VARE project: Vocational Assessor Requirements in Europe

Monika Auzinger
Julia Fellinger

Workshop 26 July 2017
Vienna, Austria

3s research laboratory, www.3s.co.at
## Today’s agenda

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Session Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 – 12:00</td>
<td>ECVET mobility tools for the successful implementation of transnational VET mobility</td>
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<td>- Recap: ECVET key principles and aspects</td>
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<td>- Working with ECVET mobility tools</td>
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<td>12:00 – 13:00</td>
<td>Social Lunch: exchange of experience among European VET mobility partners</td>
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<td>13:00 – 15:00</td>
<td>VARE project: addressing the challenges of host country assessment in ECVET mobility</td>
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<td>- What is VARE?</td>
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<td>- VARE project findings</td>
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<td>- VARE online platform on assessment requirements</td>
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Feel free to ask questions anytime!

Let me know if I’m going too fast, or if I keep telling you things you already know 😊
Icebreaker: Please share…

__Your name…
__Where you come from…
__Your role and (whether) and how it is linked to mobility in VET and/or ECVET

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Recap: ECVET key principles and aspects #1

Why this project on assessor requirements?

- Lessons learned from the „DECVIP“ project (2012-2014):
  How to organise European mobility using the European Credit system for Vocational Education and Training (ECVET)
- Understanding each other‘s requirements for assessment of VET: a prerequisite for mutual trust and transparency
- Avoid that learning achieved abroad cannot be recognised due to assessment issues

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ECVET mobility tools #1

Tools and documents able to facilitate learning recognition for those participating in organised mobility

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

__institutional-level agreement
__“conditions via which learning outcomes can be achieved, assessed and potentially transferred confirming mutual acceptance, by two or more institutions, of the different procedures”
ECVET mobility tools #2

Learning Agreement (LA)
__personalised document
__“conditions for a specific mobility period, for an individual learner, confirming units and/or learning outcomes that are being targeted for achievement”

Personal Transcript (PT)
__personalised document
__“record of learning achievement that contains information on assessed learning outcomes, units and (where appropriate) ECVET points”
__Europass Mobility: “best-known example of a personal transcript”
Learning Agreement (LA) – operational template

1. Information about the participants (home organisation, host organisation, learner, etc.)
2. Mobility duration
3. Learner qualification (title, level, progress thus far, etc.)
4. Description of targeted learning outcomes (units, LOs, points, learning activities)
5. Overview of assessment and documentation (actors, timing, methods, recording of results)
6. Overview of validation and recognition (actors, timing, processes, recording of results)
7. Signatures
8. Additional information (e.g. special needs arrangements, additional detail on assessment and validation tools and processes.)
9. Annexes (e.g. more detailed insight into the targeted qualifications, quality charter)

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Group Discussion:

__What benefits do you see for using ECVET tools (MoU, LA) in organising learners‘ transnational mobility?__

__What are the challenges? How could they be overcome?__

… from the perspective of:

__learners__
__home institution__
__host institution (VET school, company)__

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About the VARE project...

Key data
__Erasmus+ Key Activity 2
__Duration: 2015 – 2017 (ongoing)
__Context: ECVET mobility
__Objective: identify the requirements for assessment and assessors in vocational training programmes across the EU to support the development of partnerships working for the purposes of mobility in VET

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Background

Why this project on assessor requirements?

__Lessons learned from the „DECVIP“ project (2012-2014): How to organise European mobility using the European Credit system for Vocational Education and Training (ECVET) __

Understanding each other‘s requirements for assessment of VET: a prerequisite for mutual trust and transparency __

Avoid that learning achieved abroad cannot be recognised due to assessment issues

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Background

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__Avoid that learning achieved abroad cannot be recognised due to assessment issues

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Key questions addressed...

__Who carries out assessments and how?

__To what extent are assessors required to hold specific qualifications, be members of a recognised profession, and be subject to regulation and meet specific standards of professional conduct?

__What (occupational) standards, qualifications and learning outcomes exist for those who carry out assessments?

__Are the requirements for assessors comparable between countries, and between parts of the vocational system within the same country?

__Are there differences based on the type of system, the sector, or the country setting the requirements?
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<th>Norway</th>
<th>Italy</th>
<th>France</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Are there requirements to be an assessor?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are requirements set centrally?</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Are requirements set on a sector by sector basis?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>When does assessment occur?</td>
<td>Cumulatively/unitised</td>
<td>Both cumulatively and end-point</td>
<td>Within teaching delivery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Who carries out the assessment?</td>
<td>Work trainer</td>
<td>Tutor</td>
<td>Jury of professionals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qualification to be an assessor</td>
<td>Sector expert</td>
<td>Teacher or sector expert</td>
<td>Trained teacher, sector expert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Type of assessment</td>
<td>Practical demonstration</td>
<td>Oral, written test and practical</td>
<td>Practical</td>
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<tr>
<td>Who sets the requirements?</td>
<td>National body – varies by sector</td>
<td>Regional authorities through training providers</td>
<td>Awarding body to a standard set by the sector body</td>
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Key aspects to consider….

- Continuous assessment vs. endpoint assessment (final exam)
- School-based vs. work-based assessment
- Internal vs. external assessors
Project outcomes

__28 country profiles of assessor requirements in VET (EQF 3/4)
__Comparative analysis of current assessor requirements
__Case studies highlighting examples of good practice
__Online catalogue of the different member states' requirements (to be launched in summer 2017)

http://www.vareproject.eu/

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Now what about Austria...?
VET in Austria’s education and training system

IVET qualifications at EQF level 3/4

Full-time schools for intermediate vocational education (mostly 3-4 years)

Dual VET (apprenticeship training) (2-4 years)

Secondary vocational schools for healthcare and nursing
The case of Austria

Schools for intermediate vocational education

Requirements set by federal law
Learners are generally assessed by teachers at their school
No separate ‘assessor qualification‘
VET teacher training is heavily regulated and depends on the subject taught: general education, occupation-related subjects (theory, practice)
Teachers are in principle obliged to attend continuing education and training (CET) programmes, with no legal specifications laid down regarding their duration and frequency

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The case of Austria

Dual VET (apprenticeship training)

In-company trainers: must have certain subject-specific and teaching qualifications (IVET trainer examination) or a 40-hour trainer course with a vocationally-specific interview

Part-time vocational schools: teacher training is heavily regulated and depends on subjects taught

Apprenticeship leave examination: practical and theoretical part: organised by the regional apprenticeship offices and to be taken in front of a board of examiners (examination committee), including experts from the field

> ‘LAP’ certificate: voluntary certification for examiners in final apprenticeship examinations

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Group discussion:

Your VET institution plans to enter a mobility partnership with a) another VET institution b) a hotel chain

How will you go about choosing the ‘right‘ mobility partner?

How will you make sure that the learning outcomes achieved abroad will be assessed accordingly, and be validated and recognised afterwards?
More about the project:  
http://www.vareproject.eu/

Questions?

Monika Auzinger  
auzinger@3s.co.at

Julia Fellinger  
fellinger@3s.co.at

3s research laboratory  
http://3s.co.at