

ECVET-STEP NEWSLETTER 16



4th ECVET STEP Meeting in Ljubljana

ECVET-STEP



Strengthening Training to Employment Pathways

The 4th meeting of the ECVET-STEP project took place between 3-5 of June 2015 in Ljubljana, Slovenia and was hosted by the Chamber of Agriculture and Forestry of Slovenia (CAFS), one of the consortium members. During the meeting, the project partners had the opportunity to discuss the progress of the ongoing tasks and the successful completion of those that have already been finished. At the moment, the project is focusing on the implementation of the online services as well as the design of pilot testings that will encourage the participation of potential end users that will make use of the project's outcomes. At the same time, dissemination, exploitation and project management activities

are ongoing throughout the lifetime of the project.



The discussions made during the meeting will drive the next steps of the ECVET-STEP project

and will ensure that all planned activities will take place in a timely and quality manner.



Highlights

- **Improving Semantics in Agriculture Workshop 2-3 July 2015**
- **A revision of the Model of European-wide learning mobility in agricultural VET being prepared**
- **eMOOCs 2016 Summit has announced its Call for Papers.**

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VocTEL conference

The Vocational Technology Enhanced Learning (VocTEL) Conference took place in Athens 17th - 18th June 2015. It is the first con-

ference which aims to bridge the gap between real market demands for training and academic research. The conference focused

on tools and methods that improve vocational training and learning technologies.

ECVET STEP Toolkit

ECVET-Home



Recently a new tab has been added to the ECVET STEP web page (ecvet-step.eu). We'd like to introduce its content to our readers.

ECVET combines several technical components and processes into a methodological framework that forms the ECVET technical specifications. The toolkit consists of ECVET actors, ECVET CMF, CMF levels, key processes and key practices.

ECVET Actors are the VET learner, home institution and host institution.

A VET Learner in the context of ECVET is therefore an adult person who is interested in participating in vocational education

training activities in order to achieve certain learning outcomes and acquire a certified set of competences and skills.

A "ECVET competent home institution" is an



5 CMF levels

organisation located in sending country, where trainees attend vocational training courses and which generates the demand for interna-

tional, mobility-based VET. The home institution gathers demand for (mobility-based) VET and coordinates the mobility-based training on behalf of the learners.

An "ECVET competent host institution" is an organisation that provides VET actions, gathers the supply for placement from host workplaces in the host country and receives demand for VET placement from Home institutions.

ECVET Capability Maturity Framework (ECVET CMF) has been designed to allow VET related organisations and individual actors across Europe, to understand and reap the benefits of ECVET from their perspective as well as

workflows.

ECVET CMF is layered in five levels that mark evolving capability of competent organisations in performing and participating in ECVET activities and programmes. Each maturity level matures an important subset of the organisation's processes, preparing it to move to the next maturity level.

Key process areas indicate where an organisation should focus on to improve its ECVET process and identify the issues that must be addressed to achieve a maturity level.

The key process area (as may be considered) the requirements for achieving a maturity level. To achieve a maturity level, the key process areas for that level must be satisfied.

Each key process area is described in terms of the key practices that contribute to satisfying its goals. The key practices describe the infrastructure and activities that contribute most to the effective implementation and institutionalization of the key process area.

More information can be found on the respective web page <http://ecvet-step.eu/toolkit>

to track their performance and to assure and control the quality of the integration of the ECVET system into their existing processes and

Pre-Pilot Testing of the ECVET-STEP Software Applications

The purpose of the first round of testing is to obtain a feedback from the partners about the web applications. On the one hand, the first round will test the tools and on the other hand it will communicate to the evaluators the functions of the application. The main objective of testing is detecting software failures and risks so that defects and bugs may be discovered and corrected before damage has oc-

curred. Testing software is not a straightforward mission. The goals is to find out whether the application or service functions according to what it is supposed to do, and more important that it works in the same way users expect it work and behave.

The changes to the information revealed from the software testing will be used to correct the process and design of the application functions and

features. Two different services will be tested in our

pre-pilot testing:

- 1) **The ECVET-CMF**, the ECVET Capability Maturity Framework
- 2) **The RULO Repository**, for creating and exploring Reusable Units of Learning Outcomes

All the partners will be involved (including the technical ones) and they will provide information on the application functioning.

The testers tasks are the following:

- Pointing to the func-

tionalities that do not work or that do not work in the way users expect them to work

- Recording comments while they are surfing in the applications.

- Searching for any expression or information that they don't understand.

- Writing down the number of resources they have seen.

- Writing down the hour and minute when they start surfing the toolkit and when they finish.

- Suggesting applicability of this tool in the ECVET framework.

We hope our testing will be successful and we'll be able to offer the general public working and stable web applications supporting the ECVET ideas.

Testing



Children's day

Children's Day is recognized on various days in many places around the world, to honor children globally. It was first proclaimed by the World Conference for the Well-being of Children in 1925 and then established universally in 1954 to protect an "appropriate" day.



International Day for Protection of Children,

is observed in many countries as Children's

Day on June 1 since 1950. It was established by the Women's International Democratic Federation on its congress in Moscow (22 November 1949).

ECVET STEP also focuses on the young generation and those with young spirit and that is why it celebrates the children's day.

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

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