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ECVET Skills Platform

2019-1-TR01- KA202- 077191

OVERVIEW

ECVET Skills Platform aims to help overcome skills mismatch between VET system and labour market with a focus on CNC Machine Operating. The skills mismatch refers to a discrepancy between the demand and supply of skills on the labour market; namely, the skills sought by employers are different from the skills offered by workers.

The skill mismatches are a growing concern for Europe's competitiveness. Thus, education needs to drive up both standards and levels of achievement to match the demand. To achieve excellence in VET, training curricula must be able to react to the demand for advanced vocational skills tailored to the regional economic context, by systematically being renewed and by the active involvement of businesses, especially SMEs.

The ECVET Skills Platform will promote the interaction between the labour market and vocational education systems to contribute the right skill-match. It also supports VET systems to fulfil labour market needs by guiding them on how to embed and teach technical skills, personal and conceptual skills. In addition, the project contributes to the visibility of the market's skill demand.

AIMS

The project aims to develop an innovative platform that will promote interaction between the labour market and VET providers. ECVET Skills Platform will facilitate to overcome the current skill mismatches in CNC Machine Operating. Through ECVET Skills Platform, the firms will rank personal, conceptual, and technical skills required on the labour market. On the other end of the line, VET systems will have an opportunity to closely monitor ranking of the skills and adapt their curriculum to be compatible with labour market needs.

The ECVET Skills Platform aims to develop a curriculum and training content for CNC Machine Operator at EQF Level 4 that will include personal and conceptual skills along with technical skills. The proposed curriculum and training content will be based on the valued skills relevant for labour market. As such, the proposed educational intervention will not only ensure the satisfaction of labour market as final beneficiaries, but it will also have a positive impact on VET institutions, teachers, and trainers. By means of these interventions, it is aimed to contribute to high-quality VET provision in the long term.

RESULTS

1. Skills Map: a comprehensive mapping of needs for personal, conceptual, and technical skills defined for CNC Machine Operators in each partner country.
2. Definitions of Skills with Learning Outcomes for EQF Level 4: It aims to analyse technical, personal, and conceptual skills in units of learning outcomes.
3. ECVET Skills Platform: interactive platform between labour market and VET systems that will allow the labour market to value skills needed for CNC Machine Operators and give VET teachers and trainers the opportunity to understand the demand and improve the curriculum accordingly.

ECVET Skills Platform

4. Curriculum Design for Skills of EQF Level 4: The curriculum will include personal, conceptual, and technical skills.
5. Training Content: The training content will guide VET teachers and trainers on how to teach the skills demanded by the labour market.

Learning outcomes

6. Content-rich Learning Materials: videos, promotions, presentations for increasing the effectiveness of training materials.
7. White Paper for Student Involvement: academic introduction of the project by communicating the process of student involvement to the relevant stakeholders, labour market, and VET providers.



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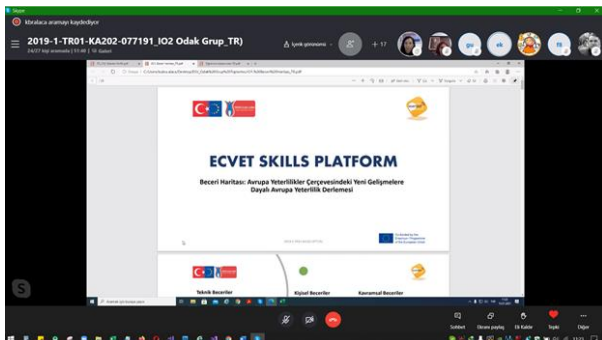
FOCUS GROUP MEETINGS

IO2 Definitions of Skills with Learning Outcomes for EQF Level 4 to be uploaded on the Platform; in order to ensure the right definitions of Knowledge, Skills and Competence of a qualification, the authorities responsible for the management of vocational education and training, teachers and trainers, the employees and employers at the labour market will be consulted. Not only the Technical Skills but also Personal and Conceptual Skills will be analysed in units according to ECVET systems.

Each partner country made a list of Skills suggested to be discussed on during the focus meetings. In order to improve this list each partner country organised focus meetings. In order to have a common point of view among partners and increase the quality of reports to be prepared after this activity, AKETH prepared the template of reporting beforehand and provide the partners with them. So that each partner had the awareness of what to concentrate on.

OVERVIEW of FOCUS GROUP MEETINGS

Governorship of Istanbul held a Focus Group Meeting on 14th January 2021 with the involvement of 16 participants. This focus group included 1 SME representative, 1 Company Trainer, 1 VET School Director, 7 VET teachers and 6 VET students from 3 different schools. During the meeting, the participants said that in current workplaces, Personal and Conceptual Skills are also needed and vital. Besides, the participants commented that ECVET Skills Platform project is a very well-thought project that will support VET systems. Considering the meeting atmosphere, it was a fruitful meeting with dedicated and actively participated participants.



