

The ICARE Project and the ECVET experimentation

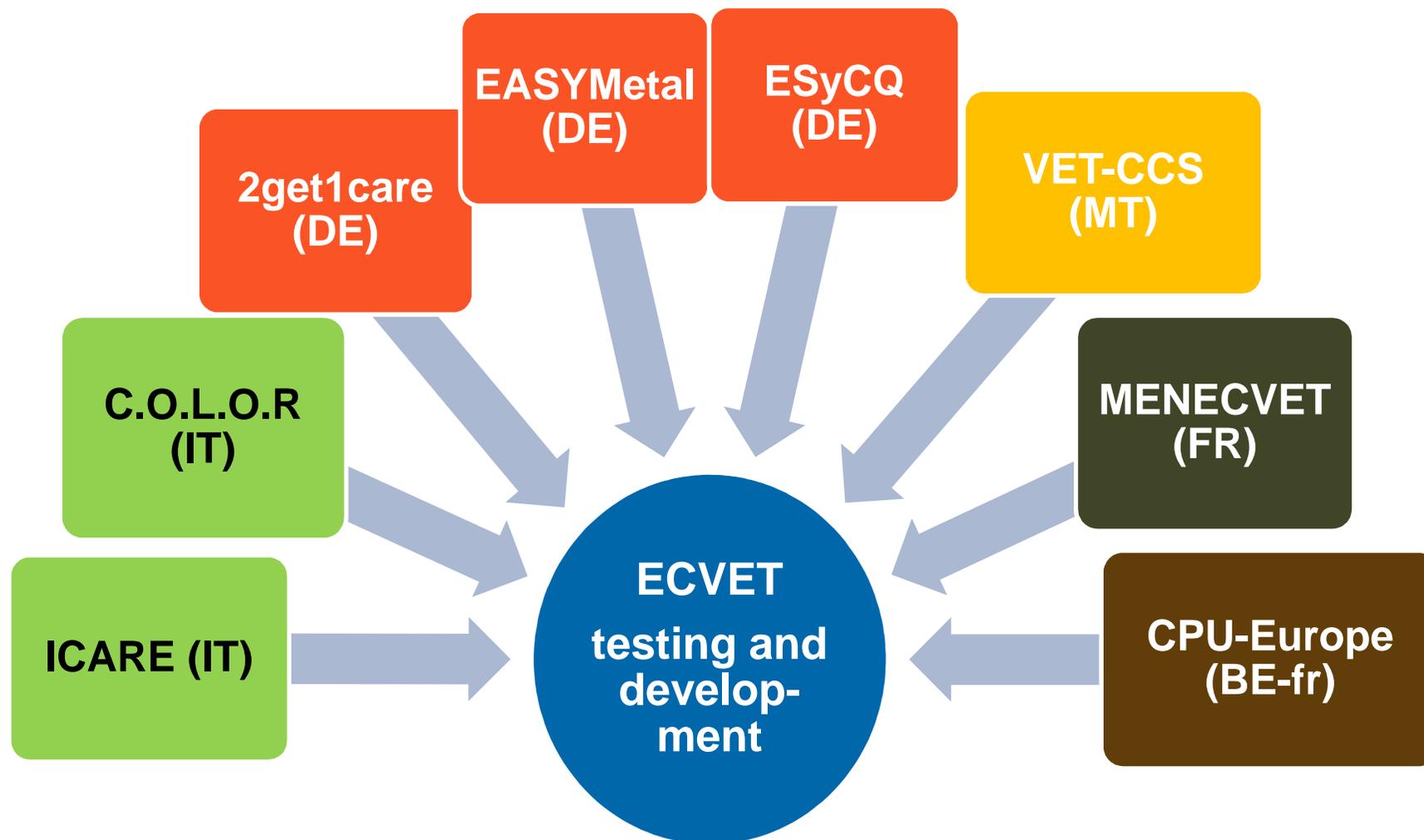
The ECVET pilot projects 2011-2013

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ICARE – One of eight European ECVET Pilot Projects



ECVET - A brief reminder

The European Credit system for Vocational Education and Training (ECVET) aims to give people **greater control over their individual learning experiences** and make it more attractive to move between different countries and different learning environments.

ECVET aims for **better compatibility** between the different vocational education and training (VET) systems in place across Europe and their qualifications.



