

The EQonomist

POWERED BY EQAVET 4.0

EQAVET 4.0
Takes Off:
**Redefining
Quality for
Tomorrow's VET**



Co-funded by
the European Union



EQAVET 4.0

for quality in outcome-oriented VET

**JULY 2025
ISSUE NO.01**

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Word from the Coordinator

An editor's letter has multiple purposes, ranging from informative to formal. It helps readers understand the creative direction of a particular issue, provides an overview of the magazine's contents, and explains how the theme of the issue resonates with readers.

If you plan to write an editor's letter, make sure to clearly define your goals from the outset.

Depending on your needs, you can adopt a fun and creative or straightforward approach. Typically, an editor's letter consists of three main parts: the introduction, main paragraph, and conclusion.

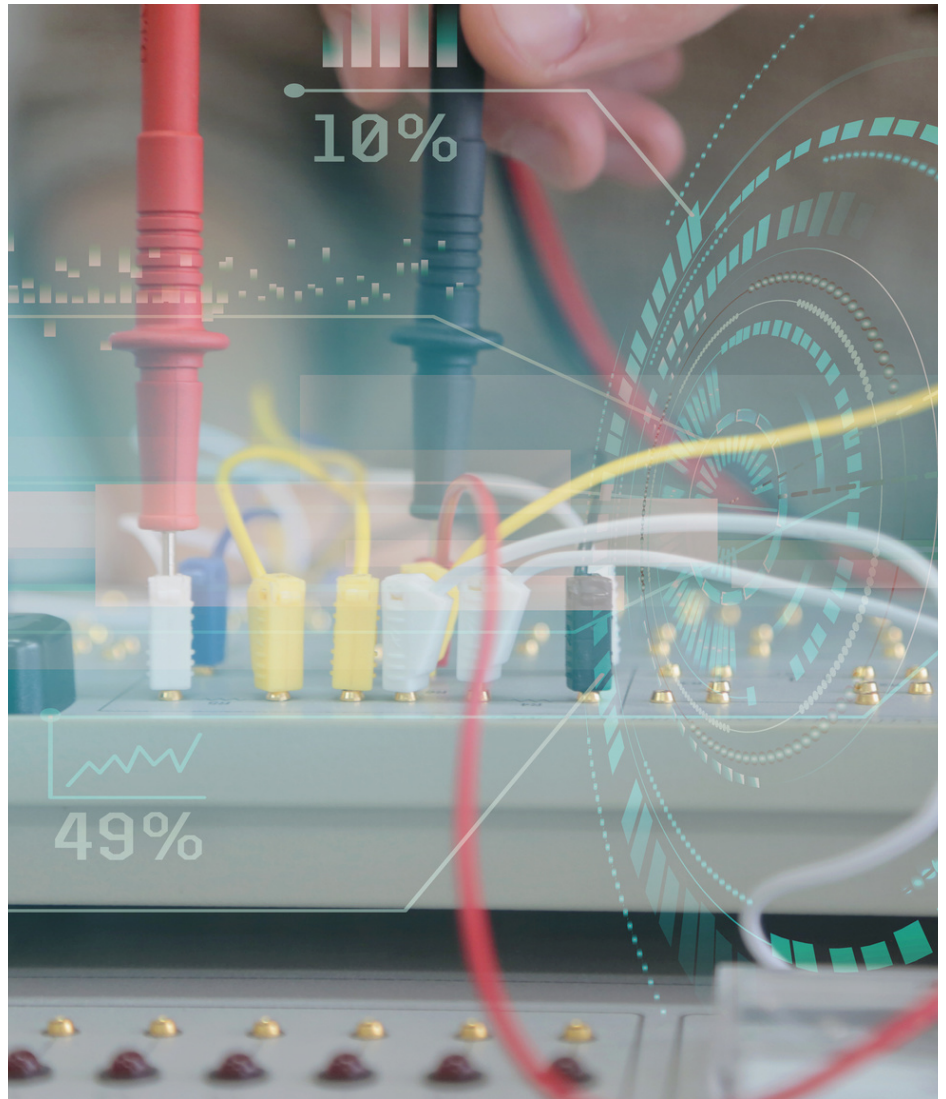
Your letter's introduction can be a brief greeting, polite establishment of your purpose, or a background explanation. The main paragraph should contain the most important points of your message, while the conclusion summarizes your ideas and may also include a closing statement or salutation.

Regardless of your reason for writing, remember to stay organized and plan your letter's contents before publishing the magazine.

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, featuring a large, looping initial and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

EQAVET 4.0
COORDINATOR

About EQAVET 4.0



Born from the need to modernize and align vocational education and training (VET) with real labor market demands, EQAVET 4.0 was developed to enhance quality assurance systems across Europe. It builds on the original EQAVET framework by introducing an innovative, outcome-oriented approach that bridges the gap between education and employment. At its heart is the “VET LOOP” methodology, which evaluates how well VET programs respond to sectoral needs in terms of both quantity and quality, focusing on employability, job relevance, and learner satisfaction. This evolution is not just a technical upgrade; it is a cultural shift toward more data-driven, job-centered, and learner-sensitive quality assurance in VET.