Project Partners



T.C. İSTANBUL VALİLİĞİ

Governorship of Istanbul
Local Public Authority
www.istanbul.gov.tr



İSTANBUL
SANAYİ ODASI

Istanbul Chamber of Industry
Non-governmental
Association
www.iso.org.tr

İTÜ



Istanbul Technical University
Higher Education Institution
www.itu.edu.tr



Yakacık Vocational and
Technical High School
yeml.meb.k12.tr



Research Institute
www.infodef.es



EUROMASC

Non-governmental
Association
www.euromasc.org



VET Center
www.aketh.gr



VET Center
www.sbg-dresden.de



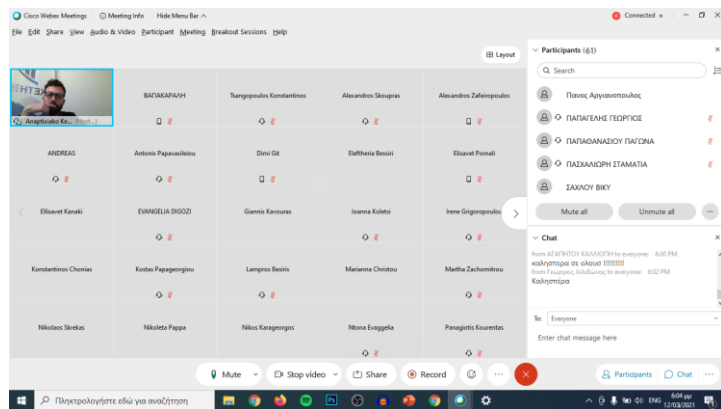
VET Center
www.bsw-ggmbh.de



Research Institute
<http://www.kist-consult.com/>

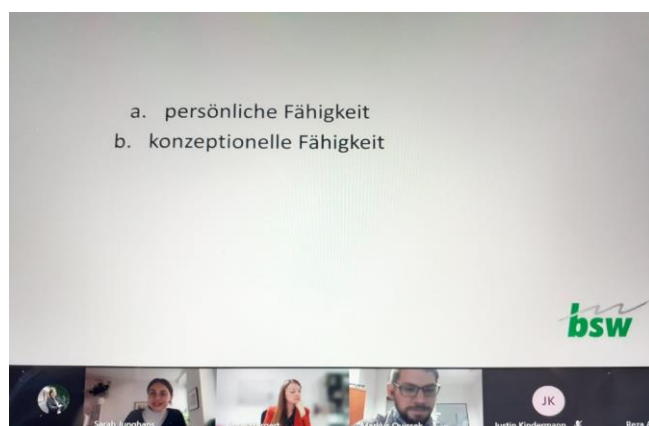
In Greece, AKETH held one focus group meeting with 38 participants previously registered online but with a total of 61 participants since some of them had been present but did not register in advance, on 12th March 2021. This focus group included 3 SME representative, 42 VET teachers, 9 parents and 7 VET students from different schools.

According to the feedback, the Skills Map, Learning Outcomes and Job Profile prepared for EQF Level 4, were all clear to the participants and highly appreciated. Lastly, the meeting atmosphere was great and the participants were very interested and actively participated during the focus group meeting.



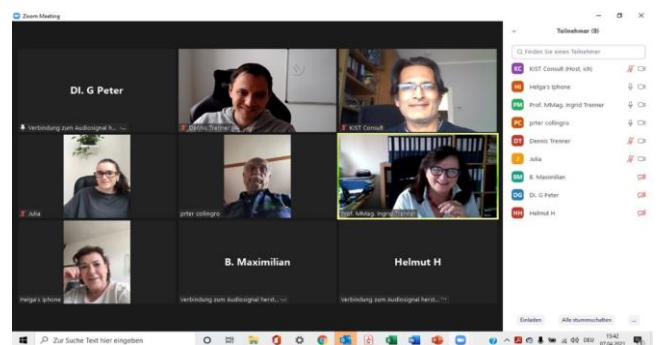
In Germany, BSW team organized one focus group online-meeting via Microsoft Teams on the 05th February 2021 with 19 participants including CNC-machine trainers, representatives of industry using CNC machines and VET Students. The skills map and the learning outcomes were presented in the workshop. Overall, the documents and tables shown give a structured overview of the profession of the CNC-Machine-Operator.

The participants added that some skills are kept very general. In particular, the content of personal skills is more like content from a classic job description (teamwork, accuracy, time management) and is therefore relatively interchangeable in terms of content. Nevertheless, all participants were grateful and happy about the workshop and the insights into the international project work.

