

Swiss Education System

Swiss (Vocational) Education from the Cantonal Viewpoint



Theo Ninck

President of the Conference of Swiss VET/PET Offices;
Head of the Office for Upper-Secondary Education and Training,
Canton of Bern

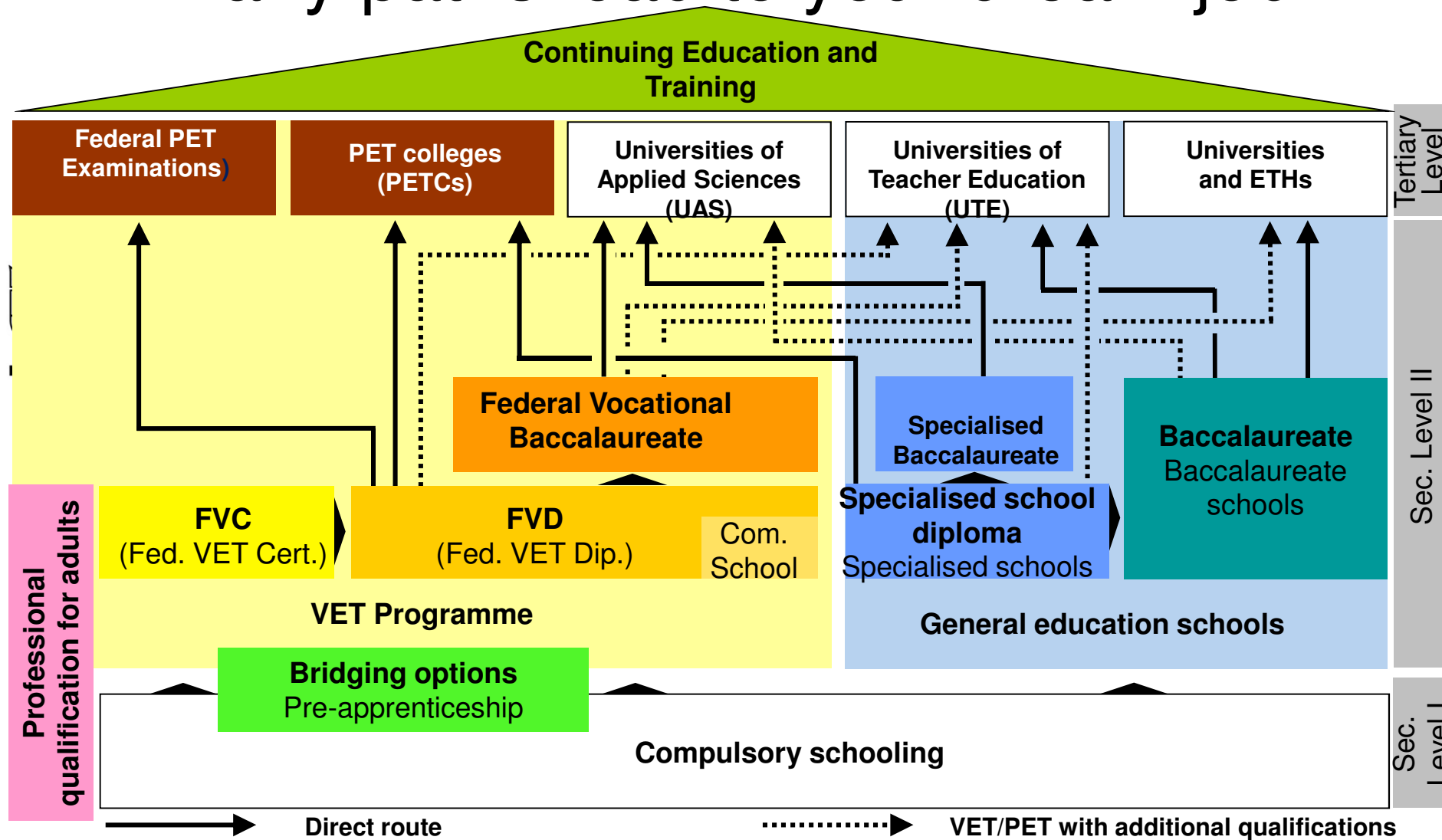
E-mail: theo.ninck@erz.be.ch



Department of Education of the Canton of Bern / Office for Upper-Secondary Education and Training