ECVET - A brief reminder

ECVET for mobility: The system aims to facilitate the validation, recognition and accumulation of work-related skills and knowledge acquired during a stay in another country.

ECVET for lifelong learning: The system aims to help learners accumulating the required learning outcomes for a given qualification over time, in different countries or in different situations.



It should ensure that these experiences contribute to vocational qualifications.

Why EU level ECVET pilot projects?

A little bit of history

The Member States asked the Commission to develop a proposal for a credit system in VET (Copenhagen process – since 2002)

The Commission conveyed experts who worked to design the ECVET technical specifications and the ECVET recommendation (2009)

The ECVET recommendation and the technical specifications are based on concepts that exist in different VET systems in Europe

The Member States then asked the Commission to support the implementation of ECVET

To support national implementation there is a need for concrete methods, tools, templates, examples, etc.

The pilot projects

2nd generation of projects (2010 call for proposals)

Description of professional qualifications in terms of units of learning outcomes

Development of learning outcomes transfer process which includes assessment, validation and recognition of learning outcomes

Methods for assigning points to qualifications and units and for using these points

Transnational and national partnership agreements

Testing and experimentation – in view of national implementation of ECVET

Transnational partners to support implementation and give feedback!

What were the pilot projects expected to do?

Common denominator: Using ECVET for lifelong learning

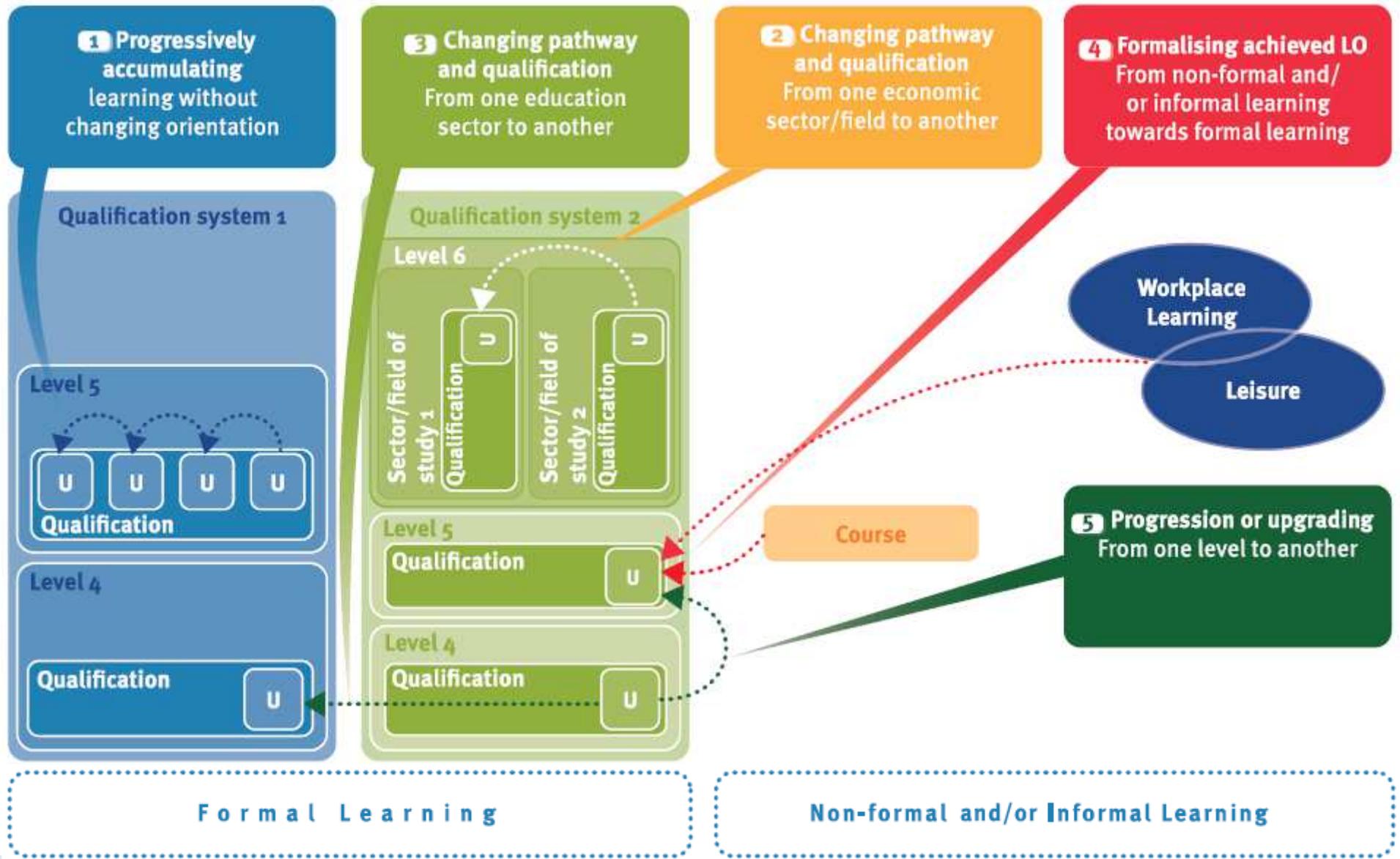
Design methods for credit transfer and accumulation

