



EQF-Based Model VET Curriculum for Plastics Production Line Conductor

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAM

Project Supervision Report

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In this report an overview of the flow of Erasmus+ project UPSKILL (EQF-Based Model VET Curriculum for Plastics Production Line Conductor). This project supervision is carried out based on observations as working as a team member, discussions with project partners and various reports produced to report the progress of the project. Each work package is discussed shortly separately, some words are used to discuss the Steering Group Meetings and finally, a few concluding remarks are presented.

WP1 Qualifications & Curricula Research

The lead of WP1 was in Lithuania, KPMPC. It seemed that each project member organization had some difficulties in organizing themselves to work effectively in this project but soon the aims of WP1 were clear to everyone. The ways to co-operate developed when the project began to use Google Drive instead of sending document versions by email.

Due to the delay in the starting phase and some confusion in the ways of internet based co-working in the initiation phase, the Steering Committee postponed the desired finalizing date (January 31st) of WP1, and it was approved by Steering Committee in the beginning of May.

WP2 Design of VET Curriculum

The beginning of WP2 was postponed to April from original February due to the delay of the of WP1. An unfortunate case of serious health problems of the responsible person in TREDU combined with organizational challenges of this organization the beginning of WP2 finally was started in May in the lead of VMP and ISPA. The work proceeded well during the summer and the final version of WP2 was accepted in the Steering Group Meeting in Paris on October 2nd.

WP3 Design of Training Material for Students and Teachers

WP3 was started in in time in July even though WP2 was still in progress. ISPA was effectively in lead during summer and TREDU followed in August. Clarey, the project had learned from the difficulties in leadership and keeping the timetables in cases of WP1 and WP2 and the work was efficiently divided already in the beginning and the deadlines were discussed and set in the Steering Group Meeting in October. There is a credible plan of finalizing this WP in time which is essential since WP4 is piloting that requires careful planning. It is clear to the UPSKILL project that towards the end of the project the flexibility of the time table is restricted.

WP5 Quality Assurance and Evaluation

WP5 is ongoing during the whole program. Linpra and FPC have guided project partners effectively in order to obtain all the required documentation to assess and evaluate both process and outcomes on UPSKILL project.

WP6 Dissemination and Exploitation

EuPC have had the leadership of WP6 and this ongoing WP has reached all its goals in time. Project partners have reported their dissemination activities as required.

WP7 Project management

WP7 has an important role in order to guide the project in successful final results. The role of program management has made it possible for the project to develop its processes towards appropriate and functional results. WP7 seems to have clear instructions provided by EU.

Kick Off Meeting in Vilnius

The UPSKILL became real reality when the project met in Vilnius in November 2018. The meeting was well organized but there seemed to be some confusion in the air about how the project partners were to conduct this development project. Maybe it would have been useful to go through the WPs quickly on day one and the second day could have been used in group formation activities and maybe in really beginning the work of WP1.

Steering Group in Tampere

The project had its first Steering Group meeting in January 2019 in Tampere. TREDU hosted the meeting day and school visit in professional manner. Lot of discussion was initiated during the school visit. Again, some more time for co-working instead of listening presentation could have enhanced trust between the partners.

Steering Group in Paris

There was a clear positive change in the atmosphere of the project in this meaning. It could be interpreted that project partners had learned to know each other. There were again some changes in personnel of some partners and organized networking activities could have been useful.

General observations

The UPSKILL project is on its way to reach clearly the objectives set to it.

As a general comment, I could almost suggest that WP1 of each project could be learned to know the ones you work with. In the case of UPSKILL this could be justified firstly with the fact that (VET) education systems are different and lot of discussion is required in order to create common understanding of what the project is about to achieve. Second issue is that at VET level most of the education is given in each country in their own language. This means that there are no requirements in language skills for the teachers and the international co-operation can face special challenges when teachers from partner countries should work together. All in all, it can be said that the group forming activities in the beginning of the project would most probably pay back the time used to them during the project in form of smoother progress of work.

Conclusions

The Project has achieved its goals even though WP1 and WP2 were delayed based on various reasons. The partners are currently working effectively with WP3 in strict lead of ISPA and Tredu. Appropriate guiding actions have been made the enhancing project working possible. UPSKILL is clearly a project having motivated and ambitious partners making meaningful improvement to European level VET education of Plastic Production Line Conductor.