ACHIEVING QUALITY THROUGH SECTORAL RELEVANCE

So, how will we achieve this bold vision? EQAVET 4.0 introduces a three-pronged strategy to embed outcome orientation in VET systems: First, sectoral mapping tools will provide a clear picture of each economic sector’s needs, offering transparency about job profiles and required training paths. Second, detailed job profiles will be created to help align curricula with specific labor market expectations.



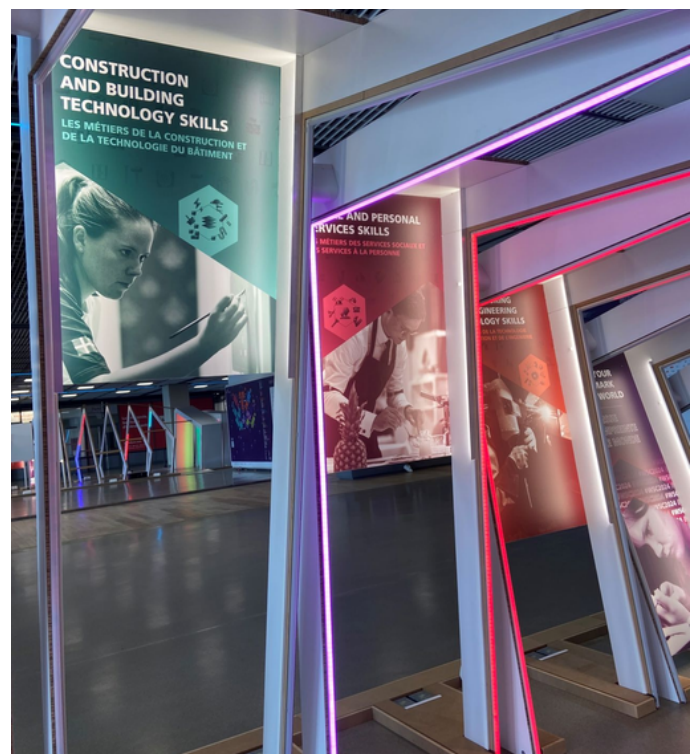


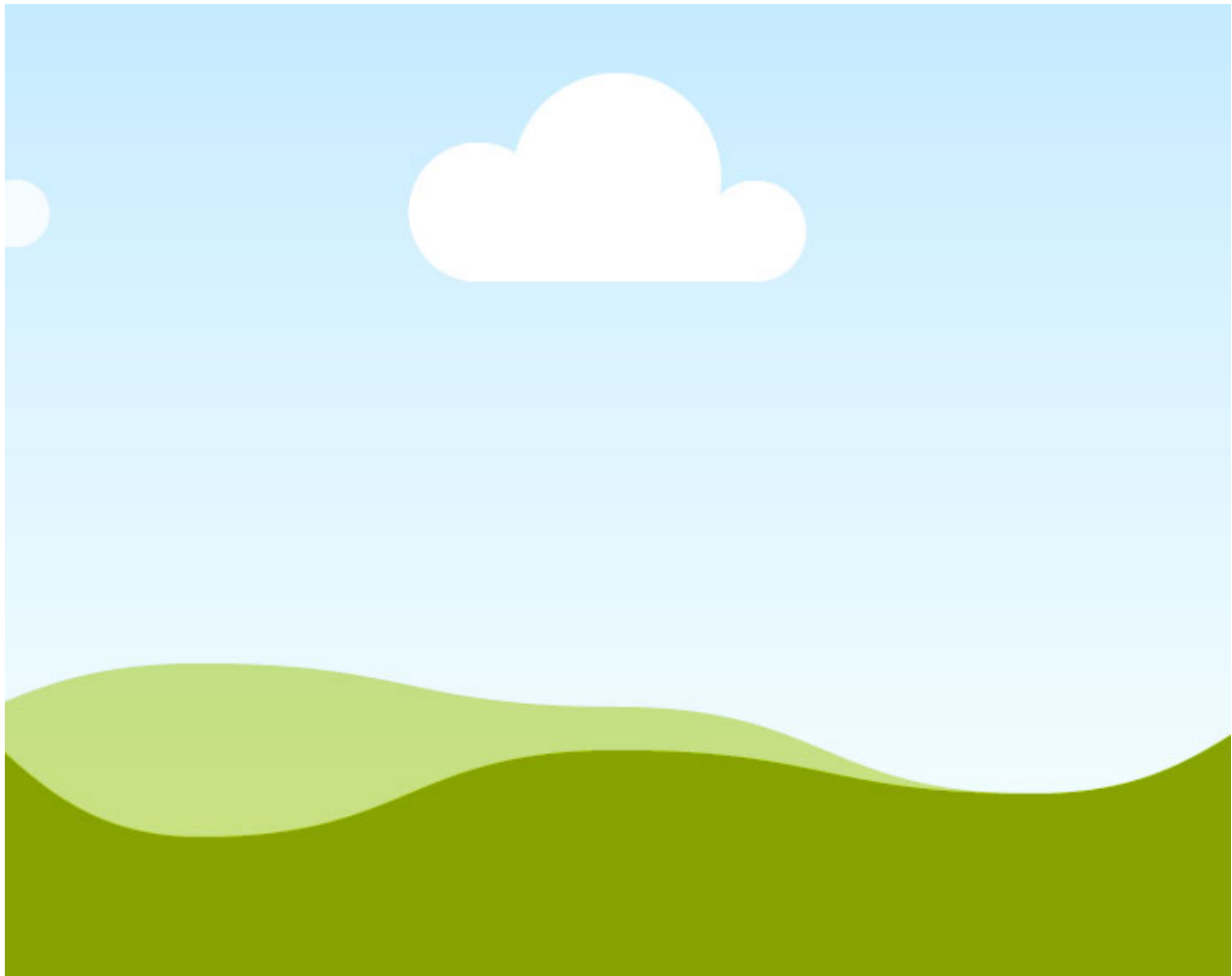
FORUM FOR VOCATIONAL EXCELLENCE 2024

Finally, a comprehensive assessment methodology will evaluate VET outcomes through feedback from companies, training providers, and learners themselves. This closed-loop system ensures continuous improvement and responsiveness, making VET more adaptive, more relevant, and ultimately, more effective.

