



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
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Swiss Confederation

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

Vocational and Professional Education and Training in Switzerland

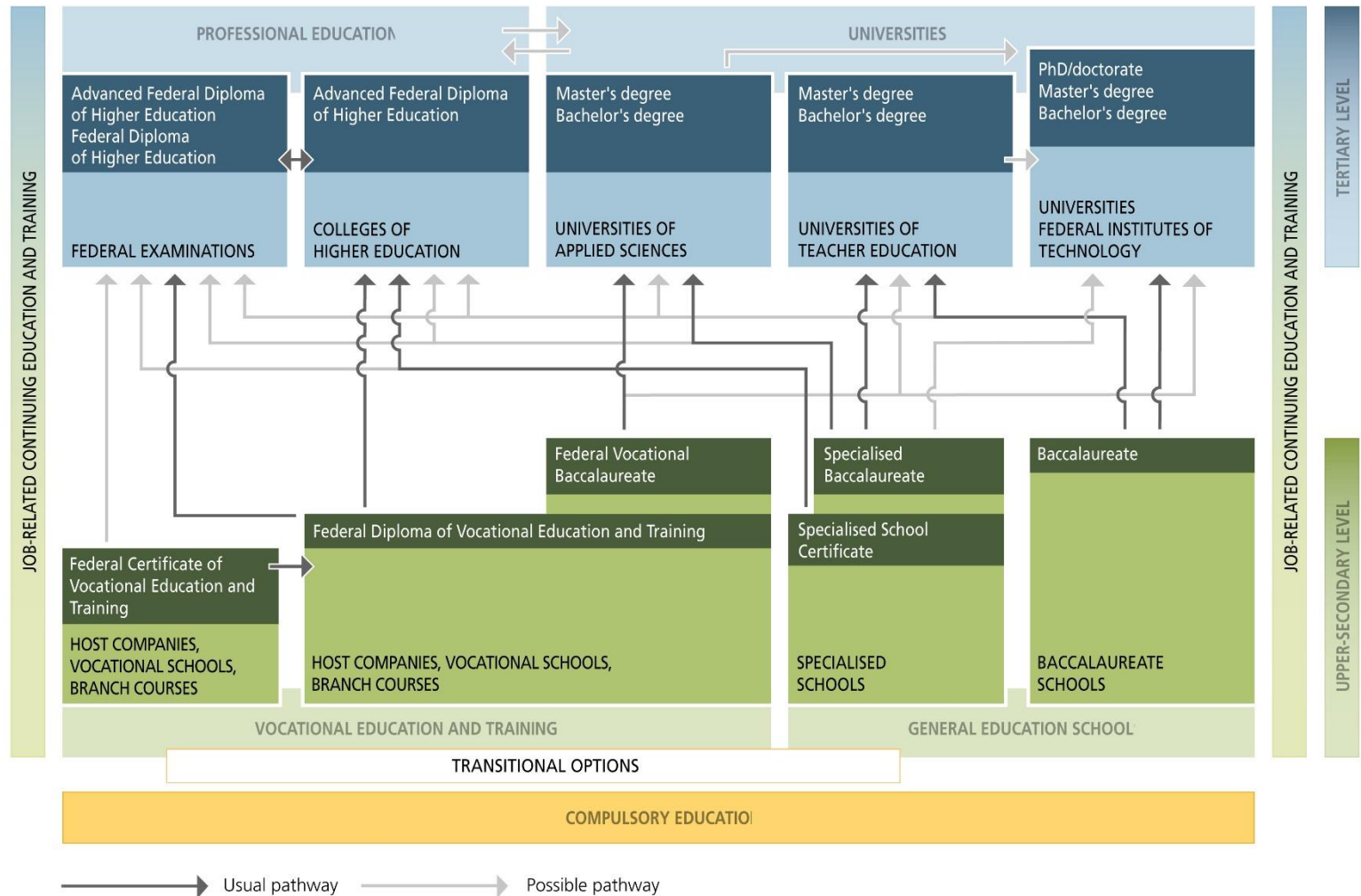
CLIMMAR Congress 2019
Aarberg, Switzerland
26 October

