



ecvet

European Credit system for
Vocational Education & Training



Annual ECVET FORUM 2012

**Taking the Next Step:
Building the ECVET Community of Practice**

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Moving on to the Effective Implementation of ECVET

OPIR - ECVET pilot project

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Pilot project OPIR



- Project aims: why did you decide to test ECVET?
 - Official: to test ECVET and to improve the mobility
 - Non official: to test the implementation of ECVET, to develop the sectoral... and social mobility, to improve the recognition of competences of the learners and the workers
- Belgian aims for the project:
 - to develop a methodology of implementation of ECVET,
 - to reduce the dropout,
 - to improve the mobility between de different Belgian VET system.

Pilot project OPIR



- ❖ 24 months
- ❖ 9 partners members of EU and Switzerland
- ❖ Coordinator : Ministère de la Communauté française de Belgique
- ❖ Sectors: Hairdresser and Control engineer



ECVET is less heavy and complicated as some people say

- We have a methodology to write the LO
- We had developed a model of standards of assessment.
- We had developed tools
 - MoU
 - Learning agreement
 - Personal transcript

OPIR: to use the LO



■ Project achievements

- The Recommendation contains a definition, but it is not enough to work together.
- A manual was developed.

■ Questions

- What is the validity of the manual out of the project?
- Each ECVET project produces its own vision of LO!
- How to produce compatible tools?

A qualification with LO is not a guarantee for mobility. Perhaps we create the conditions of future blockage!

The trade approach is a solution



Area that can be easily shared

Area strongly linked to culture

Trade can be divided into key activities

There is a space to define shared trades references that can lead to common units

Qualifications
Training pathways

- **ECVET can be built without targeting the common European qualifications**
- **ECVET will not make our qualifications insipid**
- **We can implement ECVET and respect the principle of subsidiary**

The trade approach is a solution



■ Project achievements

- The concept of key activity is a good way to communicate and overcome our differences.

■ Questions

- How to update the key activities and maintain the agreements over time?

The recommendation contains no information about common references, and trades profiles.

We will not repeat a Leonardo project on the same trade every 5 years to update the MoU!