ERZ.be.ch

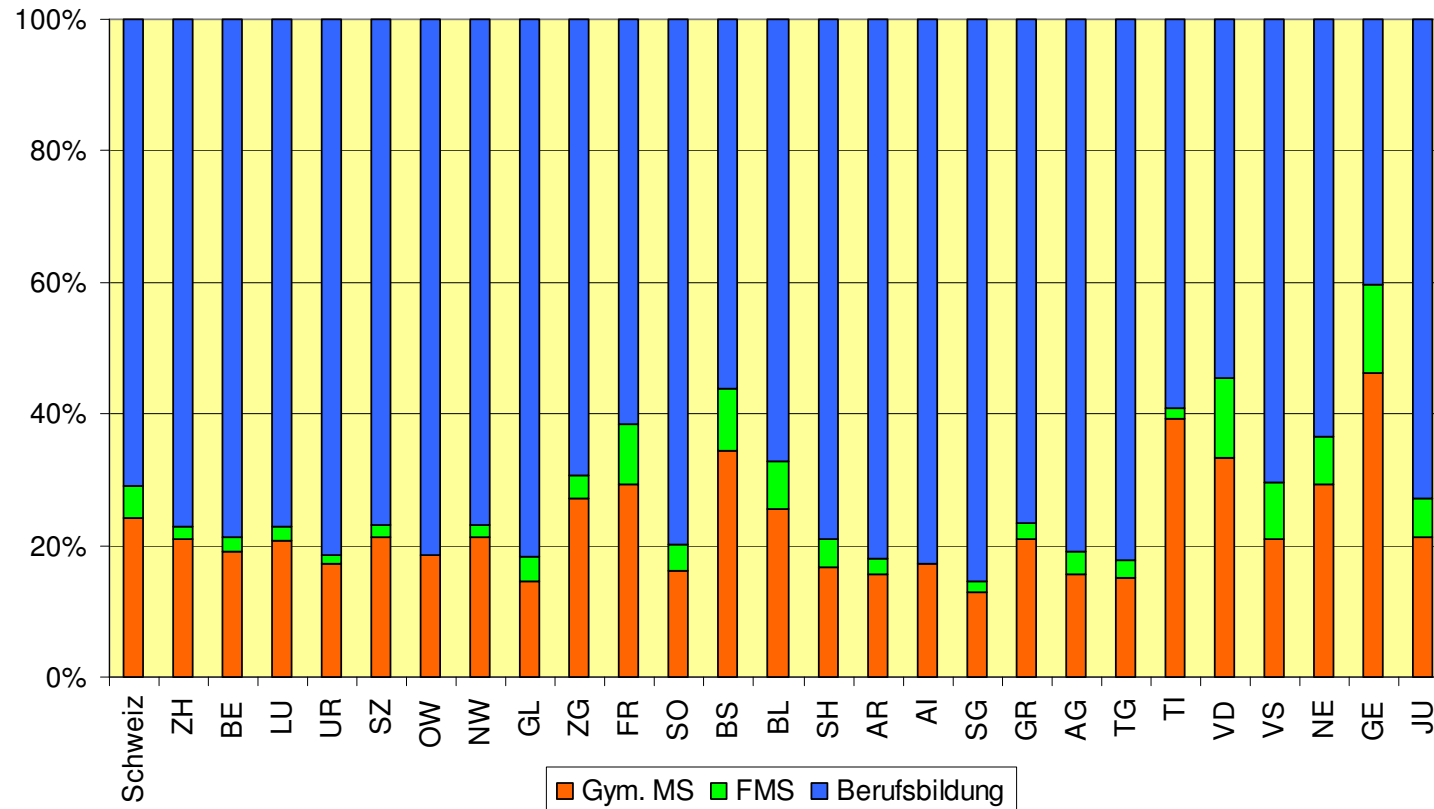
Many paths lead to your dream job



Department of Education of the Canton of Bern / Office for Upper-Secondary Education and Training



Diverse cantonal education cultures

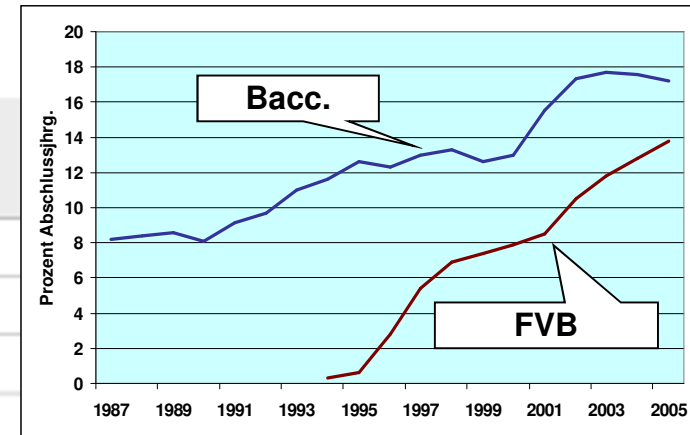
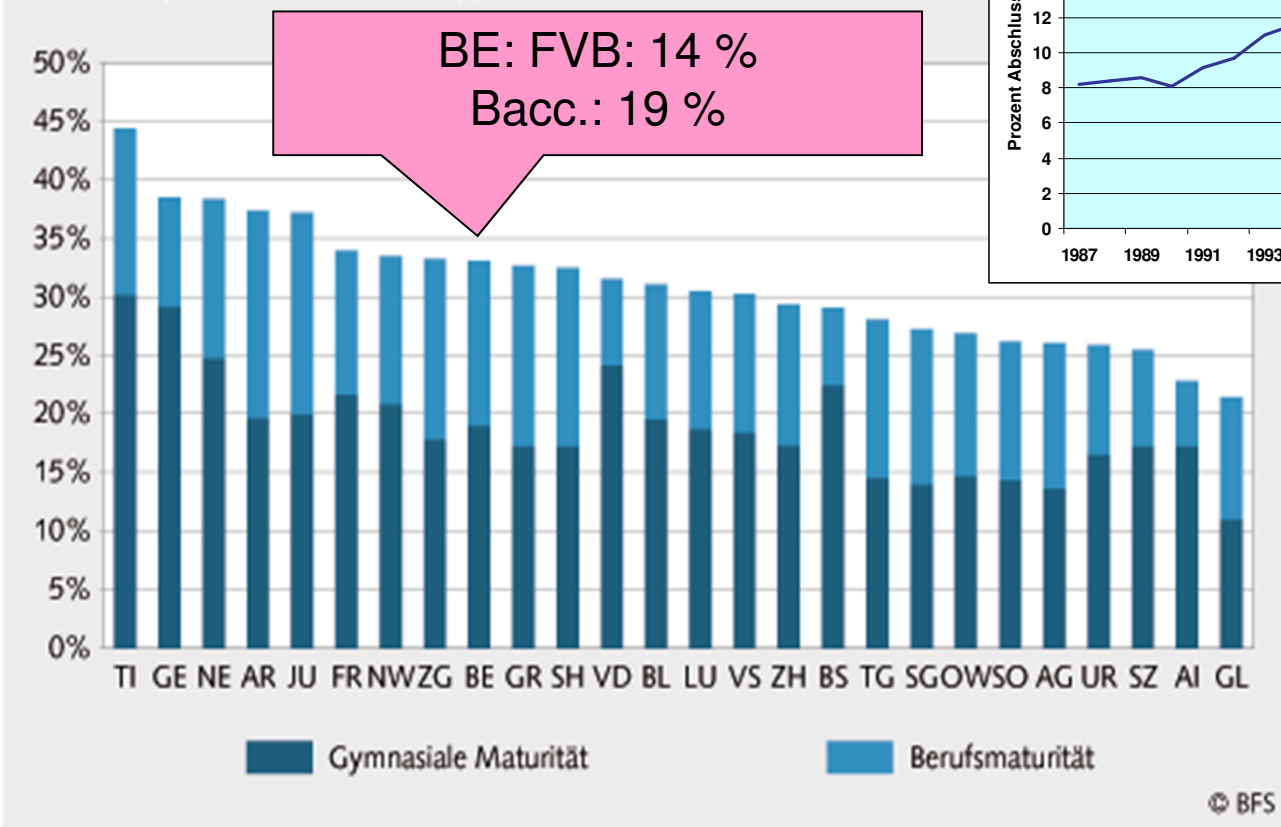