“

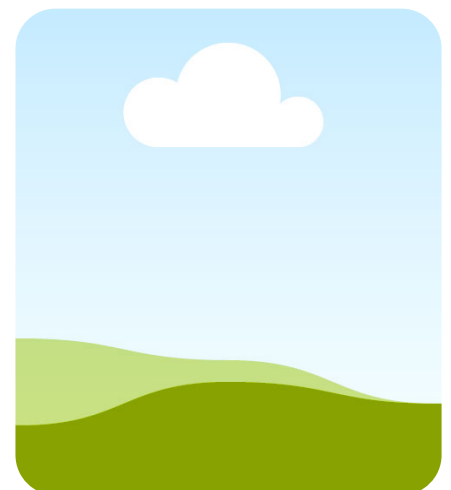
**WHEN
VOCATIONAL
EDUCATION
LISTENS TO THE
LABOUR MARKET,
LEARNERS DON'T
JUST GRADUATE
—THEY THRIVE**





What is the VET LOOP?

At the core of EQAVET 4.0 lies a transformative concept: *the VET LOOP*. More than a methodology, the VET LOOP is a continuous feedback and quality improvement cycle designed to ensure that vocational education and training (VET) remains dynamic, responsive, and directly connected to the labor market. It redefines how we evaluate success in VET, not only by completion rates or curriculum standards but by real-world outcomes: Are learners finding relevant jobs? Are employers satisfied with their skills? Do training providers get meaningful feedback to adapt and improve?



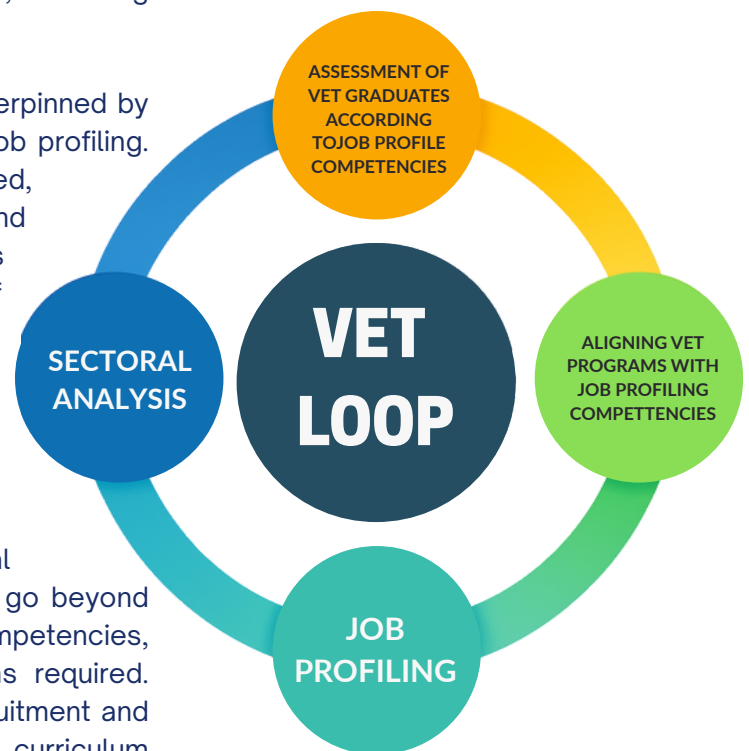
Closing the Gap Between Training and Employment