Test these methods

Develop concrete tools

Support national implementation

Scenarios for credit transfer and accumulation



Credit transfer agreements aimed at

Project Name	Purpose of using ECVET in the context of lifelong learning	Credit transfer agreement aimed at
2get1care	Identifying common parts of different qualifications to enable more flexibility for learners	Mobility and permeability between training pathways
CO.L.O.R	Competency valorisation and learning outcome recognition for migrants and mobile workers within Italy	Transfer and accumulation of one or more units related to specific qualifications between Italian regions
CPU-Europe	Certification by units in order to valorise achievements	Progressively accumulating units of learning outcomes in order to acquire a full or partial qualification
EASYMetal	Recognition of prior learning between official training schemes and sub-schemes	Recognition of KSC acquired in prevocational system in vocational system – one unit or several units
ESyCQ	Establishing a procedure for the recognition of formal, non-formal and informal learning for individuals in a selected area of C-VET	Enabling recognition of prior learning (formal, non-formal or informal)
MEN-Europe	Structuring qualifications in units of learning outcomes	Progressively accumulating learning outcomes to achieve a qualification
VET-CCS	Description of all VET-qualifications in terms of units of learning outcomes	Facilitation of a credit and accumulation system across all levels of VET

How does ICARE use ECVET?

The ICARE purpose of using ECVET in the context of lifelong learning:

ICARE facilitates the recognition of learning outcomes acquired in a different context (abroad, in another region, in a non-formal or informal context) of workers in the health care sector in Italy.

The ICARE partnership:

A stable consortium among partner institutions in Italy, Germany, Romania, and Poland, and a Memorandum of Understanding for the application of the learning outcomes transfer model.

The ICARE credit transfer agreement:

An agreement between VET-training providers to mutually accept procedures for assessing competences in coherence with the ICARE model. On that basis, competent institutions can recognise units of Learning outcomes, and the training path leading to the qualification could be shortened accordingly.

How does ICARE support the aims connected to ECVET?

- ICARE supports the **transparency and comparability** between the different qualification profiles and the learning outcomes they comprise in the partner countries;
 - ICARE helps workers in the health care sectors to **make better use of previous learning experiences**;
 - ICARE helps with the **recognition of learning outcomes** for a given qualification acquired over time, in different countries or in different situations;
 - ICARE helps to **identify gaps** leading to full vocational qualifications and thus helps to develop lifelong learning paths.
- ➡ ICARE helps to create **better chances on the labour market** ;
- ➡ ICARE supports the European goal of making it more attractive for workers to **move between different countries and different learning environments**.

Future challenges for European VET-systems

‘Rethinking Education:

Investing in skills for better socio-economic outcomes’

Member States are asked to step up their efforts to:

- Develop **world-class vocational education and training** to raise the quality of vocational skills;
- **Promote work based learning** including quality traineeships, apprenticeships and dual learning models to help the transition from learning to work;
- **Promote partnerships** between public and private institutions (to ensure appropriate curricula and skills provision);
- **Promote mobility** (e.g. through the proposed *Erasmus for All* programme).

Future challenges for European VET-systems

 **ICARE contributes
to the solution of these challenges
on national and European level.**



Thank you for your attention!