

EU tools for Transparency: Impact on National systems

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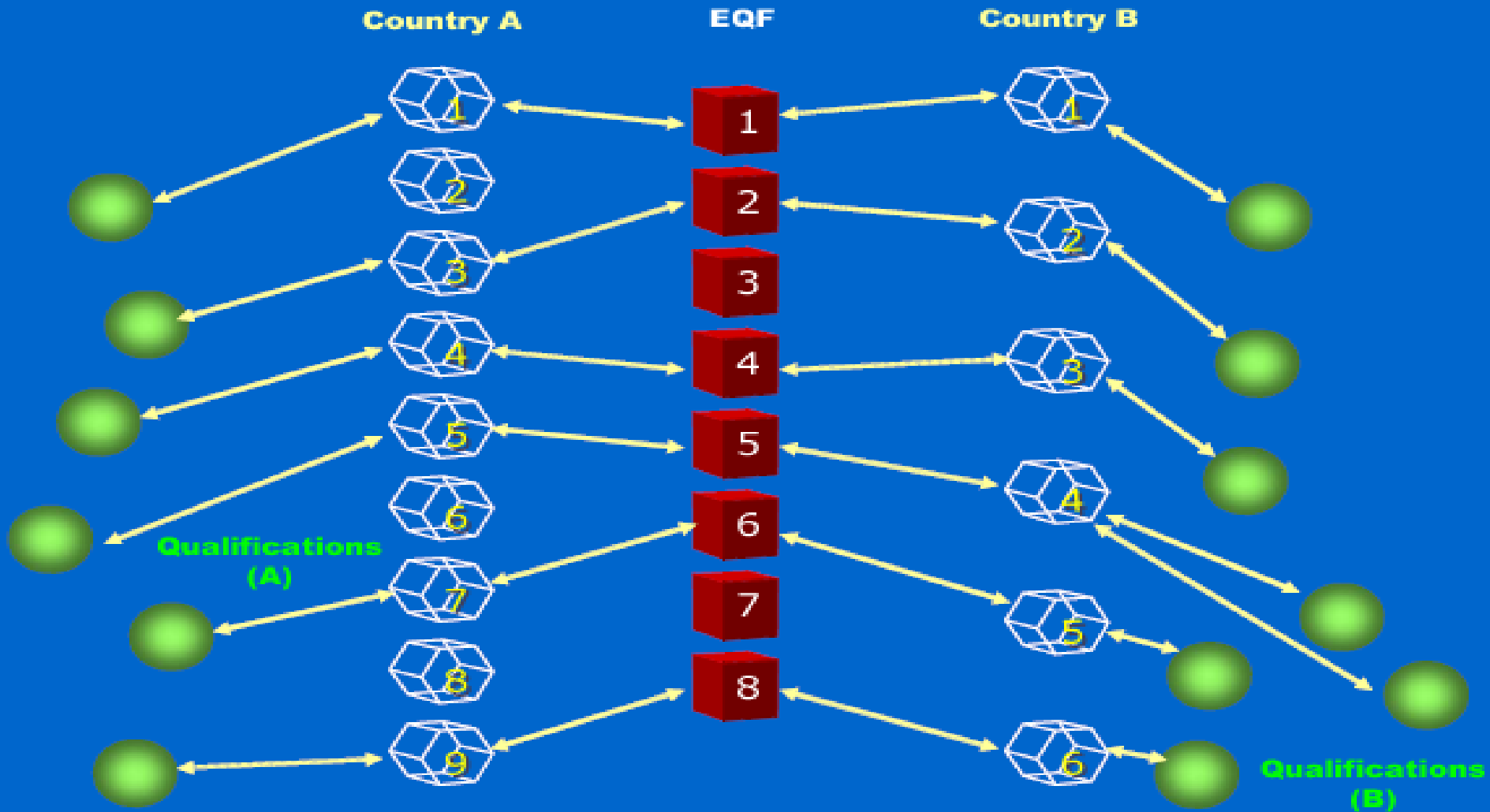
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- **What are the main EU tools and how do they fit together?**
- **What is the intended impact on national systems?**
- **UK (Scotland) – a case study**

Tools and synergies





- Five aspects:
 - **CV:** a common way to express a person's education, career and achievements
 - **Language Passport:** a self assessment instrument for language skills and language qualifications
 - **Europass Mobility:** a way of documenting the knowledge and skills acquired in another European country
 - **Certificate Supplement:** describes the knowledge and skills recognised in VET certificates
 - **Diploma Supplement:** describes the learning programme followed by holders of HE degrees

Facilitate validation, recognition and accumulation of work-related skills gained during a stay in another country

Learners can gain the required learning outcomes for qualifications over time in different countries and in different situations

Increase the attractiveness of moving between countries and different learning environments

New reference instrument to promote and monitor the quality and improvements within VET systems