Josef Widmer, SERI Deputy Director





Swiss education system / 1





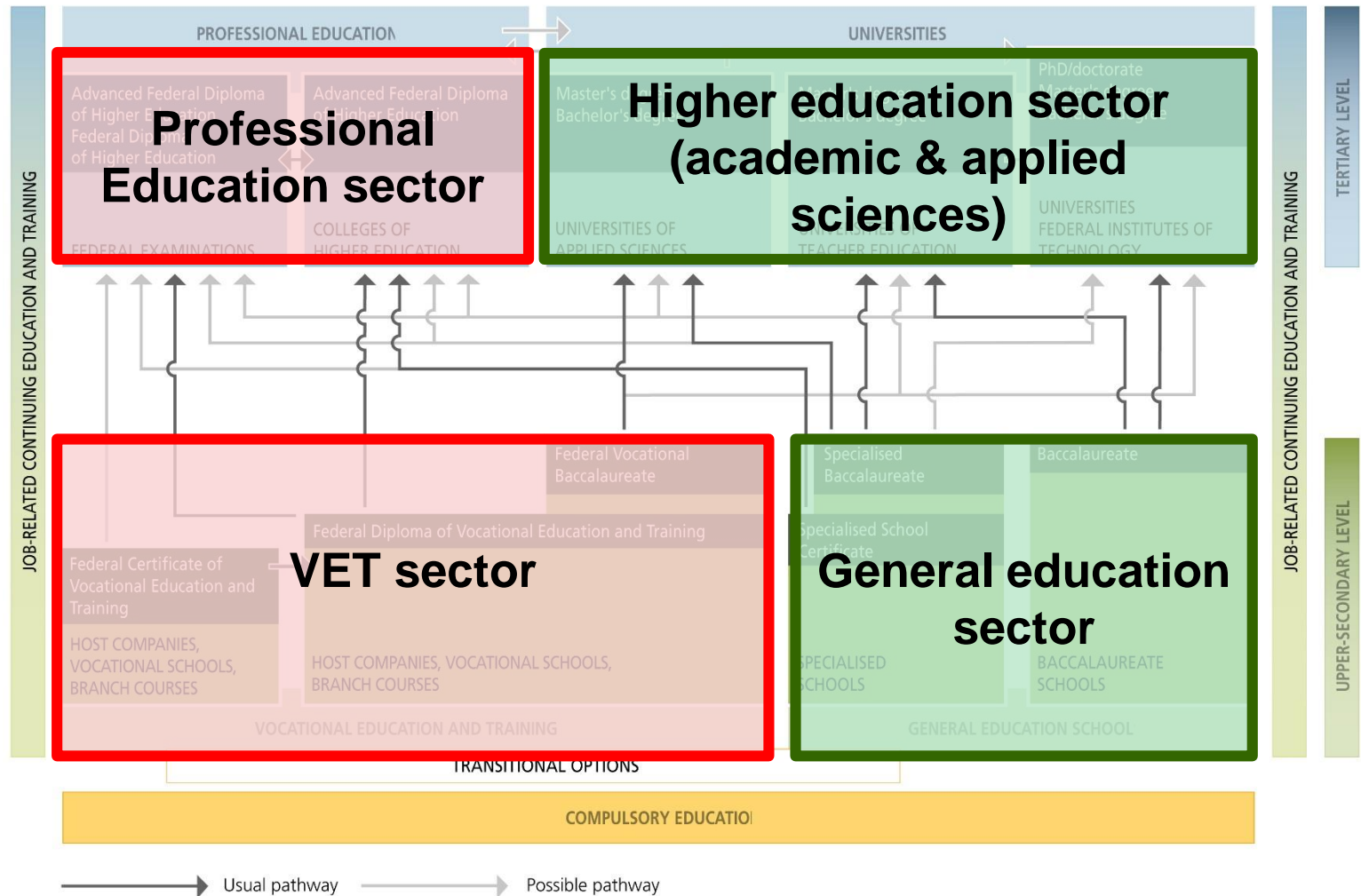
Openness to diversity

Upper-secondary & tertiary-level qualifications in 2017

Upper-secondary level: vocational education and training	Total	Women	Men
Federal VET Diploma	62 268	28 534	33 734
Federal VET Certificate	6 512	2 845	3 667
Federal Vocational Baccalaureate	14 320	6 724	7 596
University Aptitude Test	958	404	554
Tertiary level: professional education	Total	Women	Men
Qualification awarded by colleges of higher education	8 754	4 286	4 468
Level-two federal professional examination	2 954	883	2 071
Level-one federal professional examination	14 448	5 516	8 932
Professional education not recognised by the Confederation	3 50	248	102



Swiss education system / 2





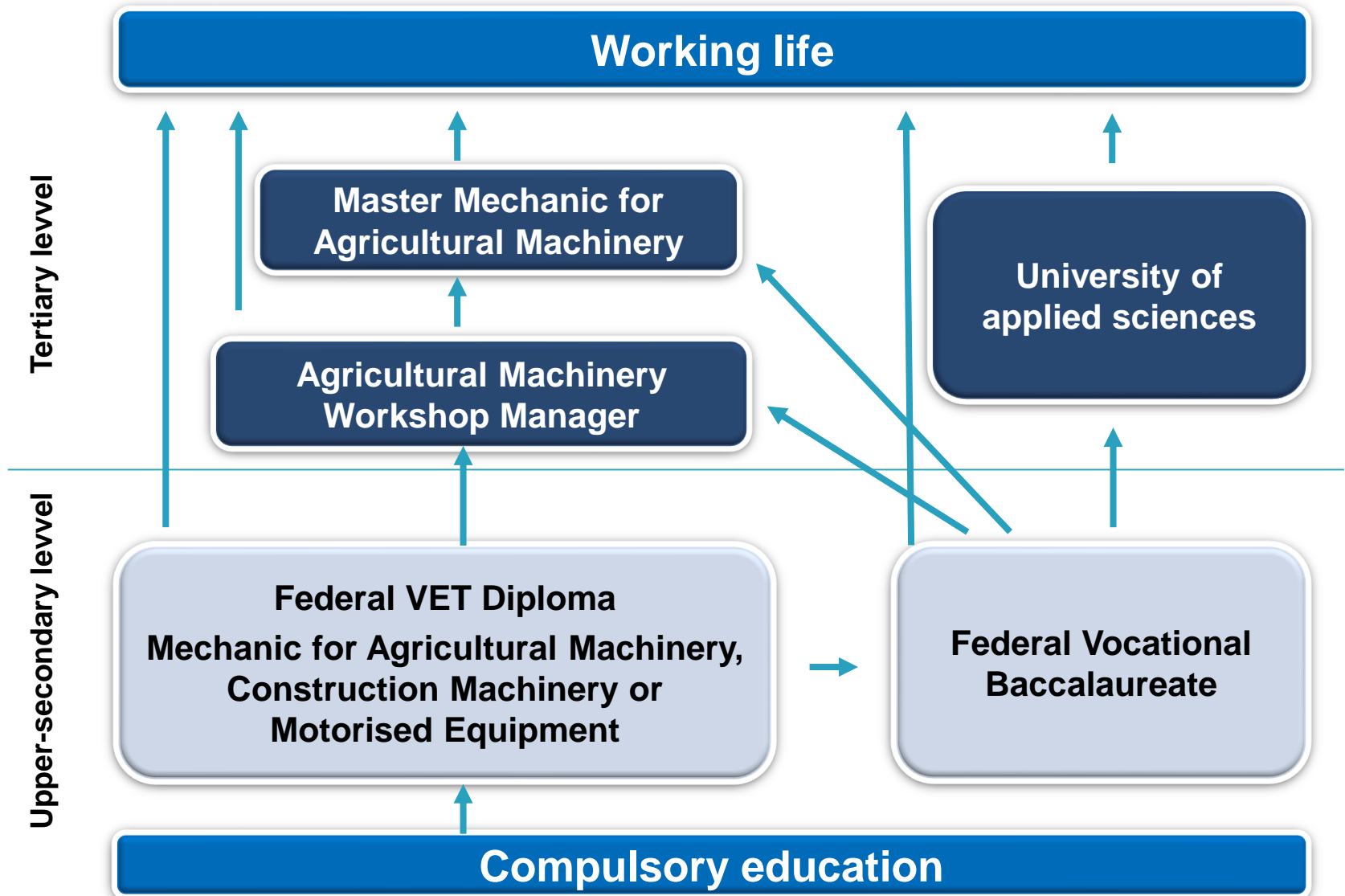
The ten most frequently chosen occupations