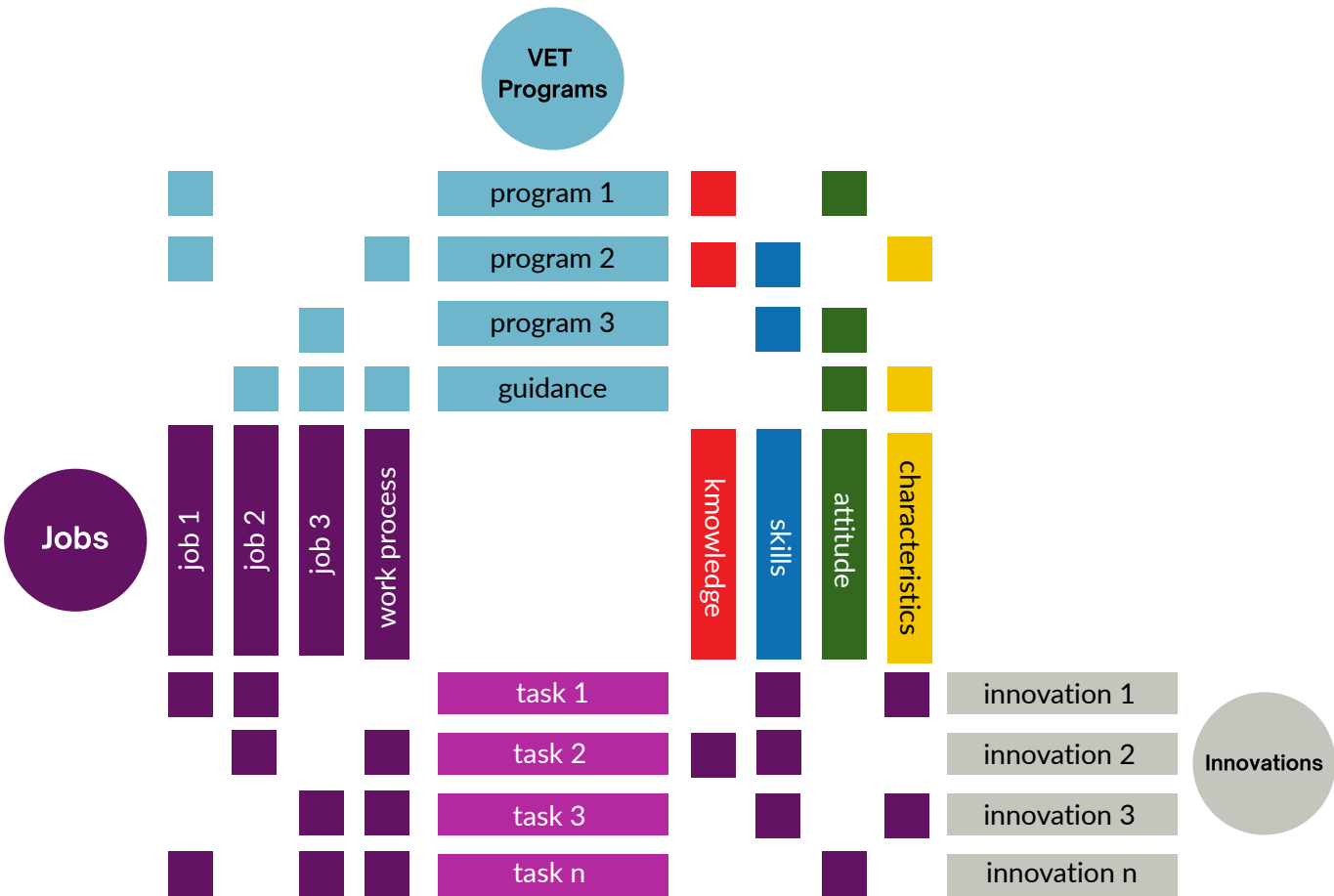
The LOOP connects the three key actors in VET: learners, training providers, and employers, in a systematic way. Graduates who have transitioned into employment are assessed based on three key dimensions: their own satisfaction with the relevance and usefulness of their training, the expectations and feedback of VET providers, and most critically, the satisfaction of employers with the graduate's performance on the job. This multi-angled evaluation creates a 360-degree feedback mechanism that feeds directly back into curriculum design, teaching strategies, and sectoral priorities.

But the LOOP doesn't stop there. It is also underpinned by two foundational tools: sectoral mapping and job profiling. The sectoral mapping process provides a detailed, dual-dimensional overview of the labor market and the educational offerings aligned to it. It outlines both the level of qualification and the content of VET programs, mapping them against actual sector needs. This not only helps learners understand viable career paths but also helps educators and policymakers align training with real demand.