Students under 20 years of age in the first year of a multiple-year certified education or training course, according to canton of residence 2009 (FSO 2012)

University admission based on baccalaureate



Maturitätsquote nach Maturitätstyp und Kanton, 2009



Profile of OUSET Canton Bern

Canton Bern

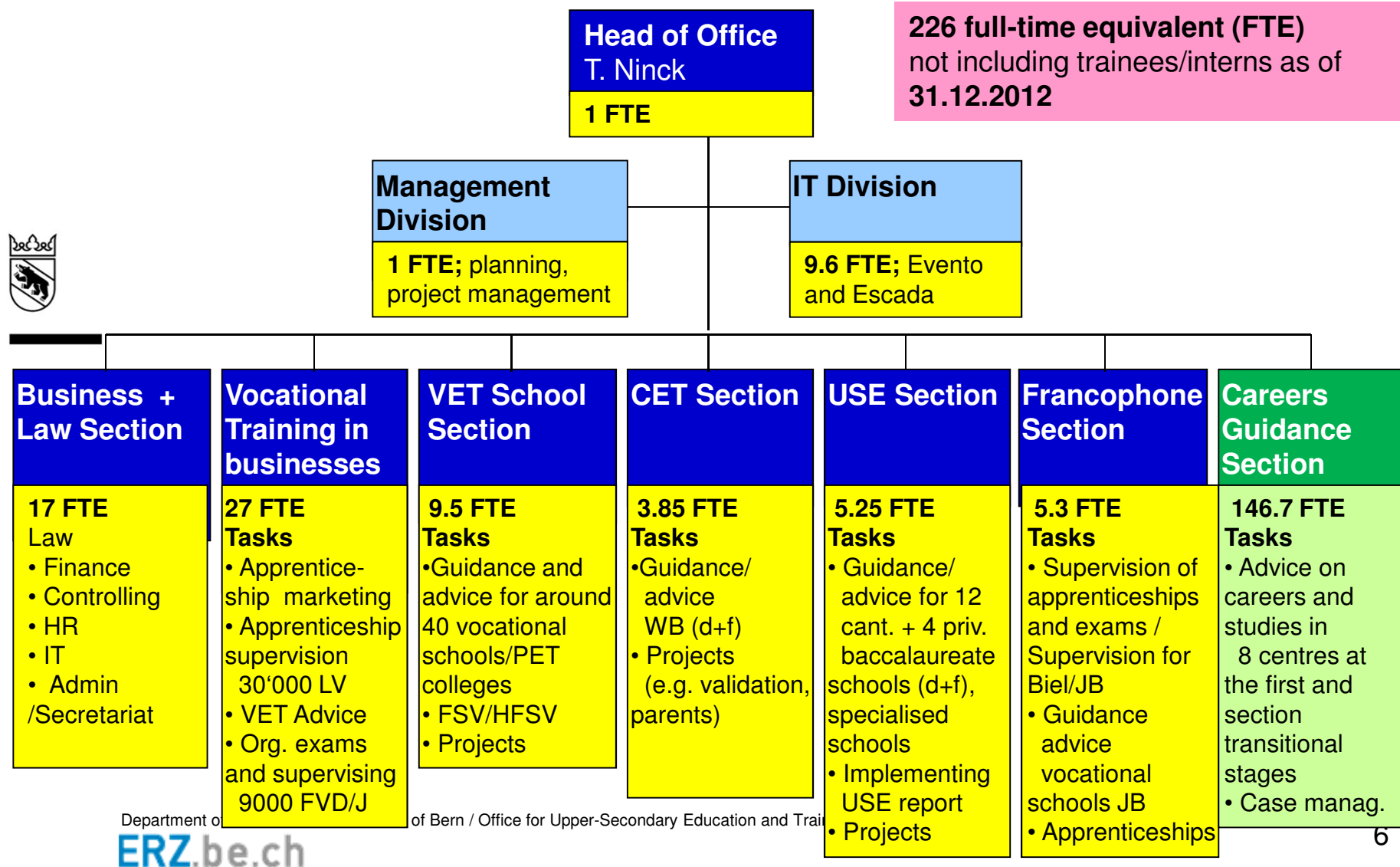
- Around 1 million inhabitants – 13.4 % foreign nationals
- 84 % German-speaking, 7.6 % French-speaking
- 75 % apprenticeship, 20 % baccalaureate school/specialised school



Office for Upper-Secondary Education and Training (OUSET)

- Organisation and supervision of vocational education and training, baccalaureate schools, specialised schools, continuing education and training, careers guidance
- 270 staff in around 230 full-time equivalents, 10 locations
- Annual turnover of around CHF 700 million
- 30'000 apprenticeships, 9000 VET diplomas, more than 200 occupations
- 50 vocational schools/PET colleges, 12 baccalaureate schools (+ 4 private schools)

