





LIFELONG LEARNING PROGRAMME LEONARDO DA VINCI NATIONAL TEAM OF ECVET EXPERTS

THEMATIC SEMINAR OUTLINE «Implementing ECVET in Greece: Challenges and Opportunities»

Prologue

The State Scholarhsips' Foundation (IKY), acting as the Hellenic National Agency of the Lifelong Learning Programme, implements and coordinates the "National Team of ECVET Experts Action", under the supervision of the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs. The Action is being funded by the European Commission within the respective grant agreement signed between the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) and IKY.

The duration of the action starts from the 1st of September 2012 till the 31st of December 2013. Its completion will be marked by the realization of a thematic seminar titled "Implementing ECVET in Greece: Challenges and opportunities" on the 9th of December 2013 in Athens, B.& M. Theoharakis Foundation for the Fine Arts and Museum (9 St., Vasilissis Sofias Avenue).

The role of ECVET experts concentrates on the following actions:

- ♣ Investigating the maturity and readiness degree of VET designers and providers to recognize and understand the importance of ECVET and the commitment to adopt it in practice.
- Giving training and advising in their field of expertise to staff at VET organizations, VET schools, companies, etc.
- Benchlearning of lessons learnt and best practices developed within mobility schemes at European level.
- ♣ Raising awareness about the added value of ECVET and acting as enablers for the multiplication of its adoption.
- Contributing to the development of a network of different players at national or regional level aimed at putting ECVET into practice.

Background

The European Credit System for Vocational Education & Training (ECVET) is eventually a reality! The EU Member States have recognized the need for the establishment of a European tool that describes qualifications in terms of units of learning outcomes during VET mobility schemes and promote the necessary conditions for ECVET implementation. ECVET development is strongly linked to the achievement of the priorities of the "Europe 2020" Strategy at a European level and it is also linked to the evolution of VET systems, towards the adoption of work based learning and the revision of qualifications and educational standards.

In practice, ECVET has been successfully tested through many pilot projects and is used in a significant number of European Leonardo da Vinci Mobility and Multilateral projects. Undoubtedly, it has produced the necessary "input", such as templates, practical guides, learning agreements, etc. so that the policy makers, the competent authorities, the VET designers and VET stakeholders to be properly supported in their task to upgrade the VET national systems.

ECVET is closely connected with the other European instruments and principles that enhance lifelong learning and mobility in Europe. <u>European Qualifications Framework/National Qualifications Framework)</u>, EQAVET, ECTS, Europass and the validation of non-formal and informal learning are parts of this process. Moreover, ECVET's strong linkage to the methodology principle of **learning outcomes** facilitate this interaction.

These reflections along with ideas, proposals and lessons learnt will be thoroughly presented to ECVET conference in Athens.

For more information on ECVET and the Action of **National Team of ECVET Experts**, please visit the National Agency's website: http://www.iky.qr/ecvet

Objectives

The objectives of the conference are the following:

- Presentation of the National Legal Framework and the national policies developed in the sector with a strong emphasis on the National Qualifications Framework
- Understanding of National Team of ECVET Experts role and the results of their activation
- ♣ Presentation of best practices that have emerged from examples of projects, strategies in progress in other European countries, through the testimonies and case studies put forward by foreign experts.
- Exchange of ideas, facilitation of discussion among the participants and the speakers.
- ♣ Identification of the necessary conditions for the mainstreaming of results and the implementation of ECVET in Greece.

Description

The seminar will be organized based on two main parts:

Part 1

- Speeches delivered by representatives from National Authorities with an institutional and operational role in VET and principally in ECVET.
- Examples, projects and initiatives presented by foreign experts.
- The point of view from practitioners on testing ECVET

Part 2

• Round table discussion among the key speakers and practitioners and focus on addressing questions on good practices, lessons to be learnt and ideas to implement. This session will also be the opportunity for active participation and open discussion..

The seminar will concentrate about 120-140 representatives from Ministries, VET Authorites, Supervisory Bodies, VET decision makers, VET designers and stakeholders, VET schools, companies, labour unions, etc.