Number of incoming learners in 2018

Occupations	Total
Commercial employee	13,842
Health care worker	4,795
Retail clerk	4,708
Social care worker	3,657
IT technician	2,100
Electrician	1,905
Logistician	1,724
Cook	1,595
Draughtsman	1,554
Retail assistant	1,450



Career prospects in agricultural engineering





Close correlation with the labour market

Combination of theory and practice

Practice



Theory

VET sector

- Apprenticeship training at the host company (3-4 days/week)
- Branch courses

Classroom instruction at the vocational school (1-2 days/week)

PE sector

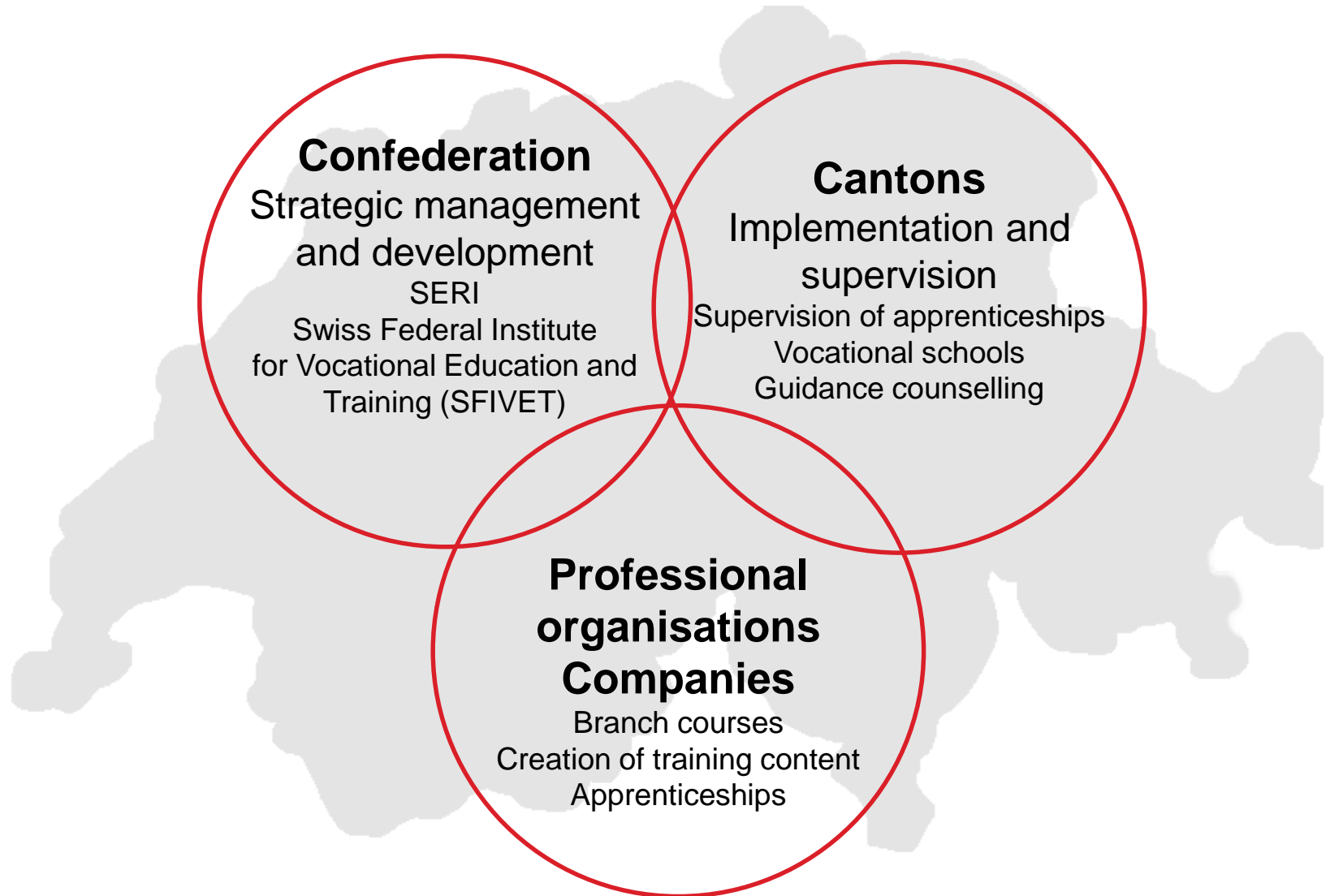
Acquisition of more in-depth professional competences (requires prior work experience)

