



ComProCom

ComProCom is an Erasmus+ strategic partnership project concerned with developing more adequate descriptions of competence for higher-level occupations. The project has partners in six countries and will involve framework development and trialling in five professional or industry sectors. It will produce a methodological guide, course programme for framework developers, and academic output discussing the project results in the context of emerging theories and practices relating to professional competence and entry-routes. The project is supported by the European Commission via the State Scholarships Foundation (IKY) in Greece, and will run from September 2015 for two years.

Project description

ComProCom is designed to improve the way that professional competence is described and represented, particularly in relation to complex work in higher-level occupations where outcome-based conceptions of competence have proved most challenging.

The project stems from international interest in what might be called a 'second-generation' approach to describing competence that has emerged among some UK professions. This approach is concise but holistic, and appears to be highly robust as well as being able to accommodate the evolution of practice without frequent revision. It can be characterised as:

- External or activity-based – it is concerned primarily with what practitioners need to be able to do, rather than with their knowledge, skills and other attributes
- Centre-outwards – it focuses on matters central to the profession or field of work, rather than all the possible roles that its members could perform
- Universal – it is equally applicable to different specialisms, roles and contexts, generally without needing a 'core and specialist' structure.

From a UK perspective, the project will test this approach to see what it has to offer to other countries and contexts in Europe, as well as gathering feedback to challenge and strengthen it.

Development and trialling will take place as follows:

- *Austria* Business administration
- *Germany* Chemical engineering
- *Greece* Social entrepreneurship
- *Ireland* Training and development
- *Poland* Management of innovation.

The project will also set up a standing forum to support agencies, professional bodies, practitioners and academics to share and discuss practice, research and conceptualisations relevant to professional competence.

Timeline

The project has been approved for Erasmus+ funding (project number 2015-1-EL01-KA202-013960) via the State Scholarships Foundation (IKY) in Greece, and will run from September 2015 to August 2017. The main stages are initial investigation (late 2015), knowledge transfer (early 2016), framework development and testing (2016 and into 2017), and evaluation (spring 2017). Each partner will hold a dissemination event in its own country, culminating in an international conference in Athens in mid-2017.

In the UK, a seminar and discussion session will take place in London on 6th May 2016.

Partners

Hellenic Agency for Local Development and Local Government (EETAA)

Athens, Greece

www.eetaa.gr

Lead partner; social entrepreneurship

Stan Lester Developments

Taunton, United Kingdom

devmts.org.uk

Intellectual lead, methodology (not trialling)

Die Berater

Vienna, Austria

www.dieberater.eu/

Business administration

Instytut Technologii Eksploatacji-PIB (ITeE-PIB)

Radom, Poland

www.itee.radom.pl

Background research; managers of innovation

Irish Institute of Training and Development (IITD)

Naas, Ireland

www.iitd.ie

Developer training; training and development

Sächsische Bildungsgesellschaft für Umweltschutz und Chemieberufe Dresden mbH (SBG)

Dresden, Germany

www.sbgdd.de

Chemical engineers

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