Develops mutual trust and understanding across European VET systems

Promotes European collaboration in developing and improving quality assurance in VET

Main users: regional / national authorities, public and private bodies who are involved in ensuring and improving the quality of VET systems

Improve matching between job seekers and job vacancies by using common language between education and training and work

Based on three 'pillars'

- Occupations
- Skills/competence
- Qualifications

Complements and builds on existing classifications, including UK's National Occupational Standards

Only European multilingual classification linking skills and competences to occupations and is available free of charge

| Tool | What it can do for you |
|---|---|
| <p>European Qualifications Framework (EQF) www.ofqual.gov.uk www.ccea.org.uk www.scqf.org.uk www.cqfw.net</p> | <p>The EQF makes it easier for you to compare the level of your qualifications with those in other countries. Employers and college recruiters in Europe will be able to understand your UK qualification level and what it means in their country.</p> <p>There is also a handy comparison tool available on the EQF website:</p> <p>http://eqf.intrasoft-intl.com/eqf/compare_en.htm</p> |
| <p>Europass (www.uknec.org.uk/)</p> | <p>This set of templates (including one for a European CV) will help you if you want to move jobs in the UK or abroad or if you want to study in a different country. The templates make it clear to others what you have learned, including your qualifications and personal achievements. It also helps UK employers appreciate what a non UK applicant has achieved.</p> |



**European Credit transfer
system for VET
(ECVET)**

www.ecvetexperts.org.uk/

If you study or work for a short time in another country this tool will allow you to bring back credit towards your study for a UK qualification. It will also let you take credit for what you have learned here in the UK when you study in another country.

**European Quality Assurance
system for VET
(EQAVET)**

www.eqavet.eu/gns/about-eqavet/network-members/national-reference-points/uk.aspx

This initiative works in the background to make sure the quality of education and training programmes (in the UK and abroad) can be trusted so you can feel more confident that you will benefit from your training and qualifications.

**European skills, competences
and occupations (ESCO)**

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/BlobServlet?docId=5653&langId=en>

This new initiative will help you find jobs in the UK and other countries. It will allow you to see what employers from the UK and other countries want in terms of skills and qualifications and it will help you appreciate what skills and qualifications you have or might need for certain jobs.



scottish credit and
qualifications framework

How the European tools can help you

You can use

Your qualifications



Your other
knowledge, skills
and experience

Together with the European tools

Europass

Making all of your achievements visible and understandable abroad.

ESCO

Information about jobs and the knowledge and skills to do them.

EQF

Know the level of your qualifications abroad.

ECVET

Making sure you get credit for learning and working abroad.

EQAVET

Be confident that training is of good quality.

To help achieve a

Job in another
country

Job in the UK

A study place
abroad

Informal and non formal learning (1)

Have in place by 2018 arrangements for the validation of non-formal and informal learning which enable individuals to:

a) have knowledge, skills and competences validated;

b) obtain part or full qualification.

- The validation arrangements are linked to NQFs;
- Information and guidance is available to individuals and organisations;
- Unemployed people can have a skills audit aimed at identifying their knowledge, skills and competences, ideally within six months;
- Guidance and counselling is available and is readily accessible;

Informal and non formal learning (2)

- Transparent quality assurance measures exist that are in place that support reliable, valid and credible assessment methodologies and tools;
- The development of the professional competences of staff involved in the validation process is available;
- Qualifications comply with agreed standards that are either the same as, or equivalent to, the standards of qualifications obtained through formal education programmes;
- The use of EU transparency tools, such as the Europass framework, is promoted in order to facilitate the documentation of learning outcomes.

Impact in the UK (1)

- EQF Referencing completed in 2009. Scotland since revised level descriptors to better match EQF amongst other things. England and NI considering future of their two frameworks (general and VET)
- Establishment of the UK Co-ordinating Group for European VET initiatives
- Publication of European VET Initiatives leaflet
- Considerable curriculum and structural changes within different education systems in the UK – implications for referencing? Seminar planned June 2013.

Impact in the UK (2)

- All UK countries currently considering EQAVET and how best to streamline QA and include better statistical data
- Europass not used consistently – how do we embed further?
- ECVET – considerable progress made with mobility projects
- RIFNFL – just starting to discuss way forward and fit with other initiatives

ECVET to date

- Launch of ECVET Experts website
www.ecvetexperts.org.uk
- Production of ECVET Experts Flyer
- Survey of 139 Leonardo Mobility practitioners
- Created comprehensive Guidance Notes on implementing ECVET in European mobility
- FOUR country specific ECVET events underway
- Face to face support offered – 45 visits to date

In summary

- View the initiatives as enabling not additional bureaucracy
- Identify opportunities for synergies
- Think carefully about how to communicate
- Keep the importance of your national system and your own stakeholders first