Job profiles, on the other hand, serve as practical blueprints for each role within a sector. They go beyond vague job titles to describe in detail the competencies, skills, working environments, and qualifications required. These profiles are used by companies for recruitment and training, and by VET institutions to guide curriculum development.

Together, these components of the VET LOOP create an ecosystem of transparency, accountability, and continuous refinement. Instead of a linear process where education ends at graduation, the LOOP ensures that learning never stops, and that every stakeholder in the VET landscape is both a contributor to and a beneficiary of the system's improvement. In this way, EQAVET 4.0 doesn't just measure what's been done, it shapes what comes next.

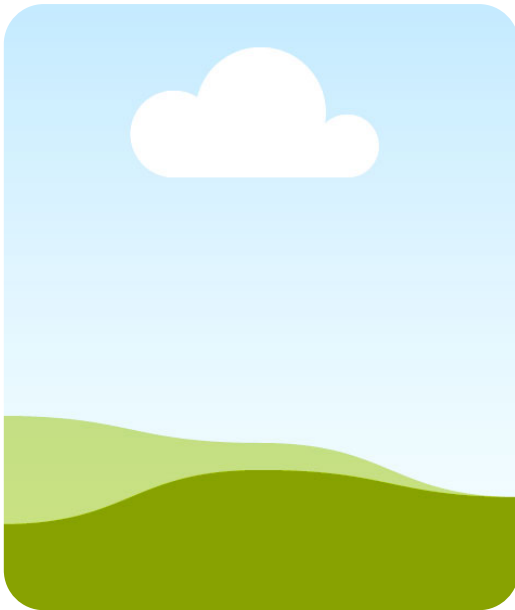




SECTORAL MAPPING AND JOB PROFILES

For the VET LOOP to function effectively, it needs solid ground to stand on. That foundation is provided by two powerful tools: sectoral mapping and job profiles. Together, they offer a structured understanding of how vocational education connects to real labor market needs, not in abstract terms, but with clarity, precision, and practical value.

Sectoral mapping is the first critical step. It involves creating a detailed, dual-axis overview of each economic sector, combining education levels with job content. This allows stakeholders, namely educators, learners, employers, and policymakers, to clearly see how different professions relate to existing VET programs. Instead of navigating a fragmented or overly general system, users gain a visual and intuitive “map” of how skills and qualifications align with actual job roles and career pathways. This mapping is particularly helpful in identifying both gaps in training provision and opportunities for upskilling or reskilling.



CAPTION

CAPTION

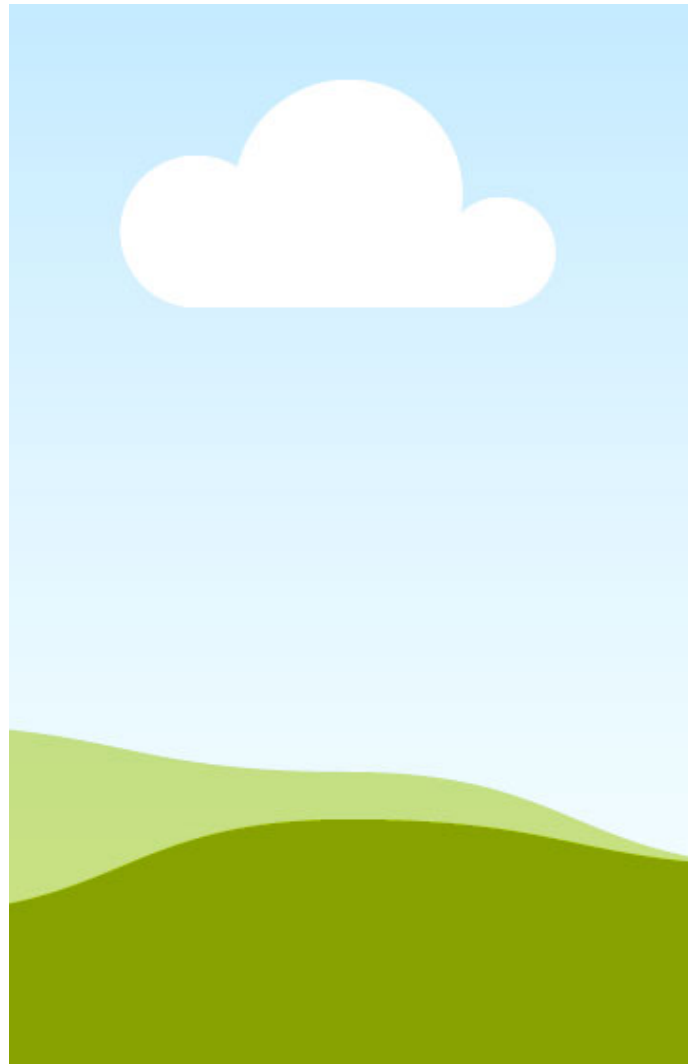
From Maps to Meaning: Understanding the Job Behind the Title

But mapping alone is not enough. To truly understand what the labor market demands, job profiles must be defined with depth and consistency. These profiles go beyond job titles, they describe the skills, qualifications, responsibilities, work environments, and expected levels of performance associated with each role. They are designed to be usable by all stakeholders: VET providers use them to align curricula; employers use them in recruitment and onboarding; and learners can use them to better understand what is expected in the workplace.

