

Modularisation and Recognition of basis VET via ECVET and EQF

<http://www.eqfmeetsecvet.eu>

Dear readers, welcome to the 2nd EQF meets ECVET e-newsletter!

After one year of hard work, we are now halfway into the EU funded project “EQF meets ECVET” which started in November 2013 and will finish in October 2015. The project aims to further implement the former “NQF inclusive” project results, and is now in the process of adapting these training materials to basic VET organisations in Slovenia, Italy and Germany.

The final outcome of the project should be a model for validation of learning outcomes units via National Qualification Frameworks. This model will offer a more individual learning path which allows step by step learning and might also lead to a whole VET programme’s certification.

The first e-letter, published last February, gave a general overview of the project goals and aims, and introduced all the partners in the project, including their specific role in the project. In this second newsletter we will give some more information on what has been done so far, and the tasks that lay ahead of us.

Enjoy the reading!

Sonia Staskowiak - EASPD

Summary of the 1st year project outcomes

There has been a lot accomplished in the project since it started in 2013. Our Lithuanian research partner Vytauto Didžiojo Universietas finished its research on the actual implementation status of the National (in cooperation with the other partners) Qualification Frameworks and ECVET and on the possibility of recognition of non-formal learning on national and European level.

The result of this research was presented during the second project team meeting in Traunreut (Germany) last May, hosted by the partner Chiemgau-Lebenshilfe-Werkstätten GmbH institution. During this meeting the Italian partner FormAzione Co&So Network gave us expert advice on how to use ECVET and a discussion on how to apply this to modularise the 4 basic VETs took place.

Next to these outcomes, the project partners from Slovenia, Italy and Germany continued writing the learning outcomes units for the following basic VET: Slovenian Tearoom Waitressing, Italian Cook Assistant and German Seamstresses, all on NQF level 1 and 2. Some fine tuning still needs to be done, but this work package is almost completed. All learning outcomes are written in easy to understand language, including the learning outcomes.

3rd Project Meeting & Transnational Expert Meeting in Florence, 15th-17th October 2014

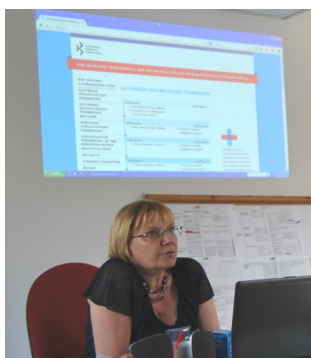
On day 1 of the meeting, all partners reviewed the research material of our Lithuanian partner, a last time to check whether possible adjustments are still needed and all information is complete. In the afternoon the participants were split into different working groups to discuss and review the learning outcomes units for all 4 VETs written so far. Also a draft for a certificate and supplement, based on different ECVET documents was presented and discussed.



The second day representatives of national public authorities/bodies joined the meeting for the day. Ms. Francesca Viscardi from the Province of Florence was invited by the Italian partner. From Austria Ms. Stephanie Mayer took part in the meeting on behalf of the Federal Ministry for Education and Women's Affairs. Ms. Kirsten Vollmer from BIBB, the Federal Institute for VET in Germany and Ms. Urška Marentič from the Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for VET CPI were also present. During this meeting the partners took the opportunity to learn as much as possible from the expertise of the national representatives. Enough time was provided to listen to their input on the national status of NQF and ECVET focussing on classification and accreditation, and to discuss possibilities for future collaboration and possible recognition of the non-formal learning.

In the afternoon, a first idea on the Model for Assignment and Recognition of Learning Outcomes Units was presented and discussed during "national" working groups with active participation of the representatives of national authorities/bodies. Their input for the Model turned out to be very constructive and important.

We would like to thank Ms. Mayer, Ms. Marentič, Ms. Viscardi and Ms. Vollmer for their availability and willingness to travel to Florence and share their expertise in this complicated matter, as well as their commitment to further collaborate and share their knowledge and expertise.



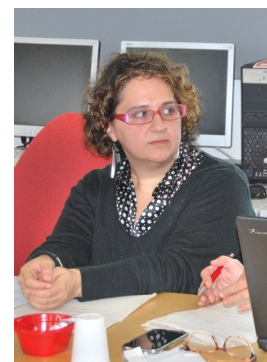
Ms. Urška Marentič



Ms. Kirsten Vollmer



Ms. Stephanie Mayer



Ms. Francesca Viscardi

Next steps

In the weeks to come, the partners will adapt the learning outcomes units. After finalising the material of the project the learning outcomes will be evaluated by the organisations' users and learners to see whether they are really easy to understand and to implement.

In the meantime the different National Expert Circles consisting of representatives of VET providers, employer organisations and Chambers, NQF development groups and different national authorities and bodies will continue to take place in Austria, Italy, Germany, Slovenia and Lithuania. These circles are important to guarantee the quality of the work of the partnership and to include more experts in the development of a model for recognition and valorisation of non-formal Learning Outcomes Units.



At the end of the two years the partnership will produce two handbooks and a research report. The research report will be a document about the actual status of NQF, recognition of non-formal learning and ECVET in the partner countries. One of the handbooks will show 4 modularised VET programmes at NQF levels 1 and 2 in easy to understand language, and the other handbook will be on the developed Model for modularisation of basic VET programmes by applying the ECVET system and the Model for the assignment to and the recognition of learning outcomes via NQF.



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This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein