**Vanessa Debiais-Sainton**

**Job Title: Head of Sector, Erasmus+ for Higher Education**

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Vanessa was appointed Head of Sector responsible for the Erasmus programme in the European Commission's Directorate General for Education and Culture in November 2011. She is now responsible for overseeing the implementation of the Higher Education strand of Erasmus+ in Programme countries. In previous posts in the European Commission, Vanessa has worked for the Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions as policy officer and call coordinator in DG Research and Innovation. Before moving to the European Commission in 2006, Vanessa spent eight years working for several petroleum and chemical companies (Solvay, Ineos and Total). She studied Chemical Engineering in France (Institut National Polytechnique de Lorraine) and went on to achieve an MSc at the Institut Français du Pétrole (IFP School, France) in collaboration with McGill University (Canada) and Ineos.