- Preparatory courses for federal examinations
- Study programmes at professional education institutions



VPET partnership

One mission – three partners





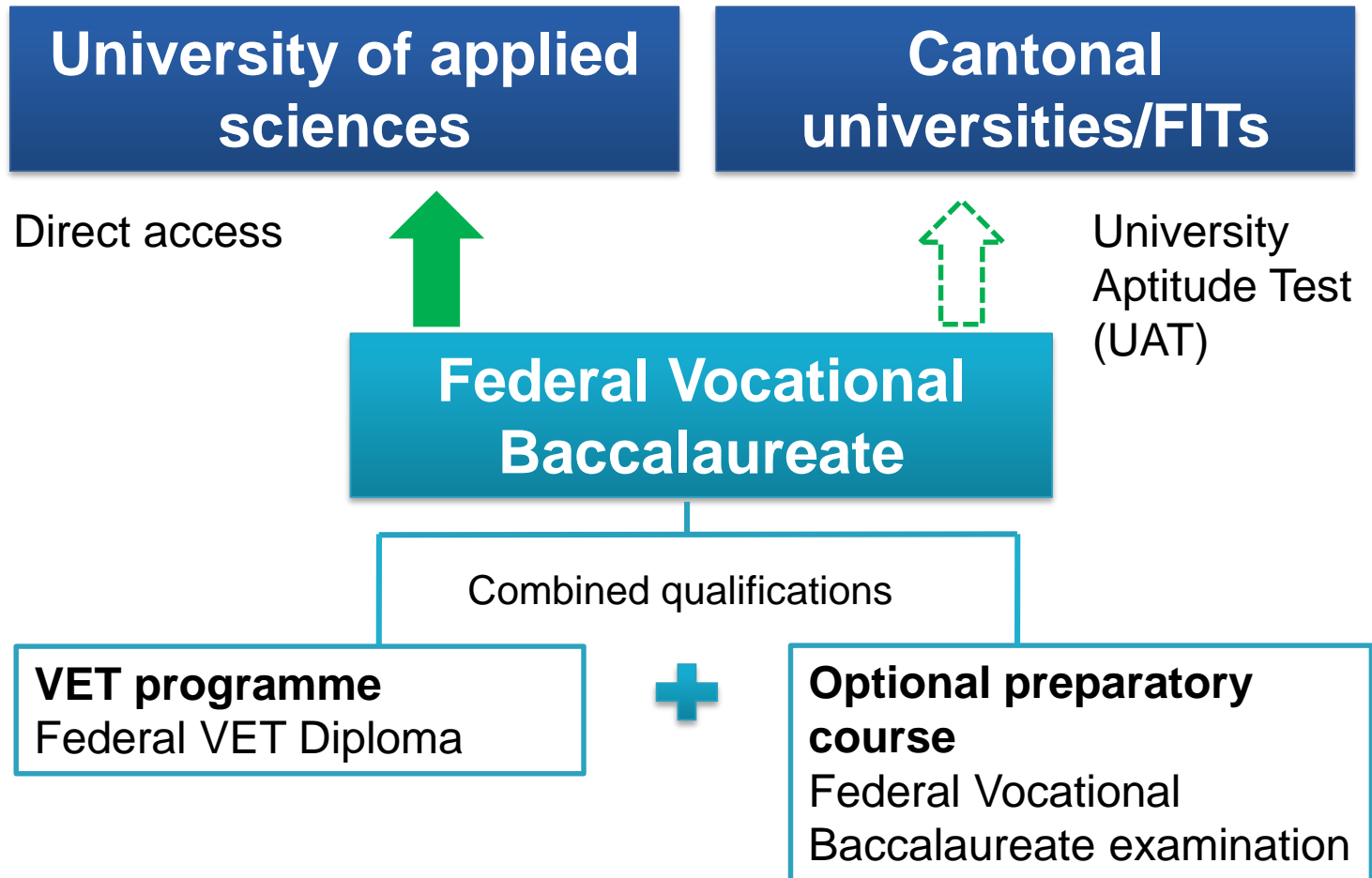
Strengths of professional education sector

- Tertiary-level practical training
- High level of demand on the labour market, low unemployment rate
- Diversified, specialised offer
- Flexible access
- High personal, social and fiscal returns on investment in training
- Closely correlated with needs of labour market (competences to be acquired decided by private sector)
- Federal recognition of qualifications



