eCF Alliance

eCF ALLIANCE, qualifications and skills for the ICT industry

An initiave of:

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ABOUT THE eCF ALLIANCE

eCF Alliance goals are to create a partnership between the major players responsible for IT professionals' enhancement, namely employers, trade unions, VET, higher education, research centres, regulatory bodies, across EU, North/Central Europe, East Europe, Southern Europe, meeting the need stated by the DG Employment, "cross country co-operation between sector councils at present is rare, but stakeholders in the Member States expect EU level Sector Councils" to cope with ICT skills mismatch; the ground-breaking implementation of the eCF competences and ESCO IT occupations to foster "dual-thinkers" IT professionals/workers all over Europe, enhancing IT SMEs culture and competitiveness.

The eCF Alliance will build a stable network of reference stakeholders in the ICT sector to foster ICT professionalism at European and International level. They will be employer and professional associations, social partners, companies, Small-Medium sized Enterprises (SMEs), public authorities, training institutions, certification bodies.

The development of recognised and joint ICT VET programmes and certifications based on the new ICT competence standard e-CF and the ESCO IT occupations, will be the initial and concrete object around which establishing the network.

Main objectives

1 **Developing a common reference scheme for joint qualifications and assessment,** answering the "Dual-Thinkers" skill requirements coming out of the new digital technologies ("SMAC stack" – social, mobile, analytics, cloud –, internet of things, cyber security, and IT Project Management), according to the ESCO IT occupations. The scheme, based on the EQF, EQAVET and ECVET criteria, will guarantee VET mutual comparability and harmonisation of e-skills curricula at EU level to enable ICT skilled professionals' and workers' mobility.

2 **Fostering social dialogue** to find common sectorial agreements and job matching approaches between workers and enterprises benefitting from the shared tools settled.

3 **Establishing governance mechanisms** based on continuous improvement and quality label

Main outcomes of the eCF Alliance

The **eCF Alliance** will implement about 15 e-competences from the eCF 3.0 into learning units; design and implement a joint vocational qualification based on ESCO IT occupations by pilot blended/ local/ transnational joint training actions; develop ESCO/eCF-based competence certification scheme. Such pilot initiative will addressed to European IT workers.

The eCF Alliance will build a **network of stakeholders** including:

Companies & SMEs

The unions representing the employees of the ICT sector are instrumental to the successful implementation of the activities of the eCF Alliance as they can contribute to clarifying the training needs to support the upskilling of the existing workforce.

Employers & professional associations

The eCF Alliance will provide a forum where employers and professional associations could better communicate their skills requirements and reach a consensus on the real ICT sector skill needs and the e-competences required for both businesses and professionals to exploit the potential of new digital technologies.

Certification bodies

Certification bodies will be able to align closely to the market needs and measure the appropriate elements of the professional competences in demands.

Public authorities

Public authorities including Ministries, local authorities and Digital National Agencies can play an important role in supporting the key objectives of the eCF Alliance. They can help the Consortium achieve recognition and visibility to the overall ICT professional system; aligning VET offers with their and IT SMEs' needs; implementing an official mechanism of governance; guaranteeing the quality.

Social partners

The unions representing the employees of the ICT sector are instrumental to the successful implementation of the activities of the eCF Alliance as they can contribute to clarifying the training needs to support the upskilling of the existing workforce.

Training institutions

The eCF Alliance will allow training institutions to develop EU-wide training offers aimed to increase the employability of students and those seeking for jobs across Europe. The IT curricula, training programmes and methodologies developed by the eCF Alliance will be aligned with the latest frameworks and standards on e-skills both at EU and global level. This will guarantee that the developed curricula reflect the view of ICT industry and other relevant stakeholders.

By getting involved in the activities of the eCF Alliance, training institutions will guarantee a high quality level of the training programmes, through the setup of a continuous improvement process in the design and in the delivery of the training programmes. From the users' point of view, the harmonised certification developed under the eCF will guarantee them a better recognition of their competences across Europe.

PROJECT PARTNERS

ADFOR
www.adfor.it

BASSCOM
www.basscom.org

bitA Centre
www.bita-center.com

CC.OO. Servicios
www.ccoo-servicios.es

CEFRIEL
www.cefriel.com

CIONET
www.cionet.com

CNA
www.cna.it

DG Formación
(Comunidad de Madrid)
cftic.centrosdeformacion.
empleo.madrid.org/

DIGITALEUROPE
www.digitaleurope.org

ESI CEE
esicenter.bg

EXIN
www.exin.com

FIOM Lombardia
www.fiom.lombardia.it

Fondazione Politecnico di
Milano (FPM)
www.fondazionepolitecnico.it

NAVET (NAPOO)
www.navet.government.bg

European Digital
SME Alliance
www.digitalsme.eu

UAH
www.uah.es

ASSOCIATE PARTNERS

CGIL
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