



CEDEFOP

European Centre for the Development
of Vocational Training



**Pilot Study on Europass, ECVET and EQF
for
Documentation, Validation and Certification
of Learning Outcomes**



Workshop

Thessaloniki, 10 and 11 February 2011



Thursday, 10 February 2011

09:30 – 10:00	Registration
10:00 – 10:10	Welcome to the workshop
10:10 – 11:10	ECVET, EQF, Europass: what are we talking about? Erik Hess, European Commission; Loukas Zahilas – Philippe Tissot, Cedefop
11:10 – 11:30	Objectives of the Pilot Study Isabelle Le Mouillour – Philippe Tissot, Cedefop
11:30 – 11:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:45 – 13:00	Usability and use of the Europass Mobility and certificate supplement Sofia Spiliotopoulou, Idec
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch break</i>



Thursday, 10 February 2011

14:00 – 15:00	The modified templates and instructions of the Europass Mobility and Certificate supplements – Discussion Sofia Spiliotopoulou, Idec
15:00 – 16:30	Preliminary results of the feasibility study on the use of Europass Mobility for documentation, validation and certification purposes within ECVET- Discussion Presentation: Sofia Spiliotopoulou, Idec Discussion (all participants)
16:30 – 16:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
16:45 – 17:30	The next steps Isabelle Le Mouillour – Philippe Tissot, Cedefop



Friday, 11 February 2011

10:00 – 10:10	Welcome and coffee
10:10 – 12:45	Europass and validation Issues at stake and solutions Brainstorming session
12:45	Closure of the workshop
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>



Objectives of the Pilot Study

In short:

To experiment how the Europass framework, more specifically the Europass Certificate Supplement and Europass Mobility, need to be adjusted to take full advantage of the opportunities offered by ECVET and EQF in view of documenting, validating and certifying learning outcomes.



Objectives of the Pilot Study

The technical-instructional part

The templates (Europass Mobility and Certificate Supplement)

- to adapt them for combined use with EQF and ECVET
 - ? use of the templates in the context of EQF and ECVET
 - ? the links between Certificate Supplement and EQF/ECVET (Box 3 - Learning outcomes, and Box 5 - Levels)
 - ? the links between Europass Mobility (Box 5) and EQF/ECVET;
- to update existing instructions for completing the templates



Objectives of the Pilot Study

The feasibility part

ECVET, Europass Mobility and Certificate Supplement for learning outcomes (documentation, validation and certification)

- to test the use of Europass Mobility and Certificate Supplement as a documentation basis along the ECVET process;
- to assess the role of Europass Mobility for validation and certification of learning outcomes (as defined by ECVET/EQF);

Policy and practice: to formulate recommendations for policy and practice

Starting assumptions

1. The 3 tools are linked

Europass documents	ECVET	EQF	Nature of the link
CV	✓	✓	Acquired ECVET units of learning outcomes EQF level of qualifications
Europass Mobility	✓	✓	ECVET units (or parts of units) gained during mobility experience; EQF level of qualification if relevant
Certificate supplement	✓	✓	ECVET units (structured description of learning outcomes acquired in relation to a specific qualification), assessment and accumulation processes EQF level of certificate



Starting assumptions

2. ECVET and Europass could mutually reinforced their position

ECVET Recommendation (2009) invites Member States to

- ensure that the **application of ECVET to qualifications** is properly publicised by the competent authorities and that **associated ‘Europass’ documents** issued by the competent authorities contain **explicit relevant information**;

ECVET Recommendation (2009) supports the Commission’s intention to

- **adapt** relevant Europass documents, in collaboration with Member States, national and European experts and users;



Starting assumptions

3. The three tools (ECVET, EQF, Europass) could facilitate validation

They share the learning outcomes approach

‘Learning outcomes’ means statements of what a learner knows, understands and is able to do on completion of a learning process and which are defined in terms of knowledge, skills and competence

They share the reference to qualifications

‘Qualification’ means a formal outcome of an assessment and validation process which is obtained when a competent institution determines that an individual has achieved learning outcomes to given standards

Starting assumptions

4. The validation issue

The use of the tools for validation depends upon:

- the in-take of validation in Member States
- existing validation mechanisms
- quality assurance aspects (assessment)
- the involvement of stakeholders
- ...

Looking at the definition of validation

‘Validation of learning outcomes’ means the process of confirming that certain assessed learning outcomes achieved by a learner correspond to specific outcomes which may be required for a unit or a qualification (ECVET Recommendation).

- **Validation ... between European and national levels**



Starting assumptions

5. The implementation context

	Organised mobility	Lifelong learning
ECVET	Both contexts are stated within national strategies	
EM	Since 2005	Experimentation with using EM within domestic boundaries (NL)
Validation		Non-formal and informal learning Employability debate Flexible route to qualifications