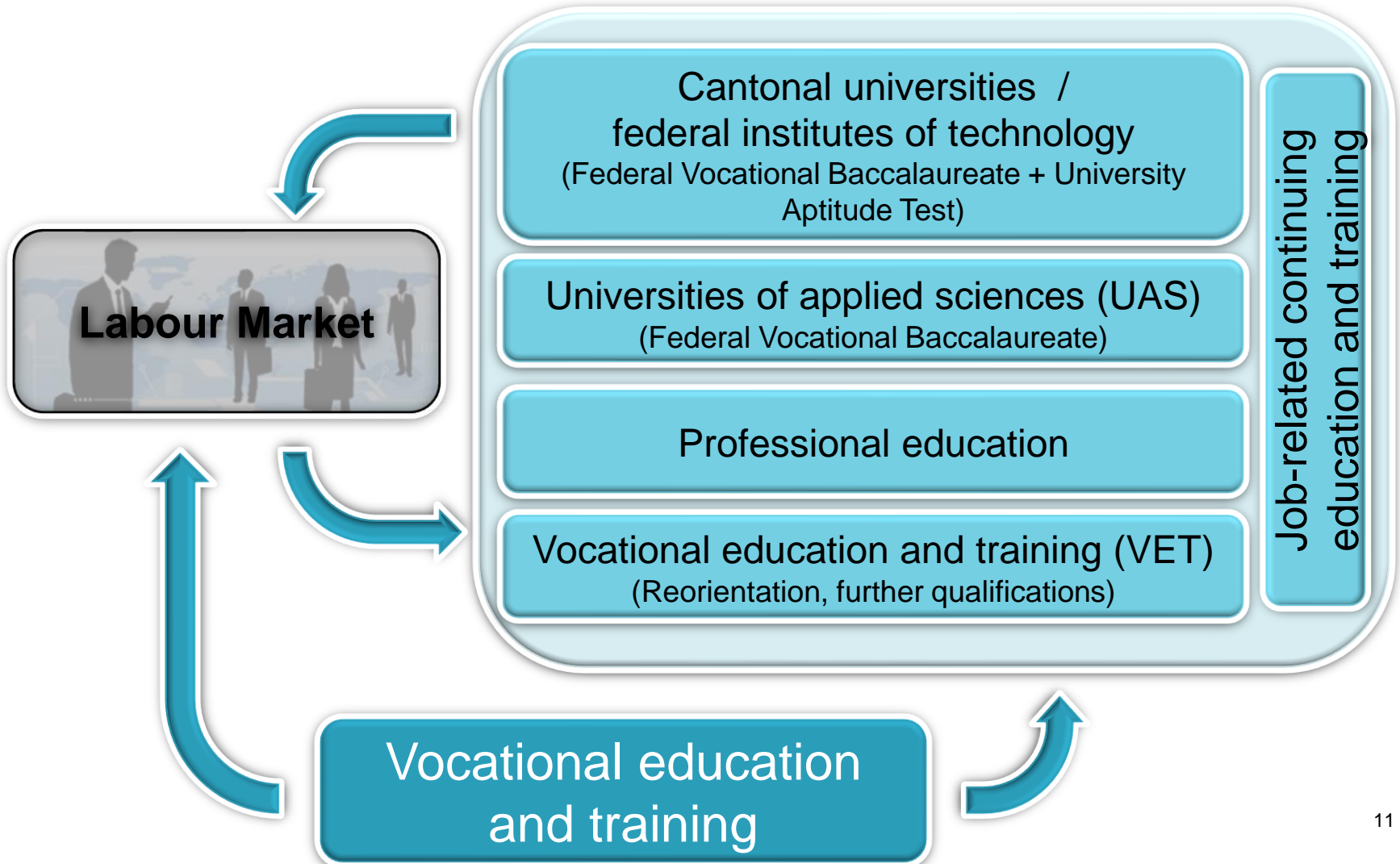
Federal Vocational Baccalaureate

Prospects open to FVB holders



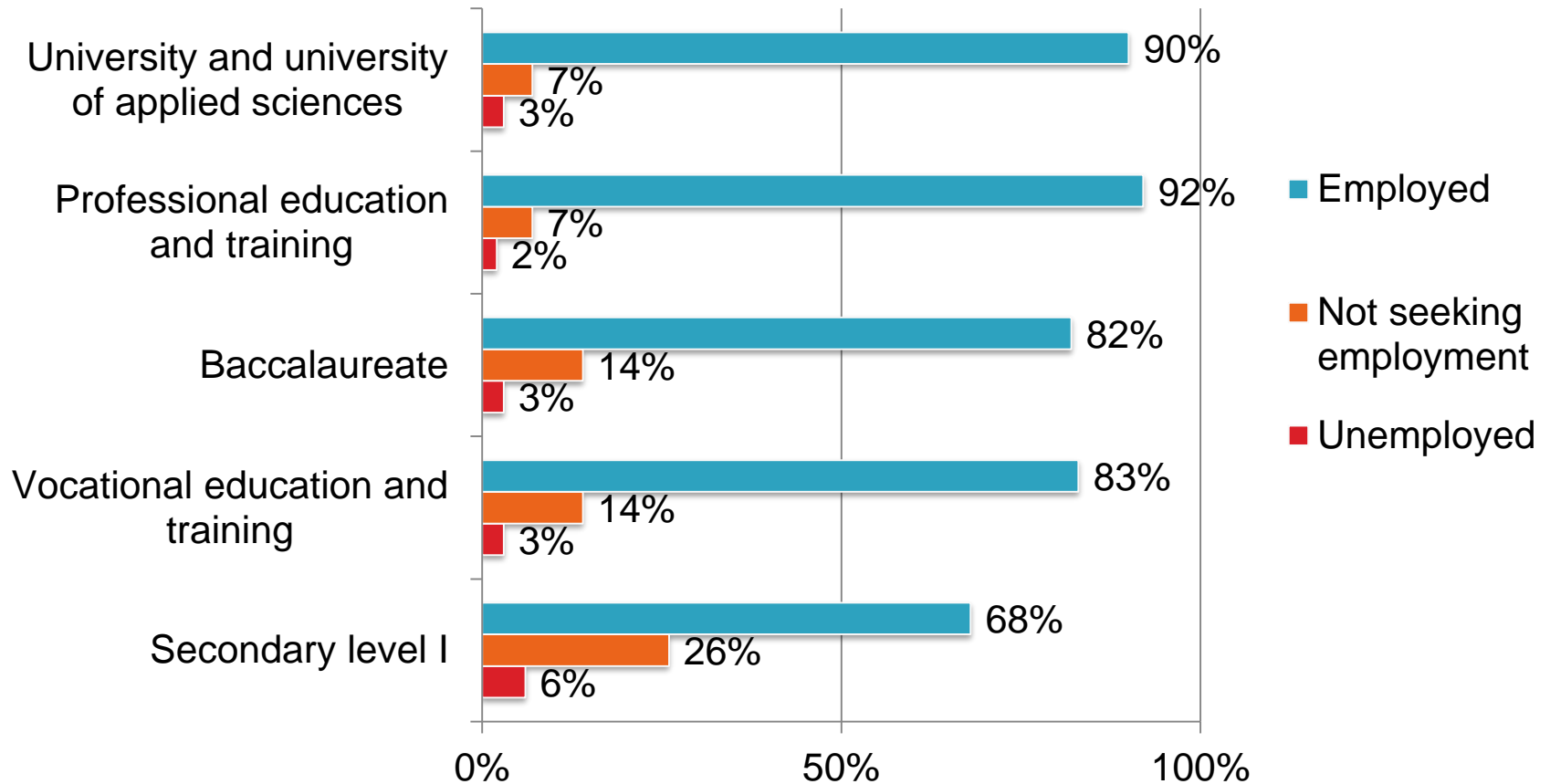


VET as the basis for entry into the labour market and lifelong learning





Labour market oriented VPET → High employability





How the Swiss VPET system benefits society and the economy



Low levels of youth unemployment



Highly competitive



Innovative capacity



Technical and managerial staff at all levels



Funding of VPET system

Jointly funded by public and private sector

