

The purpose of and reasons for an ECVET system

- Are the most important objectives and functions of a European system of credits for vocational training and education and the role of competent authorities fully outlined in the consultation document? If not, what is missing?*
- What would be the main added value of the planned ECVET system?*

-The European system of credits is based on both learning outcomes (set of competences to be acquired) and an estimation of the time required (student workload) to achieve them. The role of workload in the planned ECVET system seems to be missing.

-The main added value of the planned ECVET system is the recognition of the experiences gained in nonformal and informal learning environments, so the flexible learning pathways, one of the main concerns of Bergen, are recognized.

The technical basis for ECVET

- Do some technical specifications need to be set out in greater detail with a view to the practical implementation of ECVET? If so, which ones?*

- Do ECVET's technical specifications take sufficient account of the:*

- evaluation,*
- validation,*
- recognition,*
- accumulation,*
- transfer*

of learning outcomes whether formal, non-formal or informal? If not, please give details.

- Are the allocation of credit points to qualifications and units and using a reference figure of 120 credit points sufficient to ensure the convergence of approaches and the coherence of the system at European level? If not, what would you suggest?*

A strong and closer cooperation between the competent bodies and VET providers must be needed. National QF and sectoral qualifications in terms of Learning outcomes should be clarified firstly.

ECTS, European Credit and Transfer System, has been in existence since 1987, and it is used by thousands of European Higher Education Institutions. In ECTS one year of a study programme is equivalent to 60 credits. The credits and principles as in the ECTS should be used for ECVET. Otherwise for the vertical and horizontal transfers a conversion will be required to transfer and accumulate the credits collected in different environment learning environments.

Implementing ECVET

- Under what conditions could describing qualifications in terms of learning outcomes and*

expressing them in units effectively improve the transparency of qualifications and contribute to the development of mutual trust?

- Which criteria or combinations of criteria for allocating credit points could be selected and used?*
- Are there any features in your qualifications system which would favour the introduction of ECVET? What constraints, if any, do you foresee?*
- How and within what timeframe (launch, introduction, experimentation, widespread introduction) could ECVET be implemented in your country?*

If the qualifications are in compatible with the national qualification framework set in accordance with EQF. ECTS is a well known credit system, and the same, it can be developed for VET and LLP.

Measures for supporting the implementation and development of ECVET

- What kind of measures should be taken at European national and sectoral levels to facilitate the implementation of ECVET?*
- What documents, manuals and guides could be developed to facilitate the implementation of ECVET?*

Like ECTS counselling system, a system depending on peer-to-peer counselling should be formed and a coordination should be made by involving ECTS experts in the development of the new ECVET system. The legal background of the implementation of the system also should be prepared in parallel.

The similar instruments in ECTS, users' guide, key features, learning agreement, transcript of records, recognition sheet are used.

ECVET's potential for enhancing mobility

- To what extent and how will ECVET be able to contribute to the development of transnational and even national partnerships?*
- To what extent and how will ECVET be able to help improve the quality of Community programmes on mobility and participation in these programmes?*
- To what extent and how do you think that ECVET and Europass could complement each other to enhance mobility?*

ECVET will help to the institutions providing vocational education to know each other, to form collaboration and to establish of mutual interest. By this way, not only a horizontal collaboration between the VET providers also the vertical collaboration between the education providers at different context can be developed. This will bring the enlargemnet of transnational and even national mobility. EUROPASS is a frame document helping to an individual to introduce her/his qualifications and experiences. Any qualification credited by ECVET should be presented in EUROPASS.