

Transparency of qualifications, transfer and recognition of learning outcomes with ECVET

The ECVET Recommendation focuses on implementing an EU-wide credit recognition system for vocational education and training. It was adopted on June 18th 2009 and calls for gradual application within all European countries beginning in 2012.

> The ECVET Recommendation pertains to:

- description of qualifications in terms of units of learning outcomes, highlighting knowledge, skills and competences. These units are allocated with credit points ;
- systems for transfer and recognition of learning outcomes abroad ;
- practical tools to facilitate implementation, such as the "Memorandum of Understanding", the "Learning Agreement" and the "Personal transcript".

> Testing ECVET Recommendation

The full range of ECVET recommendations are tested as part of the RECOMFOR project. This process has allowed several vocational training systems not only to identify potential difficulties involved in implementing the Recommendation, but also to try out a few possible solutions for overcoming these difficulties.

PROJECT PARTNERS

CGI	French Confederation of Wholesale and International Trade (FR)
MEN	Ministry of Education (FR)
CIEP	Centre international d'études pédagogiques (FR)
CEF	Education and Training Council of the French speaking community of Belgium (BE)
Generalitat de Catalunya	Ministry of Education of the Government of Catalonia (ES)
AGEFA-PME	Organization for the Professional Development of SMEs (FR)
O.E.E.K.	Organization for Vocational Education and Training (EL)
USRV	Veneto Regional Office of the Ministry of Education (IT)
CPV	Vocational Education and Training Organization (IT)
KC Handel	Center of Expertise for VET and Labour Market in the Trade (NL)
Albeda College	Vocational Education and Training Organization (NL)
CECOA	Vocational Training Center for the Trade Sector (PT)
CCP	Portuguese Commerce and Services Confederation (PT)
N CTVETD	National Center for Technical and VET Development (RO)
CCIB	Chamber of Commerce of Bucarest (RO)
CPI	National Institute for Vocational Education and Training (SI)
CPU	Chamber of Commerce and industry Institute for Business Education (SI)
NUOV	National Institute of Technical and Vocational Education (CZ)

STRATEGIC PARTNERS

IEFP	Employment and Vocational Training Institute (PT)
CNCCEF	Council for External Trade (FR)
IUFFP	Swiss Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (CH)
SAK/CES	Swiss International Trade Association (CH)
BTG Handel/ MBO raad	Dutch Organization for Vocational Training Colleges (NL)



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A European mobility network for learners in the field of trade



Open the frontiers for your vocational pathways !

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Making mobility in VET a reality with RECOMFOR

The objective of RECOMFOR project is to create a European space in which young people can try out mobility experiences over the course of their vocational training, and in which learning outcomes acquired by these young people during the mobility period will be recognized upon their return in their country.

➤ Designing a European training area

This European training area is built on a list of training centers and partner companies, core members of the network. This zone currently spans 10 countries. RECOMFOR is intended to allow a student enrolled in a vocational import-export sales assistant training course (level EQF 5) in one of the member training centers to follow part of its training in another member training center, or in a work placement in an accredited company abroad.

➤ Making mobility easier

Each participating training center has access to a common database identifying all partner institutions. For each training centre, a detailed fact sheet indicates its training offer: training modules, foreign languages taught methods of assessment, company work placement opportunities, etc. Training centers can therefore easily get in touch with one another to initiate mobility plans for their students. The evaluation conducted at the end of the mobility period by the host training center or company will then be taken into account upon return in the home country.

➤ Building exchanges on mutual trust

A preliminary step (known as the *COMINTER* project) to launch RECOMFOR has made it possible to align all or part of the training contents and national qualifications in a shared reference, through application of the principles set forth in the ECVET Recommendation. The correspondence (fully or partly) between the various qualifications and training programs is therefore ensured within the network. Moreover, all training centers and companies participating in the network are signatories to a **quality charter**. It awards them a "seal of approval" that guarantees the various partners and any interested student of their legitimacy.

