
ECVET system for No borders in tourism hospitality European Training and Work

147788-LLP-1-2008-1-IT-ECVET N.E.T.WORK

(Agreement nr. 2008-3996/001-001)

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On 18 June 2009 the European Parliament and Council ratified its Recommendations related to the institution of a European Credit System for Vocational Education and Training - ECVET. The ECVET system will allow, long term, the results of the learning of citizens to be made more transparent and will foster trans-national mobility in an area of permanent learning and the development of European cooperation in the education and training sector. For details, see the document <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2009:155:0011:0018:EN:PDF>.

ECVET System for No borders in Tourism Hospitality European Training and Work (N.E.T.Work) is a project financed by the European Commission - Education and Culture DG – Lifelong Learning Programme. It is one of eleven ECVET pilot projects selected through the 2008 call for proposals “Projects to test and develop the credit system for vocational education and training (ECVET)”; these projects will contribute to the creation, testing and fine-tuning of practices and procedures the EU nations are defining to obtain a ECVET system

The specific objectives of the project are:

1. Analysis of the different professional profiles emerging from training actions in the hospitality sector (reception area) in terms of Learning Outcomes and Units
2. Definition and application of credits, to both the Learning Outcomes and the Units
3. Testing of the ECVET system within training pathways and/or mobility programmes in the partnership countries

The project is aimed at users of the training paths and of mobility in the tourism industry and subjects active in the definition of national and community training policies, training agencies and bodies, as well as the trade unions and employers' associations.

For more details, see the project website www.ecvet-network.eu and the ECVET projects www.ecvet-projects.eu.

The first phase of Project N.E.T.WORK has been successfully concluded; this phase consisted in the description of the training profiles (Reception area) by each partner, through two steps and research methods:

- ✓ *desk research*, an analysis of the existing national repertoires (IFTS systems, EU repertoires, V.A.E. system, etc) in each partner country, with special focus on the vocational training system;
- ✓ *field research*: field observations and interviews of at least 5 operators filling those roles (according to hotel classification

identified and shared in the previous desk research), for each partner country.

The second phase has begun: in order to have convergence among partners, the partnership will define a method of describing the learning outcomes and units, using as inputs the results and products of the previous preliminary research phase.

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Source: www.cedefop.europa.eu

On September 2009, the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (Cedefop) produced a report to provide an overview of European National Qualification Framework developments. Based on a comparative approach, the analysis provides detailed information on the situation mid 2009. For more details, download the report http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/etv/Upload/Information_resources/Bookshop/562/6104_en.pdf

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Source: <http://www.ecvet-projects.eu>

A seminar, dedicated to the topic of designing units of learning outcomes, was held in Berlin on 19-20 October 2009. The representatives of ECVET pilot projects participated and discussed some of the approaches and tools used in the pilot projects to define the units.

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On Monday 16th November the Region of Umbria officially presented a hypothesis for a Regional Repertory of Professional Standards; the Repertory includes 44 Profiles/competence systems composed of 261 distinct Competence Units, of which 40 Competence Units that are common to 2 or more profiles/systems and 221 specific for individual profiles/systems. The profiles belong to numerous professional sectors, including hotel reception and tourism services: in fact among the other profiles, those of Tour escort, Specialised tour guide, Environmental excursion guide, Hotel Director and Travel Agency Director are described. The Repertory is part of the general framework of training and labour policies of the Region of Umbria, which are intended to construct a system of qualifications and certification in line with the national and community orientations, especially with regard to ECVET.

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Source: <http://ec.europa.eu/social/home.jsp?angld=en>

The European Job Days were organised in over 200 European cities between mid-September and mid-October 2009. The Job Days focus on direct encounters between employers and jobseekers and this year emphasis has been placed on matching skills to the needs of the labour market (New skills for new jobs), particularly for young people. The initiative counted more than 500 events such as job fairs, seminars, lectures, workshops and cultural events.

CPI - Center Republike Slovenije Za Poklicno Izobraževanje,

On 21st of October 2009 the 2nd National meeting on the theme exchange in catering industry and tourism was held in Maribor (Slovenia).

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Source: <http://www.dj-slovenija.si/index.php?location=867&sublocation=859&nId=3790>

The purpose of the event was to meet in one place and connect providers of jobs in the catering industry and tourism with young people who are graduating in the mentioned fields and other job seekers from all over Slovenia. The current situation in the labour market in these two sectors, working conditions, job vacancies and the opportunity to obtain scholarships were presented. The event concluded with a panel discussion titled "Prospects for a successful career in the catering industry and tourism", where experts and successful businessmen revealed to pupils and students their experience of building a successful career and the importance of good cooperation in the collective. They also highlighted different potential careers in the catering industry and tourism and the importance of lifelong career guidance. The opinion of most of the participants was that the catering industry and tourism are a great opportunity with extremely high potential for immediate employment.

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Source: www.anq.gov.pt

On 23 July 2009, it was published the Decree nº 782/2009 which regulates the National Qualifications Framework and defines the descriptors for the characterization of the national qualification levels, according to the Recommendation of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2008. The application of this National Qualifications Framework enters in force on 1 October 2010.

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