Funding of (among other things):

- Preparatory courses for VET
- Vocational schools
- Branch courses
- PE sector
- VET and PE professionals
- Projects and special services

Contribution from public sector

Cantons

3/4 of the costs;
Around CHF 2.6 billion p.a.

Bund

1/4 of the costs;
around CHF 0.9 billion p.a.

Contribution from private sector

Professional organisations

(training content, examiners, marketing etc.)

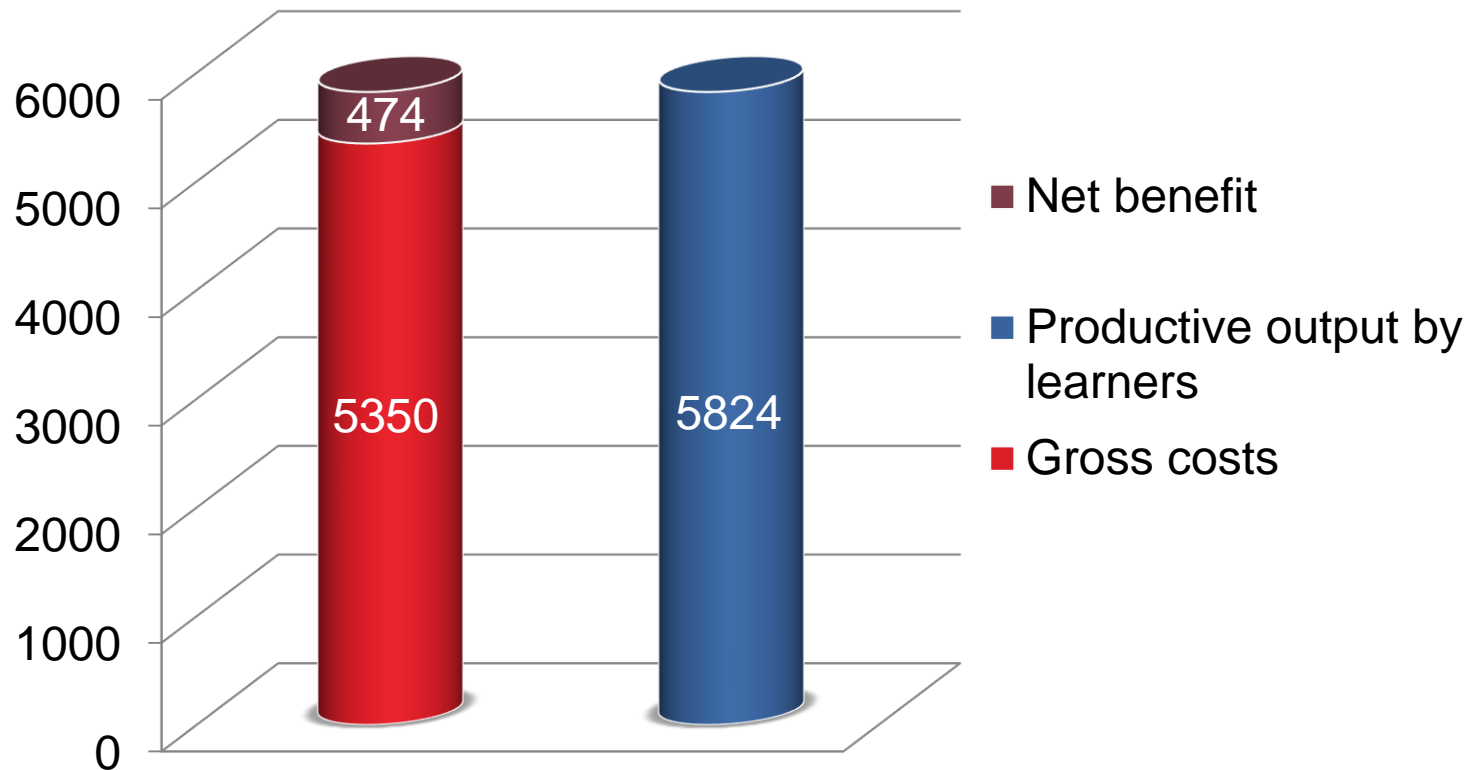
Companies

(30 – 40% train apprentices)



