

# ECVET-STEP NEWSLETTER 15



## Labour Day

Labour Day, also known as International Workers' Day, is widely celebrated as a public holiday in countries across the world.

The date was chosen to commemorate the 1886 Haymarket affair in Chicago. On May 1, 1886, workers took to the streets across the United States in a major struggle to reduce the worldwide 12-hour workday to today's eight-hour shifts.

Three years later, an alliance of French socialist and labour parties called for international demonstrations on the anniversary of the Haymarket affair. They chose the first of May as the formal date to commemorate the striking workers in Chicago.

The aim of the ECVET STEP project is to support the situation of all workers with any qualification and reduce their unemployment in the European Union.

## ECVET-STEP



Strengthening Training to Employment Pathways



### Highlights

- Preparation for the 4th meeting of the project's partners at Ljubljana in June
- DG Employment and DG EAC Consultation Meeting
- PLA units of learning outcomes seminar in Dublin

## International Day for Biological Diversity

The United Nations has proclaimed May 22 The International Day for Biological Diversity to increase understanding and awareness of biodiversity issues.

This year's theme reflects the importance



22 MAY 2015  
INTERNATIONAL DAY  
FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY  
FOR SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT

of efforts made at all levels to establish a set of Sustainable Development Goals.

As the ECVET STEP

project concentrates on the agricultural issues learning mobility would help to increase the awareness of sustainable development experiences in various countries.

### Inside this issue

Labour Day	1
International Day for Biological Diversity	1
ECVET STEP on Learning Innovations and Quality Conference	2
Important ECVET concepts	3
Activities within ECVET Framework in Three Phases	3

## ECVET STEP on Learning Innovations and Quality Conference

ECVET-STEP participated in the LINQ2015 (“Learning Innovations and Quality”) Conference in Brussels, Belgium, on 11th – 13th May 2015. The ECVET-STEP was presented by Cleo Sgouropoulou (TEIA) with the presentation “ECVET-STEP: ECVET for Strengthening Training to Employment Pathways”.

Over one hundred participants from four continents gathered in Brussels to share and advance the most exciting trends in innovations and quality development for learning, education and training. The location and attendance allowed for a rewarding shared experience with lively discussions.

The event culminated in the International Community for Open Research and Education (ICORE) open plenary discussion on 13 May, during which a consensus was reached supporting a culture of sharing and the need for change in education through openness. Furthermore, participants painted open education as a desired concept embracing open educational practices and resources that requires a change of paradigms and a strong vision,



strategy and patience. Feedback collected during the special conference events corroborated these conclusions.



Open Discovery Space (ODS) hosted a high-level preconference event regarding innovative school education on 11



el preconference event regarding innovative school education on 11

May, a theme regarding which the project has collected huge international experience and

reputation by involving more than 3,000 schools and 10,000 teachers. ODS has em-

powered stakeholders through a centralised access point for dis-

persed educational repositories. Furthermore, its multilingual portal engages creators in the production of new learning resources. ODS has facilitated many seminars, summer schools, training academies and events showcasing best practices like also during the LINQ preconference event. This combination has demonstrated the potential of integrating technology in school education to promote innovation and track quality on an immense scale.

On 12 May, the pioneering Inspiring Science Education project (ISE) hosted a special conference event centred on their experience in technology-enhanced science education. Educators and other stakeholders from STEM fields and more joined them to profit from their capabilities and practical examples. ISE has established a multifaceted portal of tools and digital resources for integrating technology into STEM teaching. ISE shared their success stories and helped interested educators inspire their own pupils and young scientists.

We are glad the ECVET-STEP project got a positive reception.

# Activities within ECVET Framework in Three Phases

ECVET is a decentralized system relying on volunteer participation of Member States and stakeholders of vocational training. It provides a method-

