

IN THE MIDDLE

**ECVET for transparency and recognition of learning outcomes and
qualifications in “integrated health care logistics”**

WP 8 - Policy Recommendations

Premise

The set of “**policy recommendations**” defined by this documents is addressed to the appropriate **decision-makers** at local, regional, national and European level, since having institutional competence or sectoral relevance on Vocational Education and Training - VET, Higher Education in the sector of facility management within no core services related to health care sector with focus on logistic: in other words, **public institutions competent in VET and HE**, and **social partners of the above mentioned sector** at different level.

In fact, these decision-makers are **key actors** in the **process** of **endorsement** and **implementation** at **sectoral** and **territorial level** of the **results** coming from an innovative European Leonardo da Vinci project, focused on transparency and recognition of competences and qualifications of people operating as entrepreneurs in EU VET systems of the facility management within no core services related to health care sector with focus on logistic, applying the European tools and frameworks *European Qualification Framework - **EQF*** and *European Credit System for Vocational Education and Training – **ECVET***, *European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System - **ECTS***, and ***Europass***.

The **main result** produced during the In the Middle life-cycle is the definition and formalisation at European level (Madrid, 21/02/2014) of the **Memorandum of Understanding – MoU ECVET**, described in terms of learning outcomes (unit/s, parts of unit/s, associated ECVET and ECTS credits), and establishing the **European correspondence** for the assessment, transfer, and accumulation processes of **learning outcomes** achieved in formal, informal and non formal contexts.

In effect, at the aim of MoU ECVET enforcement at territorial and sectoral level, which is essential to give to interested professionals and trainees the effective possibility to obtain putting in transparency and recognition of acquired learning outcomes described by the MoU, it's needed that in each Country it proceeds the **process of MoU adhesion by competent and interested key actors**, started within the project with the adhesion of partners organisations: **VET and higher education providers, social partners**, and also SMEs, operating in the mentioned sector at national, regional and local level and **public institutions competent in VET** at regional and local level.

The **involvement in the MoU ECVET of new competent and/or interested key actors is strongly needed** because the will of them has a direct influence on the possibility and on the extension of envisaged ECVET process: e.g., the participation of public institutions competent in VET and will determine the territorial extension of MoU provisions, while the participation of sectoral social partners and VET and HE providers is fundamental to ensure to interested professionals and trainees the concrete

opportunities of application of MoU provisions in terms of recognition and certification of achieved related learning outcomes and ECVET and ECTS credits, in compliance with national and regional rules on certification ways and procedures, formal, non-formal and informal learning validation, qualification bodies.

Policy recommendations

- 1) The European Union is supporting, by specific common principles and tools (in particular, *European Qualification Framework - EQF, European Credit System for Vocational Education and Training - ECVET, European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System - ECTS and Europass*), the transparency and recognition of learning outcomes and qualifications: the application of these principles and tools, by public institutions competent in VET and by sectoral social partners in the European territorial and sectoral contexts, is very important for workers and trainees, since the concrete possibility of transparency and recognition of achieved learning outcomes is a requisite to allow an effective perspective of mobility beyond the borders of national (and also regional, in the EU countries – like Italy - in which the legislative competence on professional qualification and certification matter is attributed to the Regions) VET systems, the barriers to mobility within VET of a specific qualification system and in particular across the economic activity sectors, the obstacles outside the educational system and in particular those related to the recognition of learning outcomes acquired in informal and non formal contexts.
- 2) Since the experimental application and implementation of the European common principles and tools for transparency and recognition of learning outcomes and qualifications, it's supported by the EU through specific financing instruments within the European programmes (in particular, the *Erasmus+* programme), it's very important that the public institutions competent in VET and the sectoral social partners learn from the results of the realised experimentations, and also try to take part to these programmes.
- 3) Considering that the EU programmes supporting the experimental application and implementation of the European common principles and tools for transparency and recognition of learning outcomes and qualifications, are conceived to sustain multilateral interventions integrating various kind of competent and interested public and private organisations in different EU countries, the participation to these

programmes requires a networking approach, able to gather the relevant key actors: public institutions competent in VET, social partners of concerned sector, and also VET providers; furthermore, if the intervention concerns a specific relevant issue this networking approach needs to be enlarged also to public institutions competent on this specific issue. This networking approach could in perspective valorise the coordination bodies gathering at national/European level relevant key actors typologies: for example, for sectoral VET providers and/or social partners, European networks, and national networks or public institutions competent in VET.