OPIR: ECVET points aren't a problem



■ Project achievements

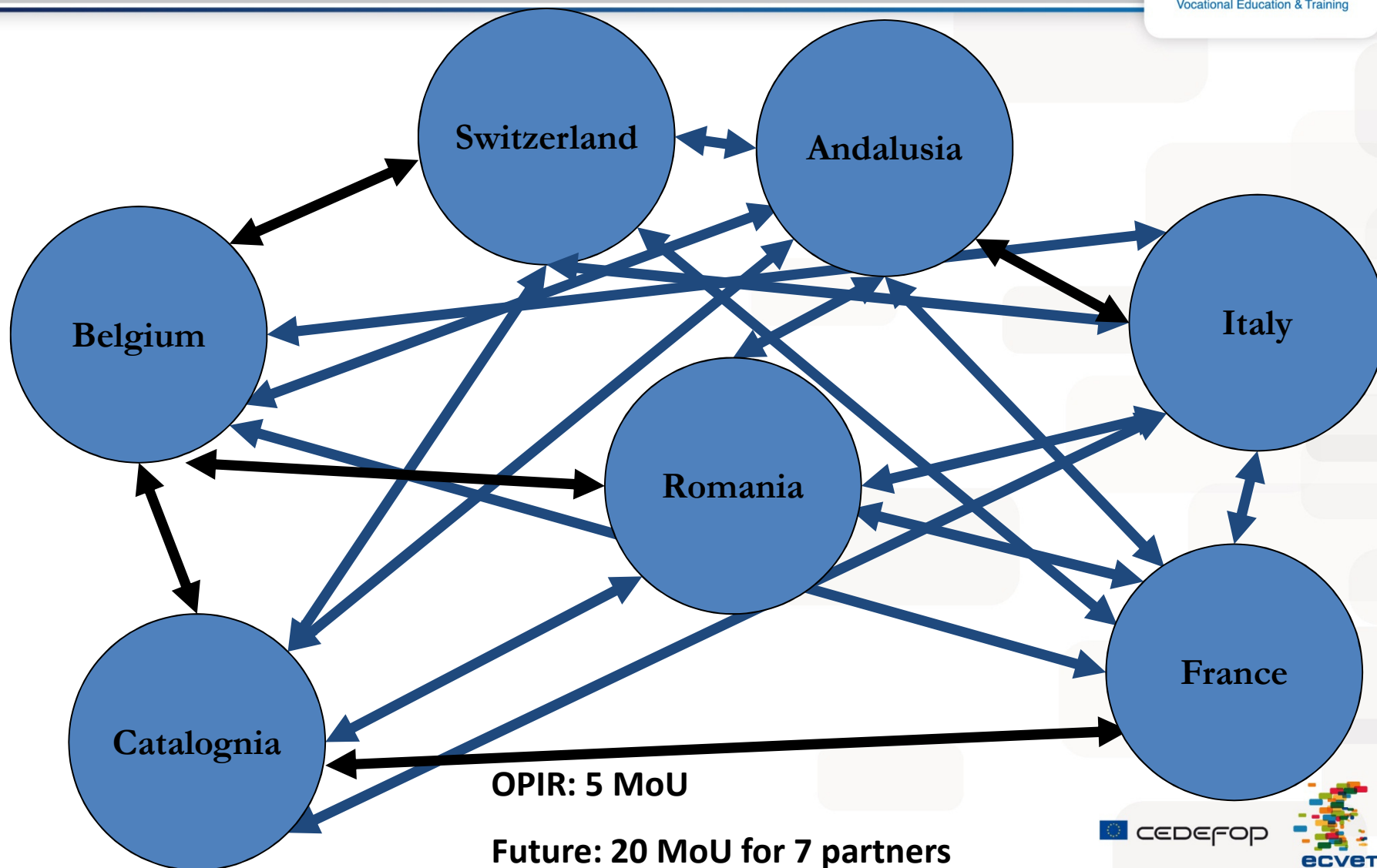
- The points have not been a problem for the project.
- The points are not a pillar of ECVET but a simple tools for communication.

The focus is not the methodology to allocate points.

A competent authority should consider whether it wants to use the points to communicate information and to whom.

Should review the importance of ECVET points in the recommendation

Impossible to implement ECVET without networks



Implementation of ECVET in Belgium



- 2 groups of trades (automotive, aesthetics)
- Qualifications in units (EQF level 4)
- All schools are concerned
- Academic year 2010-2011: preparation
- Academic year 2011-2012: implementation in the schools (voluntary approach, +-50%)
- Academic year 2012-2013: implementation for all schools **and more trades**

Implementation of ECVET in Belgium: first results



- Teachers have a lot of work and school life is fundamentally changed, but the reform was well received.

ECVET implementation in Belgium (Political goals)



- To reduce the drop out
- To increase the graduation rate
- To maintain quality requirements related to trade and professional sectors
- To increase mobility within the different VET sub-systems

Change the organization of our education system to increase the links between the different VET operators and to offer new opportunities for career move to our citizens.

- To develop the LLL and implement the new European tools

Implementation of ECVET in Belgium: first results



- Teachers have a lot of work and school life is fundamentally changed, but the reform was well received.
- Learning outcomes, units, assessments standards are very welcome because they correspond to the need for clarification
- Increase learner motivation and probably a reduction of school failure
- Great interest of the professional sectors
- But, we have the problem instead of a general education and how to manage training pathways more individualized.

Implementation of ECVET: some difficulties or issues



- The VET systems are not ready to change only for the geographical mobility of learners
- The implementation of ECVET must be an answer at the policy goals developed within each system
- The change must involve all stakeholders and everyone should find a benefit
- Is it possible to develop a sustainable ECVET system without a minimal European structure?
 - A network which manages the common references
 - A network which manages the MoU
 - A network which takes and account and shares the initiatives, the various tools which are developed in a professional sector