

# ECVET-STEP NEWSLETTER 20



## ECVET-STEP



Strengthening Training to Employment Pathways

## ECVET-STEP Final Conference and ECVET STEP Final Meeting

Please don't forget!

All those interested in ECVET topics are invited to take part on the final conference of the ECVET-STEP project which will take place on Thursday the 12<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at the Dutch Embassy in Brussels.

The final conference will be integrated into the final meeting of the ECVET-STEP Project which will take place on the 11<sup>th</sup> November and 13<sup>th</sup> November 2015 in the EUMENNA premises. All project partners are invited to take part.

## WP5 Pilot Testing

The Pilot Testing of the ECVET-STEP online services is coming to an end. We have asked 40 respondents

from home countries of our project partners. In every country approximately 10 respondents were asked. The results

are being processed and we will inform you on them as soon as we'll get them.

### Highlights

- The second edition of the European Tertiary Education Register published
- The EC selects applications for capacity building projects for a total of over €120 million
- Eurydice and CRELL have released reports on teaching in Europe and the EC has issued a policy note based on itn-side

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## The Agricultural Alliance for Competence and Skills based Training (ACT)

The “Agricultural Alliance for Competence and Skills-based Training” project (ACT) aims to facilitate and accelerate a better match between the needs of the agricultural labour market and the vocational educational training opportunities. ACT will reach this aim by engaging core actors from the complementary fields (VET, labour market and policy) in a constant and constructive dialogue with the following specific objectives:

First, to create a shared awareness of emerging job profiles and existing gaps of skills and competences in the current work force.

Second, to create and improve a framework “Pathways for Agricultural Competence and skills based Training” (PACT) based on EQF and ECVET, which will

allow the sharing of definitions among different actors involved, i.e. agricultural VET providers, representatives of labour market and VET policy makers, and serve as a tool to modularise future training and make it more adaptable to the needs of the agricultural labour market.

Third, to build a European PACT online service which will serve as a common entry point for (1) VET providers to describe their training solutions targeted towards skills gaps (as previously determined) and get inspired to adapt and reuse by browsing solutions of their “peer institutions” as well as (2) agricultural businesses and membership organisations to become aware of existing training opportunities (information pool) but also indicate

further emerging training needs (communication and dialogue tool). The portal will be built with extended search functionality and a scalable manner in order to account for an ever developing labour market. Fourth, to better recognize existing training opportunities which already address existing skills gaps in the agricultural sector, and make them more visible on a European level as well as to show-case and encourage VET providers who have already modularised their agricultural training to integrate elements into new training units.

Fifth, to organize four training sessions on PACT according to a well-designed up-to-date curriculum which will bring together different actors from complementary fields (following the concept of

an alliance) and made sustainable through an online training module with successful elements and materials of the face-to-face interventions.

Sixth, to facilitate the transfer of the PACT Framework, including its underlying concepts (e.g. learning outcomes approach, modularisation into units, etc.) to more sectors by providing concise tools such as a multilingual handbook, and a white paper with policy recommendations.



## Halloween

Halloween is a celebration observed in a number of countries on 31 October, the eve of the Western Christian feast of All Hallows’

Day. Jack-o’-lanterns are traditionally carried by guisers on All Hallows’ Eve in order to frighten evil spirits. The traditions and impor-



tance of Halloween vary greatly among countries that observe it.

With ECVET-STEP you don’t have to be afraid of Halloween monsters.

# ECVET-Trainer

We'd like to introduce the ECVET-Trainer project to our readers.

The project proposes incorporating the results of Food-fit project in order to facilitate the understanding of the ECVET model by VET trainers and centres in the four key productive sectors of the EU (agriculture, industry, construction and services), taking into account the EQF levels 1 to 4 and the needs of improving the transparency of qualifications and mobility of workers in the labour market, through transfer, recognition and accumulation of individuals' learning outcomes achieved by workers in formal, non-formal and informal contexts.

The ECVET model is based on the development and creation of associations and networks of competent bodies, which means that the ECVET's principles must be known to social partners, companies, training centres and the public administration. The ECVET principles are: describing qualifications, allocation of ECVET points, designing units of learning outcomes, the roles of ECVET competent institutions, memorandum of Understanding, learning Agreement, quality as-

urance, assessment, ECVET - ECTS.

The European Credit System for Vocational Education and Training (ECVET), establishes a common methodological framework to facilitate the transfer of learning credits from one qualification system to another, and promotes transnational mobility and access to lifelong learning for learners and workers. The contribution of VET teachers and trainers to the European policies of Lifelong learning

programmes of the lifelong learning policies.

The ECVET-Trainer project proposes incorporating the results of Food-fit project in order to facilitate the understanding of the ECVET model by VET trainers and centres in the four key productive sectors of the EU (agriculture, industry, construction and services), taking into account the EQF levels 1 to 4 and the needs of improving the transparency of qualifications and mobility of workers in the labour

M P S - A q u i t a i n e (France), University: CERES (Italy); EUPROMA (Germany), Noema-CMI Oy (Finland); technological partner: STPKC (Sweden).

ECVET-Trainer has the following objectives:

- 1) To identify the ECVET situation in the EU countries and to analyse the opportunities for its application in the four key sectors through the description of learning outcomes, the roles of ECVET competent institutions, transfer of credits, appraisal, learning agreements and ECVET points.
- 2) To establish an exchange of opinions and best practices among VET teachers and trainers, VET centres, social partners, public administrations and companies to propose and promote a "Guide for the application of the ECVET in the productive sectors", addressed to VET teachers and trainers and VET centres.
- 3) To prepare e-learning material to train trainers for the application of ECVET principles in the four key productive sectors, and to carry out a pilot training course for validating that material.
- 4) To validate, evaluate, disseminate and promote the results of the project.

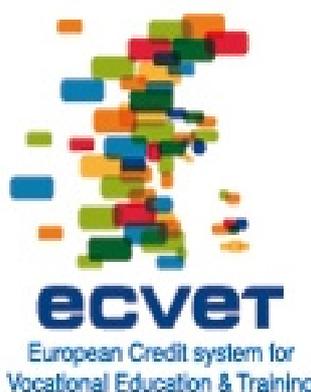


is widely known. Nevertheless, the main obstacle for an effective contribution of trainers to the implementation of ECVET model is their lack of knowledge of the European instruments and the ignorance of the vital importance of the shift to learning outcomes approach in all the pro-

market, through transfer, recognition and accumulation of individuals' learning outcomes achieved by workers in formal, non-formal and informal contexts.

The following organizations are involved in the

project:  
 Social partner for VET sector:  
 FETE-UGT (Spain),  
 VET Center:  
 I F E S (Spain),



Take the ECVET step!

This Newsletter's mission is to inform general and professional public about proceedings of the ECVET-STEP project  
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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](http://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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