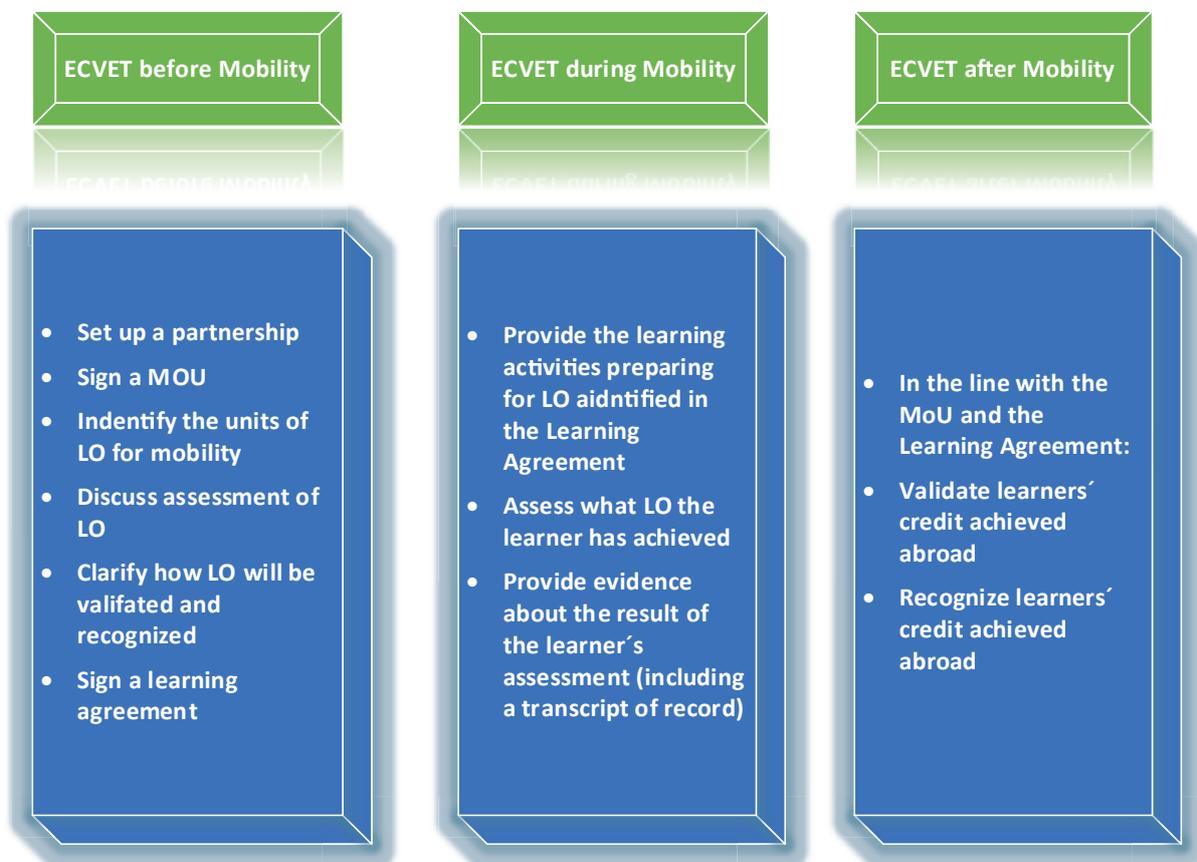
ological framework for describing qualifications in terms of learning outcomes using units, allowing to allocate transferable points for Member States with

different education and qualification frameworks.

ECVET is founded on granted partner agreements regarding qualification transparency

and mutual stakeholder trust.

The following figure depicts the activities in the three stages of the partnership:



## Important ECVET Concepts

• Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is an agreement between competent institutions, which sets the framework for credit transfer.

• Learning Agreement is concluded by the two competent institutions involved in the training

and validation process and the learner, in the framework of a MoU.

• Credit for learning outcomes' means a set of learning outcomes (LO) of an individual which have been assessed and which can be accumulated or

transferred to other learning programmes or qualifications.

• Validation of learning outcomes means the process of confirming that certain assessed learning outcomes achieved by a learner correspond to specific

outcomes which may be required for a unit or a qualification.

• Recognition of learning outcomes means the process of attesting officially achieved learning outcomes through the awarding of units or qualifications.

Take the ECVET step!

This Newsletter's mission is to inform general and professional public about proceedings of the ECVET-STEP project  
No. 539816-LLP-1-2013-1-GR-LEONARDO-LMP

This newsletter is published monthly. If you want to receive it electronically by email, please sign up on the website. (Archive of past issues is on the website.)

FOLLOW US ON WEB!  
WWW.ECVET-STEP.EU

*ECVET-STEP aims in making the best value of the ECVET system, facilitating the transfer, accumulation and recognition of credits and learning outcomes or competence acquired otherwise between countries, thus promoting mobility and lifelong learning.*

*ECVET-STEP's mission is to support European citizens and industry to "take the ECVET STEP": adopt and use ECVET through a stepwise, quality-controlled framework and online services for building knowledge-based employment for the 21st century... And beyond!*

# ECVET-STEP



Strengthening Training to  
Employment Pathways



Lifelong  
Learning  
Programme

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.

## Members of Consortium



TEIATH.GR



EUMMENA.ORG



AOCRAAD.NL



INEA.ORG

UNIVERSITÄT  
DUISBURG  
ESSEN

Open-Minded

UNI-DUE.DE



INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURAL  
ECONOMICS AND INFORMATION

IAEI.CZ



Kmetijsko gozdarska zbornica Slovenije  
Chamber of Agriculture and Forestry of Slovenia

KGZS.SI

Universidad  
de Alcalá

UAH.ES