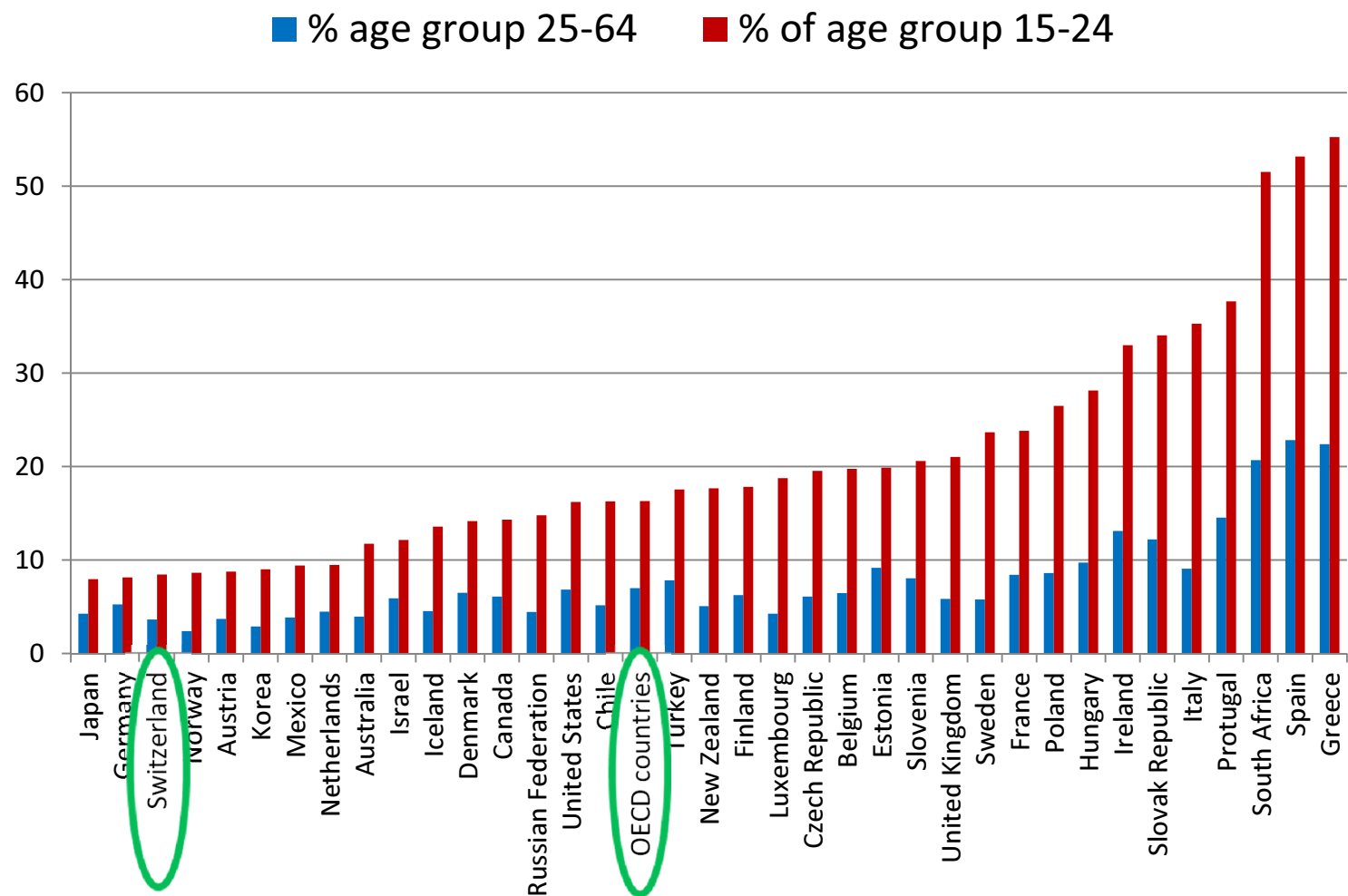
Results

Low unemployment rate

High levels of competitiveness and innovation



Low (youth) unemployment



Source: OECD / August, 06 2013



Competitiveness and innovation

Rank	WEF Global Competitiveness Index 2012-2013	IMD World Competitiveness Scoreboard 2013	European Innovation Scoreboard 2013
1	Switzerland	USA	Switzerland
2	Singapore	Switzerland	Sweden
3	Finland	Hong Kong	Germany
4	Sweden	Sweden	Denmark
5	Netherland	Singapore	Finland



Thank you for your attention!

Furhter information:

www.sbf.admin.ch

www.sbf.admin.ch/film



Legal Basis for VET/PET

VPETA: Federal Vocational & Professional Education & Training Act

- revised in 2002
- came on force 2004



Precautions taken to prevent early dropout of VET Programs:

Mentoring

- Additional support with choice of occupations during compulsory schooling.

Bridge-Years

- Offers for young people with difficulties in transitioning between compulsory school (secondary level I) and vocational education and training (upper secondary level II).

Federal VET Certificates (2-year education)

- Vocational education and training programs that are intended for students who are mainly practically talented.