Ouset tasks and staff



Transition to upper secondary level

Approx. 80 % direct transition, 20 % via bridging solutions

4-pillar concept:

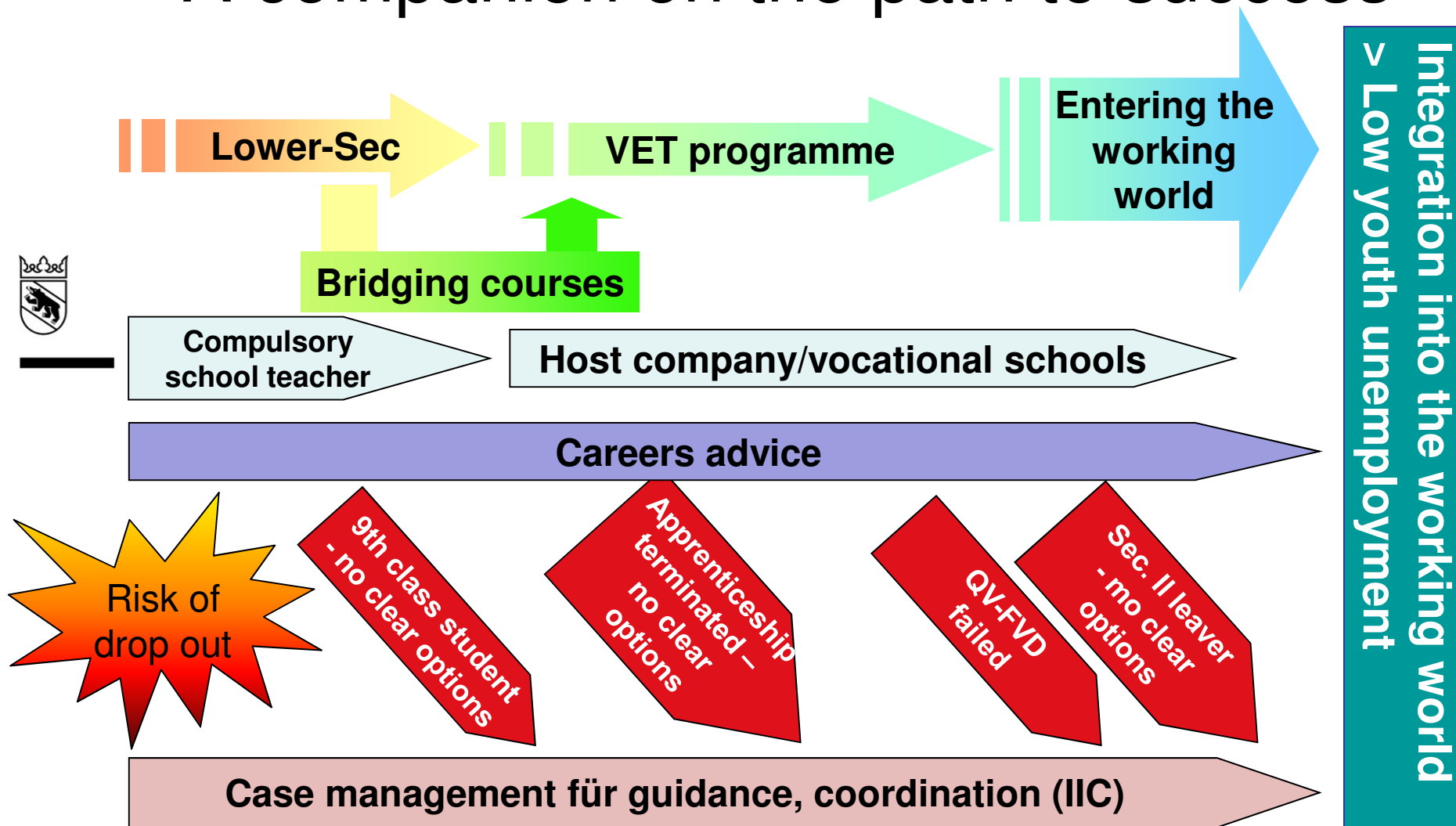
- Teaching good academic and social skills
- Career choice preparation (careers guidance)
- Bridging options
- Case management for drop outs



