

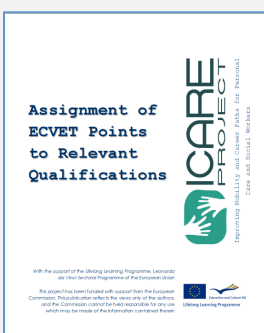
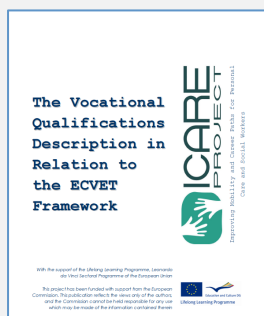
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The I CARE project entered its second year of activity and it is now in a crucial phase for the development of the model. After having developed the matrices for all professional qualifications and having settled down the methodology for assigning ECVET points, the technical team developed the tests for the Care Operator and the Socio-Assistance Assistant, which are currently piloted.

This fourth newsletter offers you an overview of the last activities as well as on new results. In addition to this, the last news from the I CARE and ECVET world ...

New Results ...



Two new reports were published recently on the I CARE project website.

The Vocational Qualifications Description in Relation to the ECVET Framework, which describes the path followed by the project for the development of the competence matrices. Matrices have been elaborated starting from three elements:

- 1) analysis of existing methodological approaches
- 2) analysis of the Italian background, and
- 3) matrices improvement in co-operation with partners.

The document includes the matrices developed for the five professional profiles comprised in the I CARE project

Assignment of ECVET Points to Relevant Qualifications, which highlights the methodological path followed by the I CARE project to assign points to each unit of learning outcome.

Volkshochschule im Landkreis Cham e.V. is a non-profit association specialised in lifelong learning education. The main focus is set on the health sector, with job-oriented education for nursing personnel, physiotherapists, doctor's assistants and carers in order to facilitate career opportunities and to adapt the students' competencies to the standards and requirements of the European labour market (<http://www.vhs-cham.de/>)

ECVET points are a numerical representation of the overall weight of learning outcomes and of the relative weight of units in relation to the qualification. The I CARE project allocates:

- 100 ECVET points to those professions which require a one year long training → Care Operator and Socio-Assistance Assistant, Dental Assistant
- 50 ECVET points to those professions which require a shorter training → Family Assistant, Baby Sitter.

In the I CARE matrices there are also **ECVET sub-points** allocated to each Learning Outcome. Sub-points were allocated to Learning Outcomes according to their relevance in the Unit and according to the total number of LO included in each unit.

Download the new results:
<http://www.icareproject.eu/pages/results.html>

A New Partner Joined



Activities in progress ...



International Conference in Oslo

NetECVET Seminar in Paris

The **testing phase** for the Care Operator and Socio-Assistance Assistant profile has been completed in Italy, and is now in progress in all partner countries (Germany, Poland, and Romania). Assessment grids for the remaining three professional profiles on which the I CARE project focuses upon (Family Assistant, Baby Sitter and Dental Assistant) have been developed and will be tested in all the partner countries in the following months.

The I CARE project tests aim to verify the candidate's competences through the simulation and discussion of the main actions to be done during a working day, according to each professional profile. The practical test will last around two hours and it is divided into different concrete situations which correspond to different moments of a typical day of a patient/elderly person/child.

For some job profiles (Socio-Assistance Assistant, Care Operator, Dental Assistant), at the end of the practical test, the candidate will perform a short test on computer literacy, showing that he/she can handle computer programmes which can be useful in his/her profession (Microsoft Word, Excel, Internet Explorer, Outlook Express).

To know more: <http://www.icareproject.eu/pages/results.html>

I CARE News ...

The I CARE project was presented during the **International Conference on Validation "To Implement a High Quality Validation Process - A Challenge!"**, which was held in Oslo on March, 5-7 and supported by the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency and the Nordic Council of Ministers. 105 participants from 26 countries participated to exchange ideas, discuss and explore the present and future of validation.

For a quick glance at the events, scroll down the Storify-summary of the conference:

<http://www.nordvux.net/page/1415/summary.htm>

For more detailed information please visit the webpage <http://www.nordvux.net/page/1382/conferenceonvalidation2012.htm>, while the I CARE presentation on the conference website can be found at the following link:

<http://www.nordvux.net/page/1390/icareandcncteknik2010.htm>



The I CARE project was invited to attend the workshop **'Definition and description of (units) of learning outcomes'**, held in Paris on March, 29-30, which is part of the activities of the thematic networking group funded by the EU and implemented by 15 Leonardo National Agencies (<http://netecvet.com/about-us/>). A series of international seminars are being held in 2012 to facilitate the exchange between ECVET projects, mobility practitioners and stakeholders. As the I CARE approach to Learning Outcomes is considered as promising, the project staff was invited to participate in the meeting in order to share its experience with all participants

The Third Project Meeting was held

The third **I CARE consortium meeting** was held in Bergamo (IT) the last 23rd and 24th of April. It was an opportunity for project partners to discuss achieved results and to settle the agenda of activities for the forthcoming months. Particular attention was paid to the on-going pilot test, which should be implemented until the end of June by involving workers and practitioners for each of the five chosen qualifications. The piloting phase was initiated in Italy and will be then extended to partner countries



I CARE Project in Warsaw



SIC! Foundation was invited to present the I CARE project, its aims and objectives during the **ECVET expert meeting** that was held **in Warsaw** last 20th of April. The meeting gathered public authorities including the Ministry of National Education, the Ministry of Higher Education, the National Centre for Supporting Vocational and Continuing Education and the Centre for Teachers' Improvement. The group was newly established and it is in charge of coordination, promotion and development and implementation of ECVET in Poland. Two Leonardo da Vinci projects were presented during the seminar. The meeting was an opportunity to share I CARE experience with stakeholders having an impact on the education and vocational policy in the country. I CARE project raised questions and was found interesting by the experts

Who we are ...

- Fondazione CEFASS
- Fondazione IKAROS
- IKAROS FORMAZIONE Cooperativa Sociale
- Federsolidarietà
- CISL Brianza
- National Qualification Authority
- TILS Romania
- VHS Cham
- Fundacja SIC!

News from ECVET World ...

After three years of project work, testing, common reflections and joint discussions on methods and tools, the first generation of ECVET pilot projects funded through the centralised actions of the Lifelong Learning Programme shared their findings during their final conference in Brussels on February 22-23. 140 persons from 29 countries attended. For additional information: <http://www.ecvet-projects.eu/Seminars/SeminarDetail.aspx?id=44>

Associated partners

- ANOLF CISL
- Kerigma
- Useyourmind

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To subscribe our newsletter or download it in English, German, Italian, and Polish
<http://www.icareproject.eu/pages/news/newsletter.html>