Each job profile serves as a bridge between education and employment. It helps ensure that the training provided is not only comprehensive and modern but truly applicable. Each profile serves

as a bridge between education and employment. It helps ensure that the training provided is not only comprehensive and modern but truly applicable. Profiles include insights into required credentials, technical and soft skills, daily tasks, and long-term growth opportunities, giving a full picture of what success looks like in that role.

In the context of EQAVET 4.0, these tools do more than support learning: they anchor quality assurance in evidence, in demand, and in dialogue with the people and industries VET is meant to serve. They ensure that what is taught is not just accredited, but valued, recognized, and needed.



Meet the Partners

KICK OFF MEETING
UPPSALA, SWEDEN





“
**If you want to
go fast, go
alone. If you
want to go
far, go
together.”**

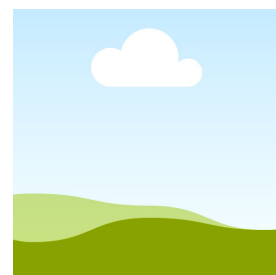
The EQAVET 4.0 consortium brings together a dynamic and multidisciplinary network of 22 organizations from across Europe and beyond. Spanning VET providers, ministries of education, research institutions, chambers of commerce, and industry representatives, this partnership reflects the project's commitment to collaboration across sectors and borders. Each partner contributes unique expertise, whether in quality assurance, curriculum development, digital innovation, or labor market intelligence, ensuring that EQAVET 4.0 is both grounded in practice and visionary in scope. Together, these partners form the engine driving the transformation of outcome-oriented VET.

With representation from 10 countries, the consortium ensures both geographical diversity and local relevance. This rich blend of perspectives strengthens the project's ability to pilot solutions across varied VET systems, making EQAVET 4.0 not just a model, but a movement for quality in vocational education across Europe.

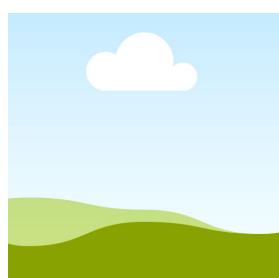
Folkuniversitetet



Folkuniversitetet Uppsala is the project coordinator of EQAVET 4.0. As a leading provider of adult and continuing education in Sweden, it brings extensive experience in international cooperation, quality assurance in VET, and innovation in lifelong learning. The organisation is responsible for the overall management and strategic direction of the project, ensuring that all activities align with the objectives and quality standards of the Erasmus+ programme.



Sustainability InnoCenter



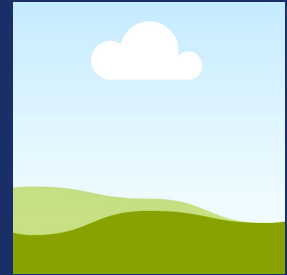
Sustainability InnoCenter is a Swedish NGO based in Uppsala, specialised in sustainability, innovation, and the green transition. It supports the development of green skills and fosters inclusive learning through workshops, hackathons, and collaborative projects. Within EQAVET 4.0, the organisation contributes its expertise in stakeholder engagement, green competence frameworks, and the design of innovative learning tools for VET learners and educators.



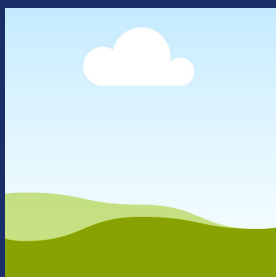
Trim Tab AB



Trim Tab AB is a private Swedish company specialised in employment services, VET training, and digital upskilling. With extensive experience in labour market integration, the organisation develops innovative pathways to support jobseekers, migrants, and individuals with low digital literacy. In EQAVET 4.0, Trim Tab leads the work on VET outcomes assessment, contributing tools and methodologies to evaluate training effectiveness and support quality improvement in vocational education. supports the development of green skills and fosters inclusive learning through workshops, hackathons, and collaborative projects.



Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine



The Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine is the national authority responsible for education policy, reform, and alignment with EU standards. Within EQAVET 4.0, the Ministry provides strategic guidance and policy coordination, ensuring that project outcomes contribute to the ongoing modernisation of the Ukrainian VET system. Its role is critical in facilitating stakeholder engagement and supporting the implementation of quality assurance frameworks at national level.