Cost/benefit ratio for Swiss companies involved in VET programmes

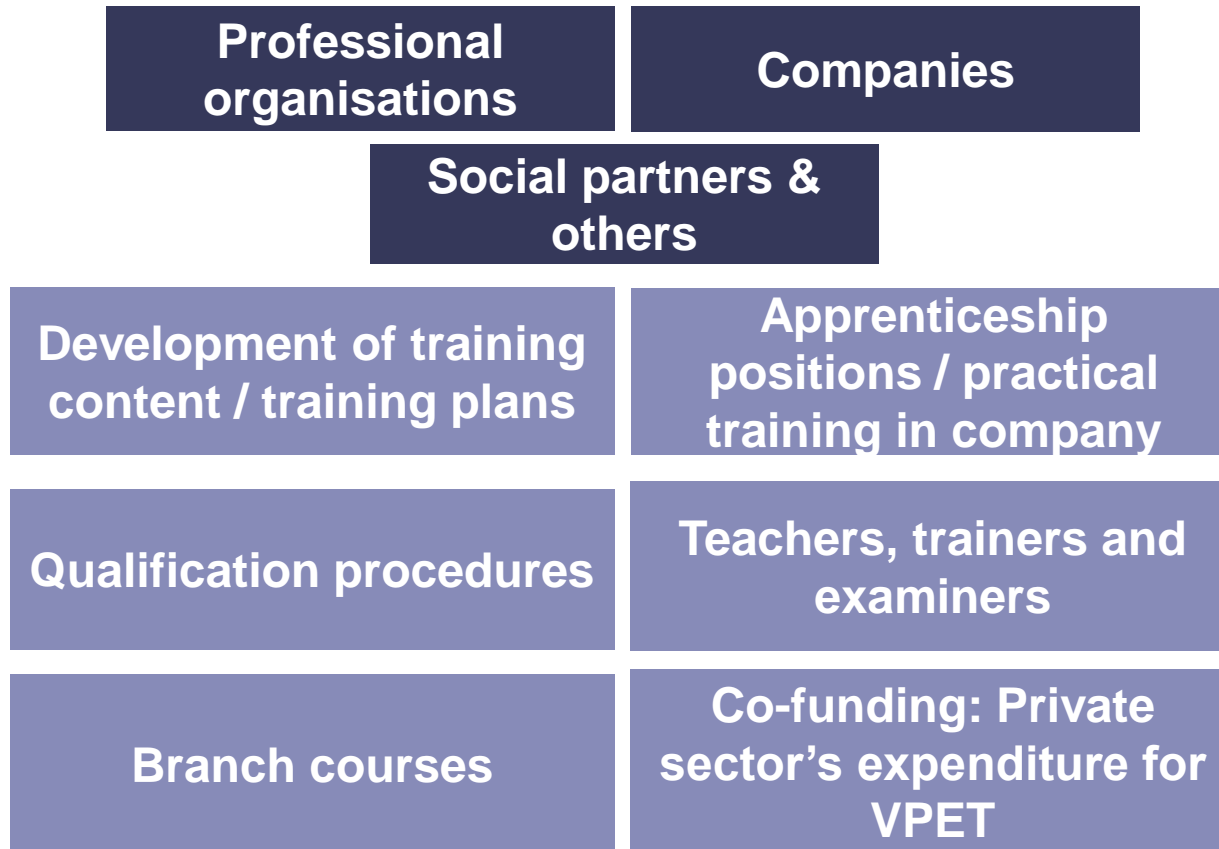
in CHF million



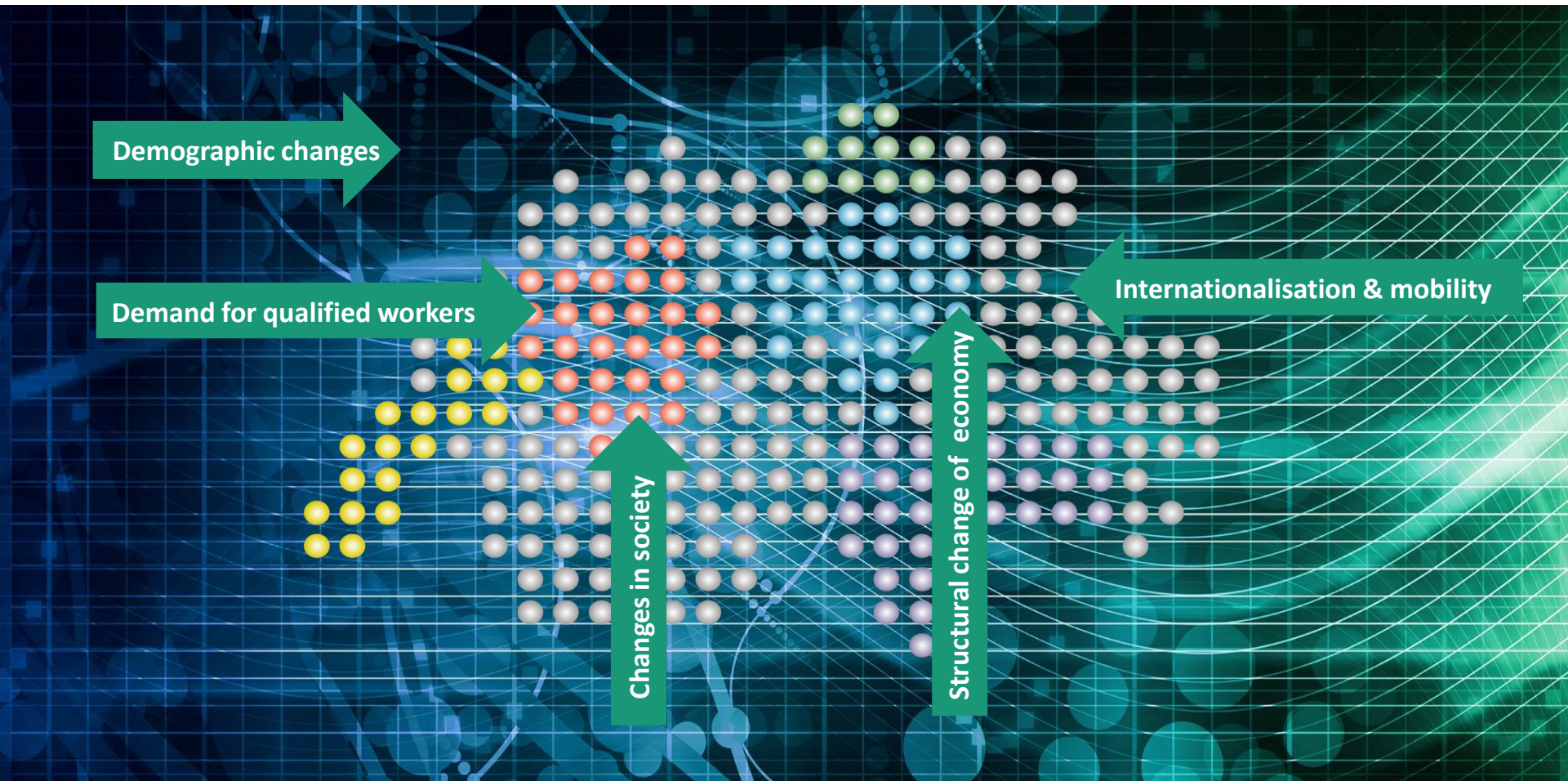
Source: University of Bern, Centre for Research in Economics of Education, survey year 2009