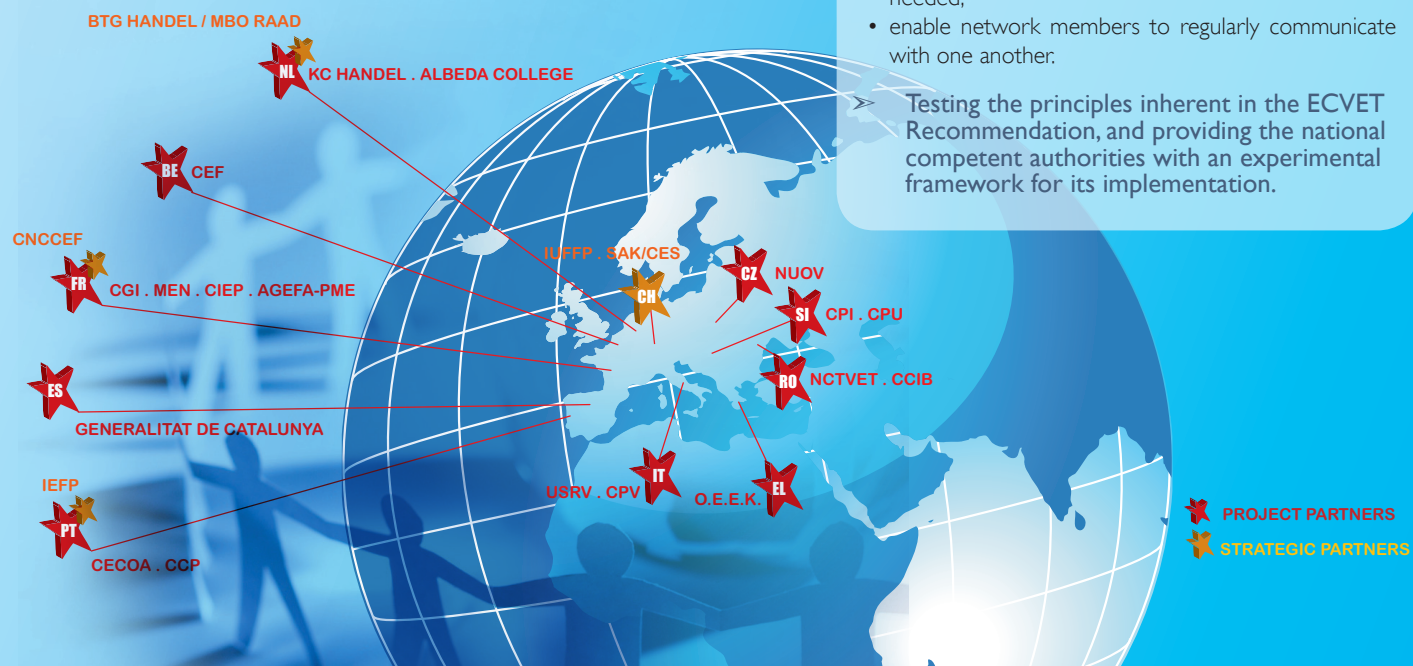
RECOMFOR network today

The objective of RECOMFOR project is to create a **sustainable European network of training centers and companies**, where mutual trust has been established in order to provide young people with mobility opportunities during their training pathway. Eventually, the network should promote exchanges among teachers and exchange of good educational practices, with the aim of improving the quality of all members' training programs.

➤ Network members

This network refers to training programs in the field of **international trade**, but it is inclined to extend to all training courses within the business sector.

Its coverage today extends to **10 countries**: Belgium, the Czech Republic, France, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, and Spain. For each of these countries, competent authorities (Ministries, National Agencies, professional/trade organizations) have been associated to encourage and support the network set-up. The network is composed of **some forty training centers** (number in growth) **and over 150 related companies**.



Main outcomes expected of RECOMFOR

RECOMFOR is a challenging project and is one of the 11 European pilot projects selected by the European Commission's Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency to implement the ECVET Recommendation, aiming at creating a European vocational education and training credit system.

➤ Effective mobility experiences

RECOMFOR project is intended to set-up and facilitate mobility of students in the field of international trade while developing the technical and regulatory conditions for the recognition of learning outcomes acquired during the mobility period upon the student's return.

➤ Creation of a sustainable framework for structuring the network

It is planned to create an association that assembles all network members in an effort to:

- supply resources necessary to run the Internet platform, which serves as the network's central tool;
- maintain quality by overseeing the process for awarding the network "seal of approval" to members;
- preserve the certification by proposing updates when needed;
- enable network members to regularly communicate with one another.

➤ Testing the principles inherent in the ECVET Recommendation, and providing the national competent authorities with an experimental framework for its implementation.