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# **European Workshop On ECVET: the Launch of the Consultation**

**2 October 2006, Espoo**

## **Workshop Report 4: ECVET and mutual trust**

# ECVET and mutual trust

## Questions for workshop 4





## Workshop 4: questions

- what factors and conditions in your qualification system would support or facilitate the development of mutual trust with international partners? What factors would constrain mutual trust, if any?
- what would need to be done in your country to enable mutual trust for international credit transfer and how long would that take?
- what actions would be needed at European level to support the development of mutual trust for international credit transfer?
- what additional, documents, handbooks or guidance material should be made available to support the development of mutual trust for international credit transfer?



## Edwin Mernagh as chairman gave an introduction to the concept and questions

- Two speakers from Reflektor and Connexion studies introduced the matter on the basis of interim outcomes: Isabelle le Mouillour from BIBB and Richard Maniak from the French Ministry of Education.
- Main points of concern:
  - 1. Autonomy and KSC orientation of subsystems and providers
  - 2. Barriers to mobility and the development of mutual trust between and roles of stakeholders/actors and how to build trust between them at both national and European levels



## Mutual trust: why?

- ECVET is a voluntary, decentralised system for international credit transfer
  - on partners working together
  - each accepting the status of the other
  - each accepting the value of credit awarded by the other
- the rich diversity of VET
- a challenge for mutual trust



## Mutual trust: Need for ...

- **common basis** for negotiation and agreement
- a simple, clear **process**
- **tools** to facilitate credit partnerships



## Technical Specifications needed

- ECVET Adoption decision
- ECVET process
  - Memorandum of Understanding
  - Awarding bodies for Transfer and Accumulation of Credits and link of units to (full) Qualifications and Certification
- The ECVET 'toolbox', handbook, guidelines etc.



## ECVET process

- mutual acceptance of status by partners
- identification of correspondence between qualifications: 'level' at both national and European/International level
- agreement on the description of specific learning outcomes for which credit is to be transferred
  - quality: knowledge, skills and competence
  - quantity: credit points



## ECVET toolbox

- a set of tools, instruments and templates
- to be used as required, not to be applied as a rigid prescription
- some existing facilities will be useful
  - Common Quality Assurance Framework
  - APL principles
  - Europass link
- reference levels: EQF
- qualifications typology and credit profiling
- credit allocation , broad conventions if convenient
- other tools



# The main topics discussed

- 1. Competent bodies role versus training providers role, cooperation on national and European level, involving different kinds of bodies and atcors
- 2. The need for a more permanent forum for exchange and information as well as improving the cooperation on European or multilateral level and ensuring linkages between the different instruments, e.g. EQF, Europass, Quality assurance framework, APL
- 3. To allow for a more thorough definition of and information on the LO approach, related qualifications and need for agreeing KSC elements for ECVET transfer and accumulation and their inclusion into MoU



## Main Ideas and Questions

- 1. To increase the autonomy of training providers on the basis of clear instructions and technical specifications and the needs for a clarification of stakeholders commitment/involvement
- 2. To add elements on LO's to or respective explanations on those systems/sub-systems which are primarily based on subjects and cognitive/academic knowledge and know how
- 3. The need of credits points or ranges per level was raised.
- 4. A medium and longer term cooperation and exchange on the European level may need the establishment of a forum with a clear political mandate which should accompany the implementation of the system and the interface with other instruments, e.g. EQF, APL, Qualification assurance and Europass



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