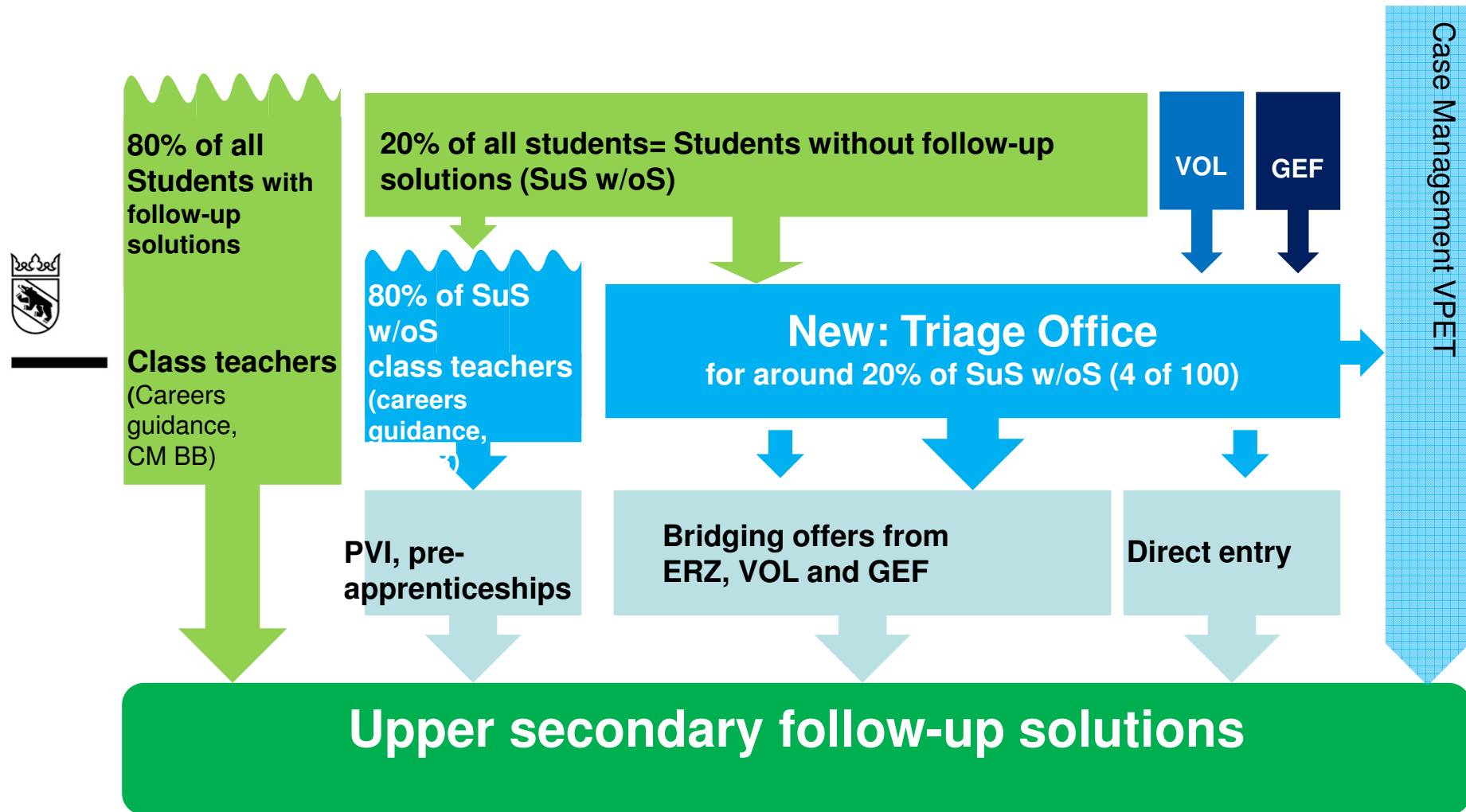
The right
bridge for everyone!



A companion on the path to success



Triage for special bridging solutions



Dual vocational education and training: 3 learning locations

Practical



Host company
3 – 4 days a week

Industry



Industry courses

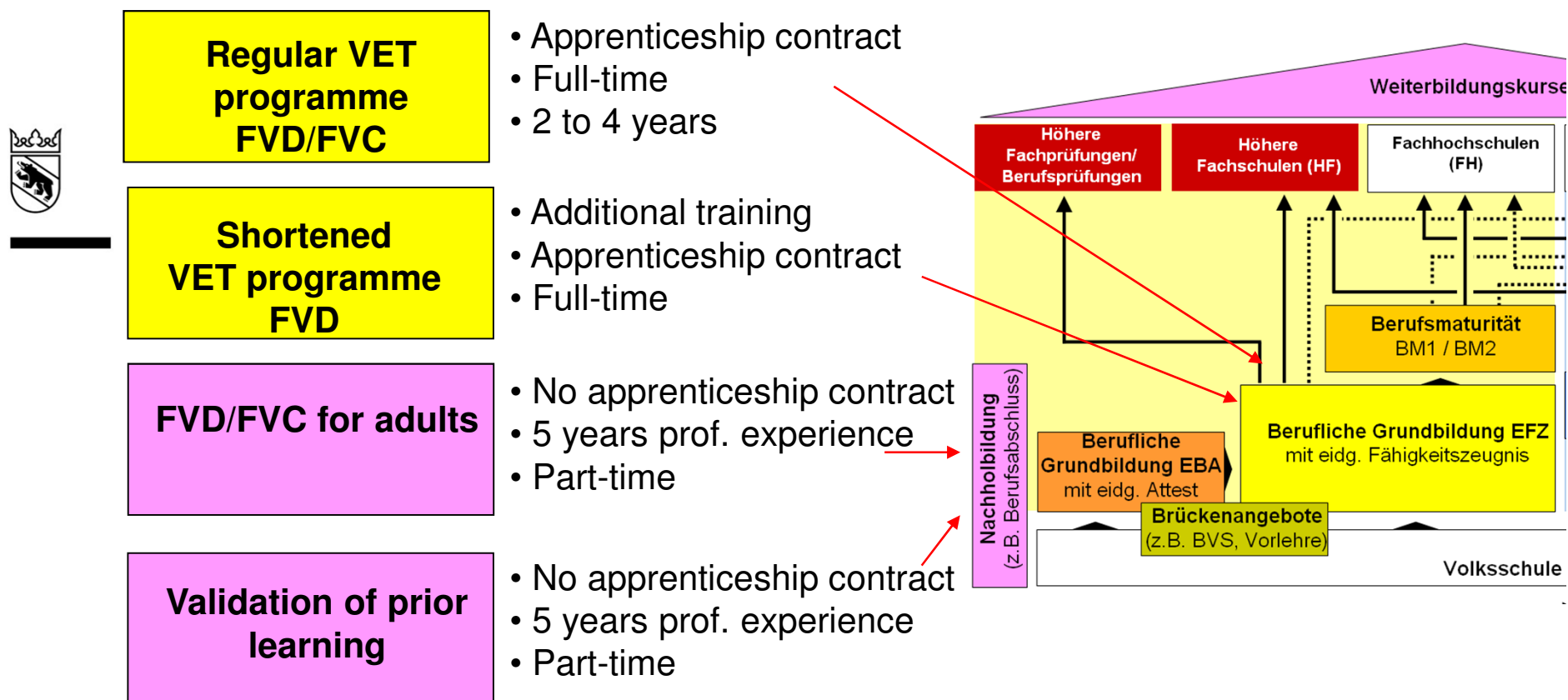
School



Vocational school
1 – 2 days a week

Federal VET Certificate (2 years)
or
Federal VET Diploma (3 to 4 years)