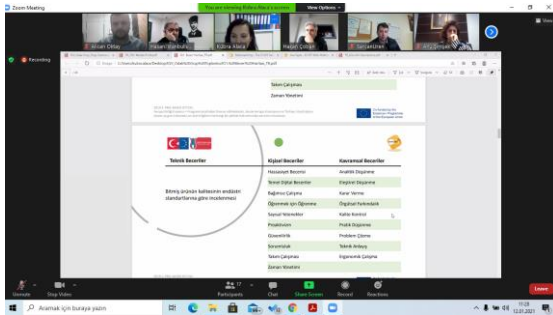


The Spanish partner of the project, INFODEF, held a focus group meeting in March 2021 with 56 participants involving SME representatives, VET teachers, VET Students and VET School Directors. VET students and VET trainers from two Spanish VET schools, CFP Juan de Herrera and Polytechnic Institute Cristo Rey, took an active role in the discussion contributing to the final result of the curriculum. Participants provide valuable feedback. Some of these contributions were related to the appropriate knowledge related to the EQF4 level, for instance, they pointed out that "select raw material" is not a knowledge that CNC operators at EQF4 level should have but it requires "knowledge of the type of material (which is already defined in the working map) to find it in their working place".

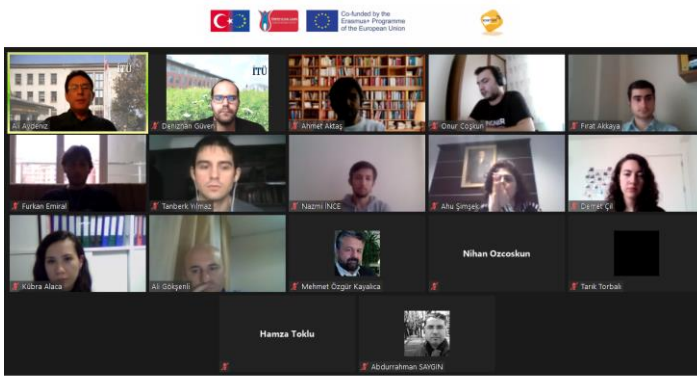
In Austria, KIST team organized two focus group online-meeting via Zoom on the Wednesday 07th April 2021 with 11 participants, and on the Thursday 8th April 2021 with 9 participants, altogether with a total 20 participants including Directors of Institutes/Departments offering CNC-trainings, CNC-machine trainers, representatives of industry using CNC machines, VET Students and parents. There were interesting insights from the industry representatives, who felt that the CNC-machine operator training should be adapted to the given realities of the Austrian job market. It is unfortunately perceived as a "static frame" that often overlooks the "dynamic flow". An experienced master-trainer with international experiences suggested that safety measures vary from country to country as well as from individual organizations.



Istanbul Chamber of Industry held a focus group meeting on January 12th, 2021. 8 private sector representatives (employers and technical managers) and 1 sectoral NGO representative participated to meeting. Helpful feedbacks were given from participants. As a good explanation of employers' expectation from CNC operator, one participant used an "automotive engineer-driver" analogy. He told that engineers designs and programing's the cars, and the driver was the operator and the expectations from a good driver are; "Good and safe vehicle use, follow-up of vehicle maintenance, understanding the malfunctions in the vehicle, knowing the meaning of indicators, etc.". Within feedbacks Learning Outcomes and Job Profile prepared for EQF Level 4 was appropriately with private sector demand was validated.



Istanbul Technical University held a focus group meeting with 11 participants on January 12th, 2021. The focus group was conducted as part of the potential CNC operator related professions. 7 participants were university students, 2 participants were technicians, and finally, 1 participant was an academician. According to the feedbacks, the Skills Map, Learning Outcomes and Job Profile prepared for EQF Level 4 was appropriately prepared. All the targets were considered "measurable". Based on the responses, it could be said that technical education should be performed in the whole professional life repeatedly



Yakacık Vocational and Technical Anatolian High School held a Focus Group Meeting on 14th January 2021. Twelve participants-four students, six teachers, a parent and a representative- took part in the focus groups: During the meeting participants were willing to share their ideas on each learning outcome. Besides, the participants commented that job profile of the CNC operator in the project is coherent to needs of sector. Considering the meeting atmosphere, it was a fruitful meeting with dedicated and actively participated participants.



OVERALL CONCLUSION

During the meeting participants were willing to share their ideas on each learning outcome. According to the reactions and comments during the meeting and the answers given to the survey, it seems that the generally prepared skill map and learning outcomes are in line with the current situation of schools and expectations of sector. Technical skills, conceptual skills and learning outcomes selected and defined by the ECVET Skills Platform project were all rated really positive.



www.ecvetskillsplatform.eu

www.skillsmatching.eu

<https://ecvetskills.aketh.eu/>



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