Case-Management

- Integration of young people with multiple problems into VET-programs.



Validation-procedures and competences (vocational education and training)

Information und Counseling

Validation at the designated authority of the canton of domicile

Evaluation

Identification and analysis of individual and vocational skills (decision-making and responsibility) as well as general education; documentation in the dossier of validation

Assessment

Expert team opinion on the dossier of validation
(adult compatible approach)

Validation

Institution of validation decision upon the expert opinion

Certification

Certification based on structures and responsibilities in the field of vocational education and training (federal diploma/certificate issued by cantonal authority)



Development of an ordinance in vocational education and training

Professional Organisations

Requests the issuance of a VET ordinance

Main tasks:

- **Operational** project management
- Elaboration of content

Confederation: SERI

Issues VET ordinances

Guides the entire reform process:

- **Strategic** project planning
- Governmental tasks

Cantons

Guide and support the entire reform process

Responsible for **introducing and implementing** VET ordinances



The 20 most popular occupations

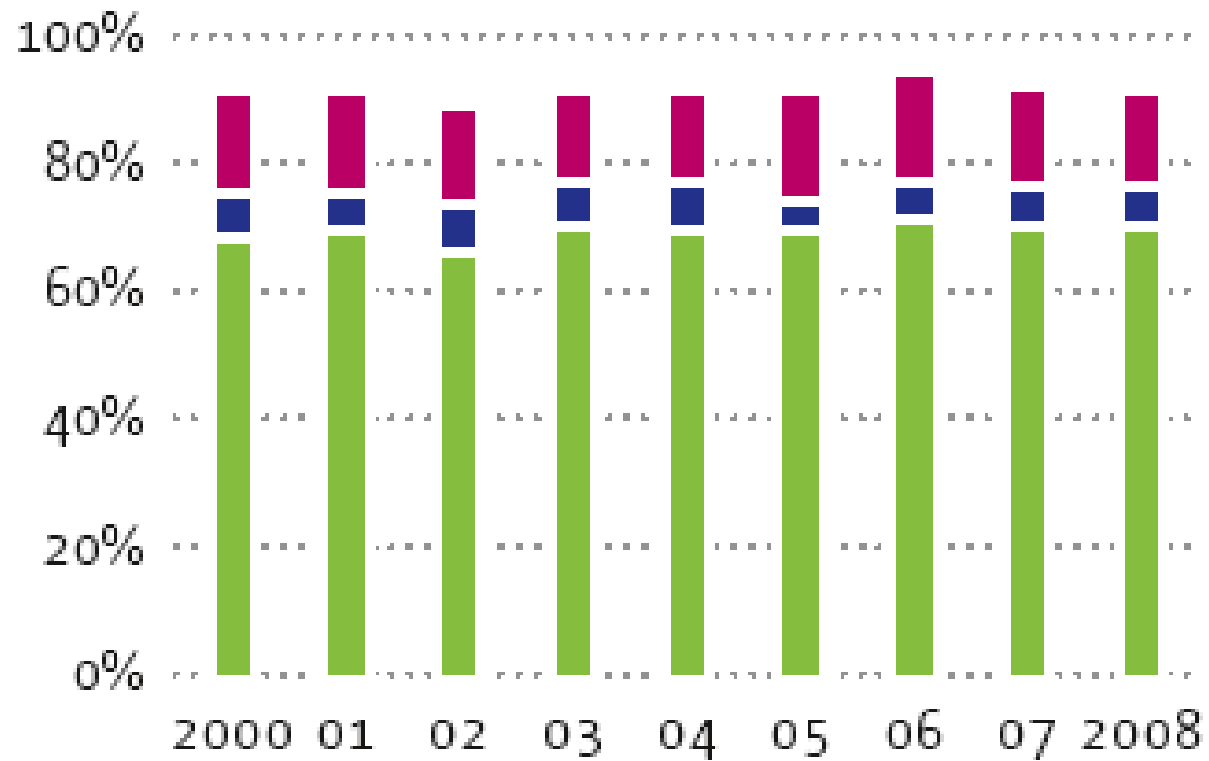
Number of newly enrolled VET students in 2012

Commercial employee	12'642	Cabinetmaker	1'474
Retail employee	5'603	Logistician	1'432
Health care worker	3'575	Retail Assistant	1'432
Social care worker	2'610	Hairdresser	1'350
Electrician	2'069	Farmer	1'341
Cook	1'913	Gardener	1'149
IT specialist	1'873	Bricklayer	1'110
Mechanical engineer	1'705	Carpenter	1'066
Draughtsmen	1'704	Car mechatronical engineer	941
Automotive mechanic	1'510	Plumber	928



Attractiveness of VET

Outcome of apprenticeship recruitment process by year





Averaged net-benefit companies per apprentice in CHF (2009)

	Vocational Education and Training 3 Years	Vocational Education and Training 4 Years
Gross costs	86'415	115'670
Productive output generated by apprentice	95'128	124'057
Net-benefit for the company offering apprenticeship-positions	8'713	8'387

Quelle: Wolter & Strupler 2012