

ECVET-related developments

POLICY DEVELOPMENT**REGULATION/LEGISLATION** **ITALY**

Timeline

**ID number 28680**

Background

A State-regions agreement of January 2015 defined indicators and procedures to certify competences at regional level and to develop a credit system for IVET and CVET compatible with ECVET.

Objectives

Increasing quality in VET mobility and facilitating the recognition of learning outcomes achieved abroad, thus helping learners to capitalise on mobility experiences, even short-term ones.

Description

The Italian context has been characterised in recent years by reform processes aimed at building an Italian lifelong learning system and a national system of skills certification. The several acts adopted, including the inter-ministerial Decree of 30 June 2015 regarding the QNQR (National framework of regional qualifications) and the inter-ministerial Decree of 8 January 2018, defining the QNQ (the Italian national qualifications framework), in line with the European principles for the validation and recognition of skills developed in non-formal and informal learning contexts, are contributing to the definition of a national system: this is based on dialogue between the world of training and work, on improving formal, non-formal and informal learning, and on the recognition of qualifications (including regional ones), throughout the national territory. In this scenario, in a bottom up-approach, the Erasmus+ transnational mobility experiences represent a fruitful testing field for the use of ECVET principles and tools, having largely experimented with ways of validation and recognition of learning outcomes achieved in non-formal learning contexts with the aim of creating synergies and closer cooperation between the world of education and training and the world of work.

The Erasmus+ National Agency INAPP has for many years been promoting the use of ECVET principles and tools within Erasmus+ transnational mobility experiences. Law No 107/2015 (called The Good School (*La Buona Scuola*)) recognises work-based learning carried out

abroad. Surveys carried out by the Erasmus+ National Agency INAPP, together with the national team of ECVET experts, revealed a growing interest in testing some steps of the ECVET process within mobility experiences.

One of the main objectives of the QNQ is to coordinate and strengthen the several systems that contribute to the public provision of lifelong learning and the services for the identification, validation and certification of skills this requires improving the accessibility, transparency and permeability of qualifications, supporting their use at national and European level (also with reference to geographic and professional mobility) and by enhancing the individual experiences, also through the identification, validation and certification of skills acquired in non-formal and informal contexts (including those acquired in work-based learning contexts). In line with the EQF, the QNQ is divided into eight levels and is developed on three descriptive dimensions of skills (knowledge, skills, and autonomy and responsibility). The learning-outcome approach, the aim of increasing transparency of qualifications and the recognition of skills achieved in work-based experiences (such as transnational mobility experiences) highlight a common language and a close connection between QNQ and ECVET.

2015 Approved/Agreed

2016 Implementation

2017 Implementation

2018 Implementation

2019 Implementation

In 2019, guidelines on training credits envisaged among the goals of the national system of certification of competences were approved from a technical point of view but weren't formally and legally adopted, to ensure implementation at national level. Nonetheless, with the existing national regulatory framework, the regional authorities regulated the services for the identification, validation and certification of competences. Many regions defined the rules for the recognition of training credits and started testing; some actions were fully operational. The Erasmus+ Programme, in a bottom-up approach, provided a useful contribution by stimulating the use of ECVET principles and tools for the validation and recognition of learning outcomes achieved within transnational mobility experiences.

2020 Implementation

In 2020, a State-regions agreement was reached on the Guidelines for interoperability of awarding bodies (general norms and standards for the definition and validation of non-formal and informal learning and for the definition of a minimum standard framework of services for the certification of competences).

2021 Discontinued

On 5 January 2021, the Guidelines for interoperability of awarding bodies were formally adopted by decree. The guidelines have a strategic value representing the provision that makes the national system of skills certification operational, entering into the wider national process for the individual right to lifelong learning.

In 2021, the national team of ECVET experts ceased to exist, in line with the Council Recommendation on vocational education and training (VET) for sustainable competitiveness, social fairness and resilience, adopted in November 2020, which repealed formally the ECVET Recommendation.

Bodies responsible

- Ministry of Labour and Social Policies

- National Institute for Public Policy Analysis (INAPP)

Target group

Learners

Learners in upper secondary, including apprentices

Entities providing VET

VET providers (all kinds)

Thematic categories

Transparency and portability of VET skills and qualifications

Using EU transparency tools (EQF, Europass, ESCO, ECTS, ECVET principles)

Comprehensive national qualification frameworks

Developing and applying qualifications smaller/shorter than full

Learners' possibilities of accumulation, validation and recognition of learning outcomes acquired non-formally and informally

Supporting lifelong learning culture and increasing participation

Providing for individuals' re- and upskilling needs

European and international dimensions of VET

Mobility of learners and staff

Subsystem

IVET CVET

Further reading

[Ministry of Labour web page on lifelong learning](#)

Related policy developments

2024 Implementation

National framework of regional qualifications (QNQR)

In June 2015, an inter-ministerial Decree (signed by the education and labour ministries) introduced an operational framework for the recognition of regional qualifications and related skills competences at a national level (National framework of regional qualifications, QNQR).



Type of development

Regulation/Legislation

Subsystem

IVET

2024 Implementation

The Atlas of work and qualifications

In 2013, the Legislative Decree No 13 article 8 sets up the National repertory of education and training and professional qualifications.



ITALY

Type of development

Practical measure/Initiative

Subsystem

IVET CVET

2024 Implementation

The Italian national qualifications framework (QNQ)

A national strategy on lifelong learning has been defined, together with the implementation of legislative norms on the identification and validation of competences acquired in different contexts, through which the National system for the certification of competences has been launched.



ITALY

Type of development

Regulation/Legislation

Subsystem

IVET CVET

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