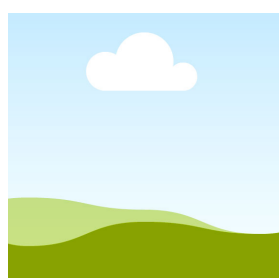
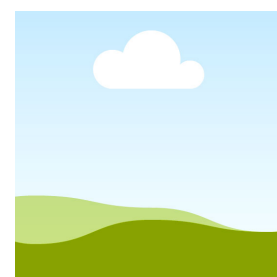
MINISTRY
OF EDUCATION AND
SCIENCE OF UKRAINE

Interregional High Vocational School of Automobile Transport and Construction

This public VET institution provides specialised training in automotive engineering, transport, and construction. With strong links to industry and a focus on technical innovation, the school prepares students for careers in dynamic sectors of the economy. As part of EQAVET 4.0, the institution contributes to the piloting and testing of new tools for job profiling, learning outcomes assessment, and the digitalisation of vocational training processes.



МІЖРЕГІОНАЛЬНЕ
ВИЩЕ ПРОФЕСІЙНЕ
УЧИЛИЩЕ
АВТОМОБІЛЬНОГО
ТРАНСПОРТУ ТА
БУДІВНИЦТВА



NGO Mentor

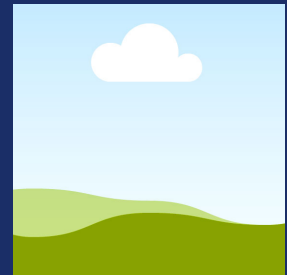
NGO Mentor is a non-profit organisation committed to improving youth employability, educational inclusion, and career guidance. With a strong background in digital education and social innovation, the organisation supports young learners and vulnerable groups through tailored training and mentoring. Within EQAVET 4.0, Mentor contributes to the design of inclusive learning pathways, supports stakeholder communication, and participates in testing tools aimed at enhancing the accessibility and relevance of VET.



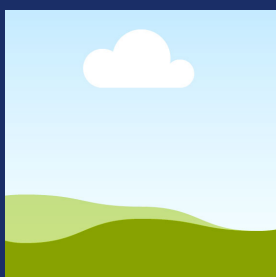
MMC Management Center Ltd.



MMC is a private VET provider and consulting company with extensive experience in European projects, adult education, and quality assurance systems. As an accredited training institution, MMC specialises in curriculum development, validation of non-formal learning, and capacity building for trainers. In EQAVET 4.0, MMC supports the development of assessment tools, contributes to quality frameworks, and brings expertise in the implementation of EQAVET principles at institutional level.



Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry



The Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry is a national federation representing over 8,000 businesses across all sectors. As a key social partner in Cyprus, it plays an active role in VET policy and labour market coordination. With long-standing experience in EU-funded projects, CCCI develops tailored training programmes that respond to real labour market needs and participates in national committees on education, employment, and lifelong learning. In EQAVET 4.0, CCCI supports job profiling and stakeholder outreach.

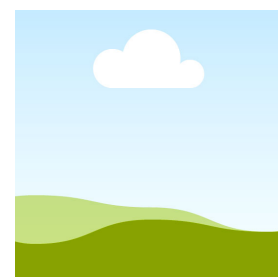


Cyprus
Chamber of
Commerce &
Industry

Tech-Park Kaunas



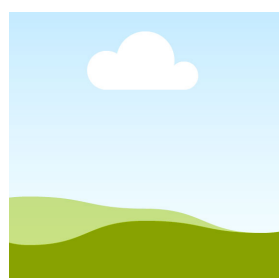
Kaunas Science and Technology Park (Tech-Park Kaunas) supports start-ups and tech companies through business development consulting, innovation services, and incubation. It hosts nearly 100 companies in fields such as IT, engineering, health-tech, and green-tech, and runs the Evolut 4.0 pre-acceleration program for early-stage start-ups. Tech-Park Kaunas also leads the “Digital Rocket LT” cluster, promoting smart city solutions and ICT services. In EQAVET 4.0, it develops green, digital, and AI skills for selected jobs and hosts national and transnational project activities.



TECH-PARK
K A U N A S



SMK College of Applied Sciences



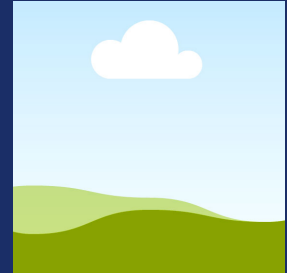
SMK College of Applied Sciences (SMK Aukštoji Mokykla), established in 1994, is Lithuania’s largest private higher education institution, with campuses in Vilnius, Kaunas, and Klaipėda. Renowned for its innovative and experiential learning approach, SMK offers a diverse range of bachelor’s programs in fields such as business, IT, health sciences, arts, and social sciences. The college emphasizes practical, industry-relevant education, with 65% of its teaching staff being active professionals from leading companies..