The private sector – key actor

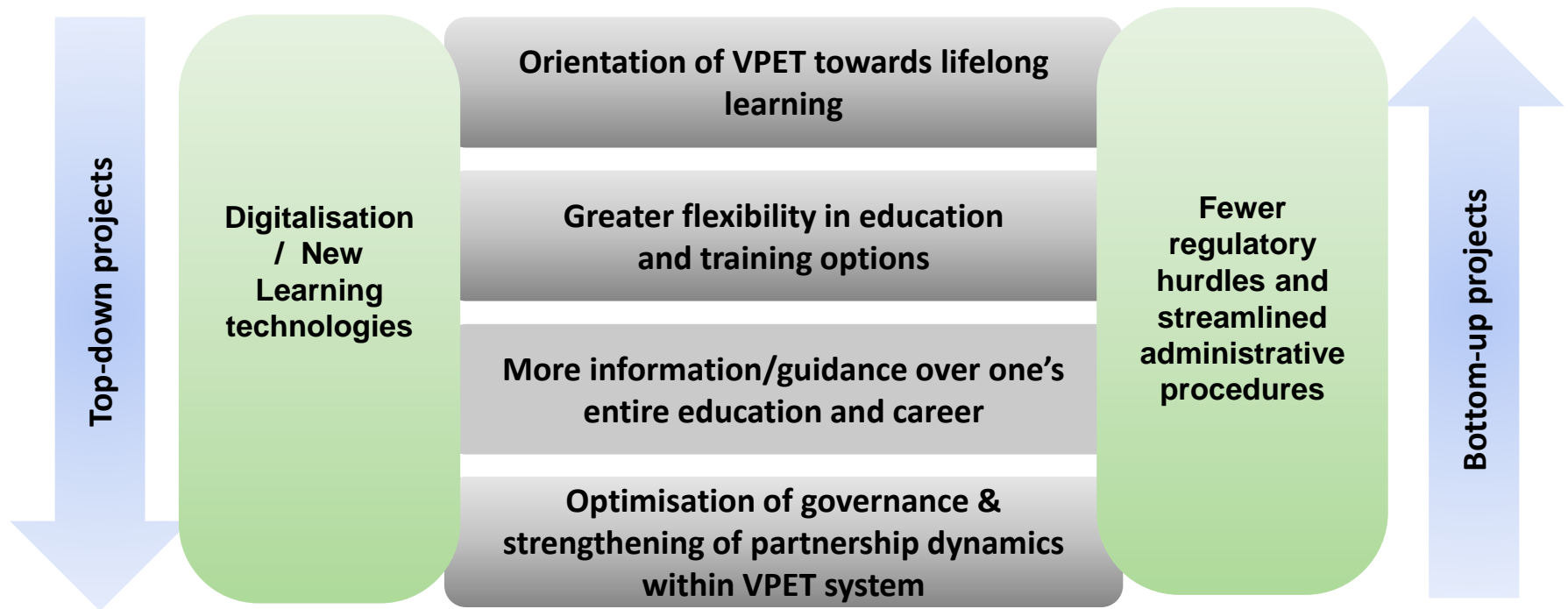


Challenges → Strategy VPET 2030





Preparing for the future with the 'VPET 2030' strategy





VPET at international level

Exchange and mobility within the VET sector

Approved budget 2018 for Swiss participation in EU-sponsored traineeships abroad (Leonardo da Vinci)	CHF 6.4m
Number of young people doing traineeships abroad in 2017	1621
Outgoing	1344
Incoming	277

Swiss performance at last three WorldSkills competitions

Kazan 2019	3rd place
Abu Dhabi 2017	2nd place
São Paulo 2015	4th place
Leipzig 2013	2nd place

Swiss performance at last three EuroSkills competitions

Budapest 2018	1st place
Göteborg 2016	1st place
Lille 2014	4th place

Number of countries represented at the International VPET Congress

2018	75
2016	76
2014	70



Vocational education and training in Switzerland – insights



**TRAIN AS A MECHANICAL ENGINEER,
BECOME A DENTAL TECHNICIAN.**
PROFESSIONALS GO FAR.



VETPLUS.CH

An initiative of the confederation, the cantons
and the professional organisations.



Additional information

State Secretariat for
Education, Research
and Innovation:

www.sbf.admin.ch

Portal for occupational,
educational and career
counselling:

www.berufsberatung.ch

Federal Statistical
Office:

www.bfs.admin.ch