Four paths to a professional qualification (FVD/FVC)



Guaranteeing quality in apprenticeship

Learning location - Host company

- Inspection and certification of the host company by professionals
- Obligatory courses for vocational trainers (at least 40 h)
- QualiCarte: check list for host companies (see www.berufsbildung.ch)
- Special advice/measures for host companies with drop outs



Learning location - Vocational school

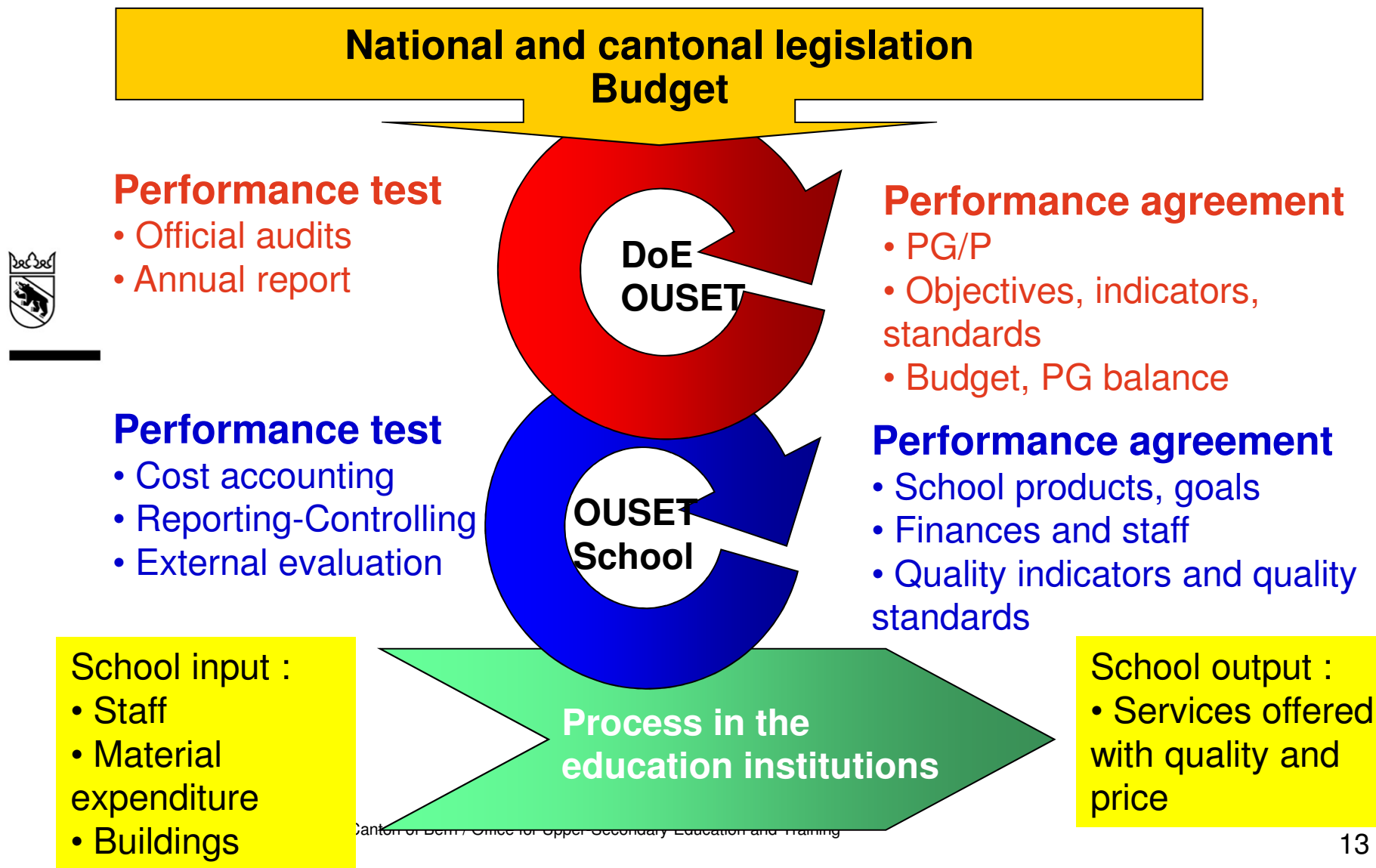
- Guidance, performance agreement with the canton (guidelines, controlling)
- Requirements for teachers

