



EQARF

*European Quality Assurance Reference Framework for
Vocational Education and Training*



ECVET

European Credit system for Vocational Education and Training

Moving from Principles to Implementation Launching Conference

Brussels 17-18 November 2009

ECVET Workshop G:
Mobility and transfer of learning outcomes
...Reinhard Nöbauer

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ECVET as a tool for European Mobility in Europe An Austrian point of view



Reinhard Nöbauer – Sektion Berufsbildung



ECVET-Consultation results:

1. Subsidiarity principle

- Application on a voluntary basis
- No obligatory influence on education and training systems
- No fragmentation of training courses
- Application mostly for transnational mobility



ECVET-Consultation results:

2. Main objectives

- 1. step: application of ECVET in the formal sector
- Facilitating mobility through recognition of parts of an education acquired abroad
- Not to raise to high expectations because they can lead to disappointments



ECVET-Consultation results: 3. Main aspects of the application

- “Toolbox” character
- Bottom-up approach
- Central role of the Memoranda of Understanding



ECVET – Environment Education and Training system

- Well developed initial VET at upper secondary level in Austria
- 80% of young Austrians are in initial VET at upper secondary level

Of which:approximately:

40% in the dual training system

40% in school based training



Difficulties for (long) term mobility in VET

Apprentices have not reached age of legal majority

Employers need apprentices for the work in the company

The dual training and school based VET with comparable curricula only exist in a view countries

Financing

Language

Recognition



The ECVET Environment: New initiatives relevant for ECVET

**Development of a NQF in Austria and participation at
EQF :**

EQF will be an important element for ECVET

NQF will be based on learning outcomes

NQF will most likely be based on 8 levels

Development begins with the formal system



The ECVET Environment

New initiatives relevant for ECVET

- The development of standards for general education and VET
- Centralisation for A-level exams („Matura, baccalauréat)
- Quality initiatives for the school system
- Q.I.S: Quality in schools
- Q.I.B.B: Quality in vocational education and training



The ECVET environment

ECTS well established

- Implementation took over 10 years
- Start with pilot subjects and pilot projects
- Today applied at all universities
- At many universities credit points are given for every lecture, learning and/or diploma paper
- At some universities ECTS is also used for the „Studienbeihilfe“ (subsidy for study based on social and success criteria)
- ECTS legally binding only within Memoranda of Understanding



The ECVET environment legal aspects

- Recognition of parts of training abroad is already possible – with a few exceptions
- For example:
- school visits abroad between 5 months to 1 year in non-German speaking countries – enable the student to move to the next grade without any examinations
- Internships: can be done in Austria or abroad



ECVET – Studies and Pilot projects

- Scientific study on the preconditions for ECVET implementation in initial VET in Austria
- Team of research institutions: 3s and ibw
- Main focus:
legal framework, mobility in initial VET
recommendations for the creation of an ECVET favourable environment



ECVET –present discussion on the implementation in Austria

- Start with formal learning
- Decentralised approach
- Pilot phase
- Priority for the application in transnational mobility



ECVET –present discussion on the implementation in Austria

➤ **central authorities responsible for:**

legal framework

total amount of points for different forms of education

information policy and counselling

promoting pilot projects

promoting learning outcome related descriptions of qualifications (see also NQF, standards)

promoting long term mobility in initial VET



ECVET –present discussion on the implementation in Austria

VET institutions responsible for:

Establishment of partnership agreements and memoranda of understanding

Definition of units and assignement of credit points to the different units

Realisation of the mobility measures

Recognition of the credits acquired abroad



The European Level

- Many innovative approaches in the Member States with different objectives
- They are not necessarily compatible
- We do not only need „National ECVETs“ but also an European ECVET for recognition in transnational mobility



The European Level – Austrian Suggestions I

- User-friendly and easy understandable European ECVET-guidelines for mobility projects
- Common instruments for better communication between partners in all European languages (forms etc..)
- These instruments should be linked to the EUROPASS in order to avoid double work



The European Level – Austrian Suggestions II

- Consider the diversity in European VET and give endusers flexibility in using ECVET
- Let us learn from ECTS
- Link ECVET to the EQF
- Propose a simple method for the calculation of the points



The European Level – Austrian Suggestions III

- Certificate supplement as a first reference for learning outcome based descriptions of curricula
- The practical application of ECVET as a priority in LLL-projects
- Promotion of long term mobility projects in initial VET
- Setting up a European working group (formal or informal) für the development of ECVET mobility instruments and examples of best practice for endusers

Thank you for your attention!

Reinhard Nöbauer

Austrian Federal Ministry for
Education, Arts and Culture

reinhard.noebauer@bmukk.gv.at