Learning location - Industry courses

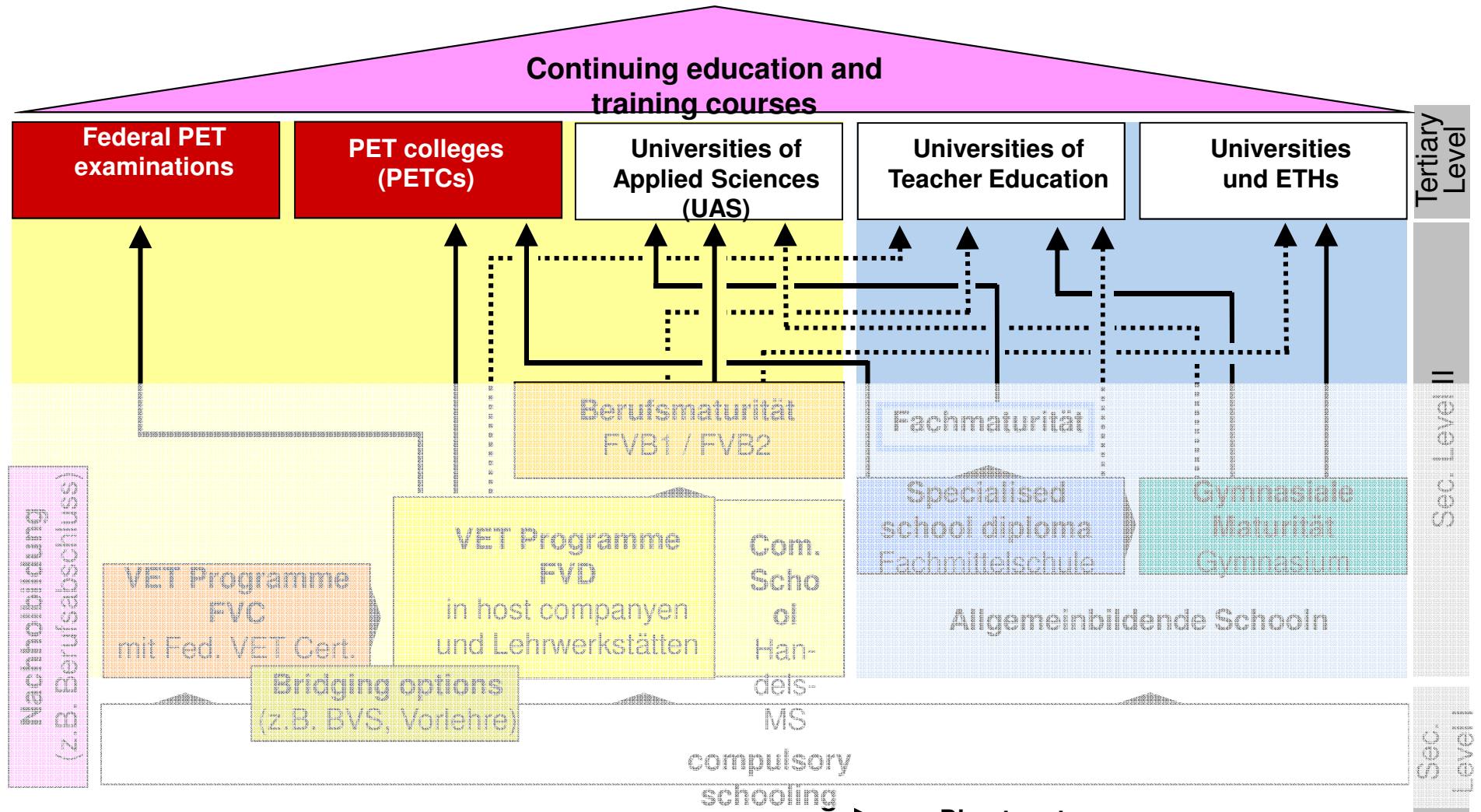
- Performance agreements, monitoring by the canton
- Requirements for vocational trainers

> Cooperation between learning locations > sharing tasks and roles

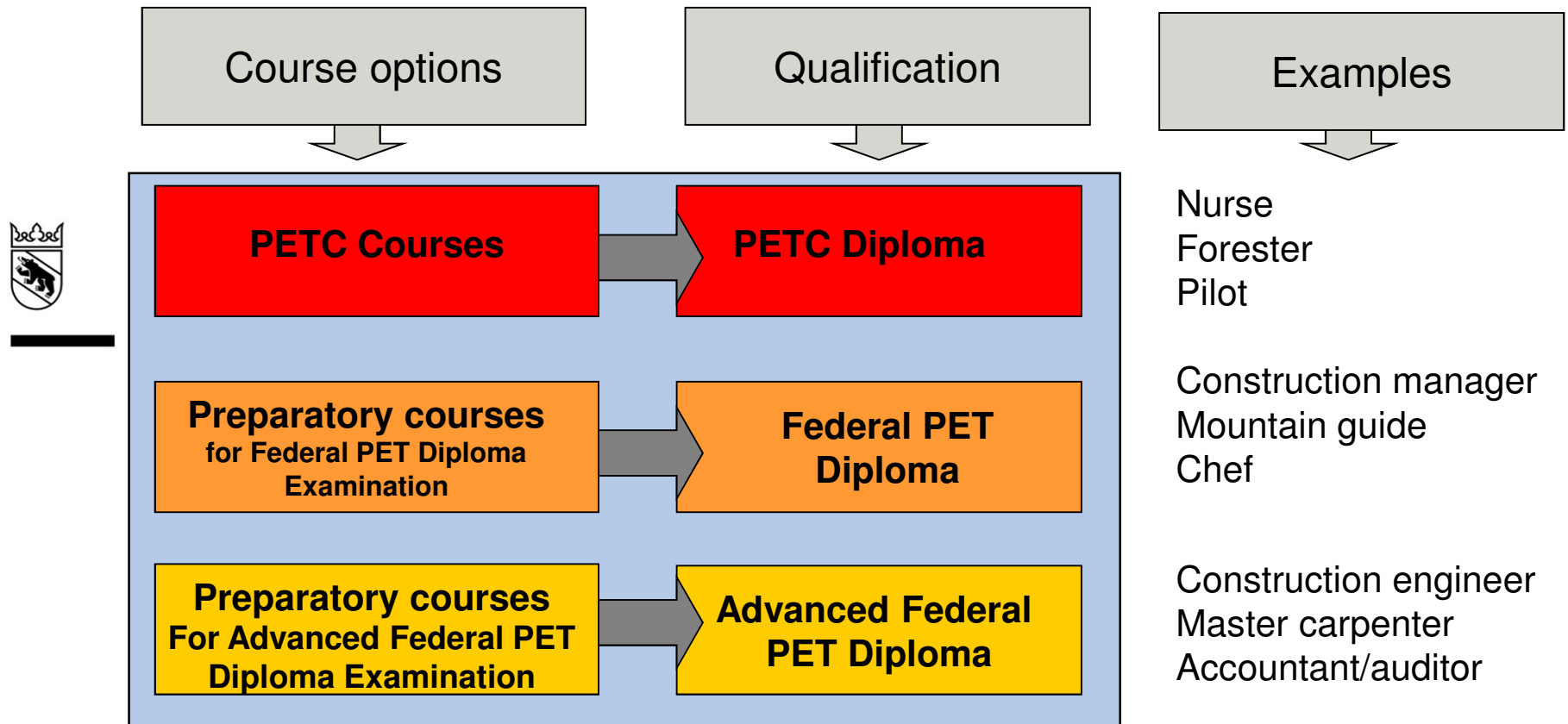
Guiding education and training institutions



Options after FVD and "Passerelles"



Tertiary level PET – Backbone for SMEs



>> Possible part-time, high return on investment in education and training

Success through VET/PET partnership



Professional organisations:
course content and training places



Federal government:
strategic guidance and development

Cantons:
implementation and supervision

Source: Christine Davatz, sgV, Pfuschi-Cartoon

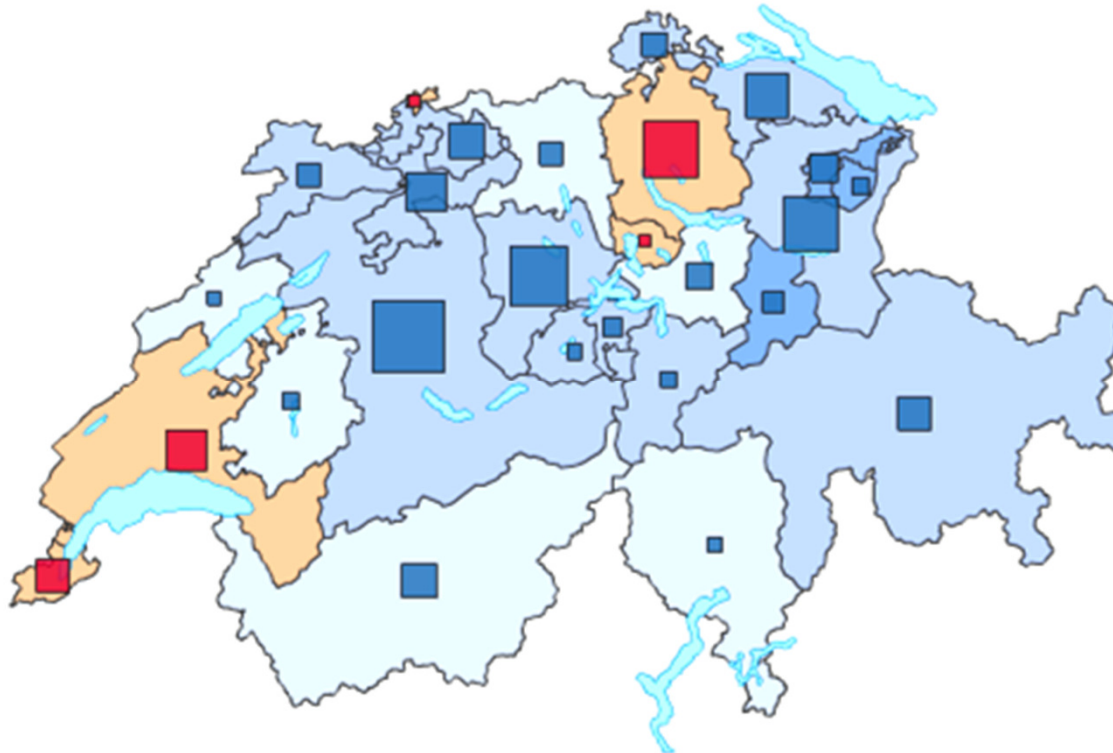
Opportunities - CH-VET - Risks



- High employability (no unemployment or only short-term unemployment)
- Constant adaptation of content (VET/PET partnership)
- Education is worth it (Benefits)
- Highly effective for integration (Opportunities for immigrants)
- Correcting socio-demographic imbalance in upper-secondary schools (Passerelle to University)
- Courses aimed at senior managers at tertiary level (life-long-learning)

- Bespoke VET/PET courses become rapidly outdated
- Little room for basic skills (e.g. languages/maths/ICT)
- VET/PET partnership may obstruct innovation
- Apprenticeship not always available where future trained workers needed
- Too little recognition or encouragement of women's and immigrants' potential
- International recognition of vocational education and training, esp. Advanced PET qualifications

Negative demographic change



Key:

Blue: decreasing
Red: increasing

Cantons

- BE: - 12 %
- LU: - 18 %
- AG: - 2 %
- FR: - 2 %
- VD: + 5,6 %
- GE: + 5,5 %
- ZH: + 6 %

Young people completing compulsory education 9th grade
Prognosis Federal Statistic Office 2010-2020

Measures to obtain more qualified employees

- Consolidate occupational marketing as the core task of the professional organisations (support from the cantons)
- Interest pupils in compulsory schooling in MINT (occupational fields involving **M**athematics, **I**CT, **N**atural sciences, **T**echnology)
- Deconstruct gender barriers (e.g. women in MINT professions, recruit men for health care professions)
- Create apprenticeships at host companies where necessary (e.g. health care)
- Promote the Vocational Baccalaureate (Promote a new FVB in services and the economy)
- Promote vocational qualifications for adults



VPET's greatest exhibition



1st Joint Swiss Skills Championships

- 10 years of the VPETA
- 134 professions at work
- 74 skills championships – with retail trading, Association of Commercial Employees, health care workers!
- 200,000 visitors, 1/3 of whom are school classes
- Special show for PET, CET



A celebration of VPET



The secret of Swiss VET?



Wikileaks will never be able to reveal our secret



We can reveal our secret

- Training in a working environment after compulsory schooling
- Three learning locations with ideal coordination of course content
- Practical course content and constant updating
- Established support (schools, guidance, supervision)
- Training is worthwhile for businesses



**The state, social partners and businesses
– all fully committed
You can't copy and paste a culture!**