SMK

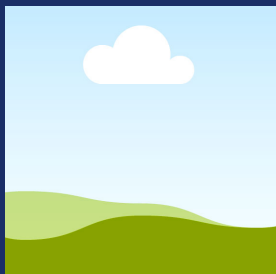
DIMITRA Education & Consulting



DIMITRA is a leading VET provider and consultancy in Greece, offering training, educational research, and innovative services since 1989. With expertise in curriculum development, digital tools, and job profiling, DIMITRA plays a key role in modernising vocational education. In EQAVET 4.0, the organisation supports the design of competence-based job profiles, contributes to learning outcome assessments, and facilitates the development of digital learning content for VET institutions.



Bee Group SA



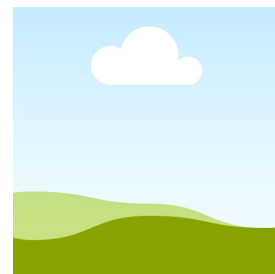
Bee Group is a Greek consulting and technology company specialising in digital transformation, communication strategy, and education innovation. The organisation has broad experience in EU-funded projects, particularly in the fields of skills development, youth empowerment, and digital tools for learning. In EQAVET 4.0, Bee Group is responsible for the project's digital communication strategy, leads the development of the website, and contributes to the co-design of online learning resources and job profiling tools.



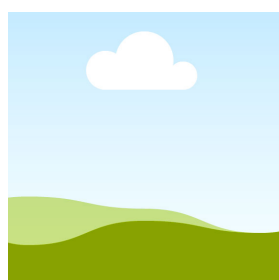
Metropolitan College



Metropolitan College is one of the largest private higher education institutions in Greece, offering undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in collaboration with leading UK universities. With a strong focus on applied learning, the college integrates academic excellence with real-world professional development. In EQAVET 4.0, Metropolitan College contributes to the testing and validation of new job profiles and competence frameworks, supporting the alignment of VET with current labour market needs.



STHEV



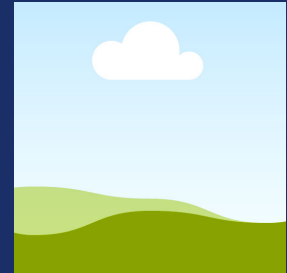
Founded in 1957, STHEV represents the interests of businesses and industries in the Thessaly region of Greece. The association promotes regional economic development through business support, innovation, and policy dialogue. In EQAVET 4.0, STHEV contributes to project management, dissemination, and quality evaluation activities. It also plays a key role in ensuring stakeholder involvement and aligning project results with the needs of the regional labour market.



The Zaragoza Chamber of Commerce



The Zaragoza Chamber of Commerce is a public body and non-profit organisation that supports regional economic development through training, business innovation, and internationalisation. With decades of experience in EU-funded initiatives, the Chamber plays a key role in fostering employability and aligning educational programmes with labour market needs. Within EQAVET 4.0, the organisation contributes to stakeholder engagement, the design of training frameworks, and the promotion of quality assurance in VET, especially through its Training and European Projects Departments.



Rinova Málaga SL



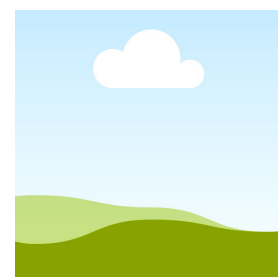
Rinova Málaga is part of the Rinova group, a social enterprise focused on innovation in learning, employability, and the creative industries. The organisation brings strong experience in stakeholder engagement, training development, and inclusive education. Within EQAVET 4.0, Rinova Málaga leads communication and dissemination activities, ensuring that project results reach relevant audiences and contribute to policy and practice at local, national, and European levels.



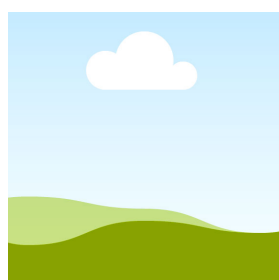
CPIFP Alan Turing



The Integrated Public Vocational Training Centre Alan Turing, located in Málaga, Spain, specialises in IT, electronics, and digital systems. It offers VET programmes at EQF levels 4 and 5, with a strong emphasis on technological innovation and bilingual education. Actively involved in Erasmus+ and other international initiatives, the centre collaborates with companies such as Accenture and AWS. In EQAVET 4.0, CPIFP Alan Turing supports the testing and implementation of digital assessment tools and competence-based job profiles.



Ufficio Scolastico Regionale Abruzzo



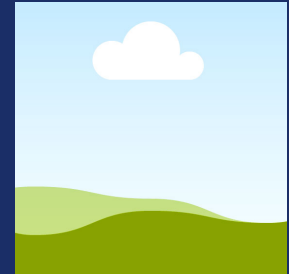
USR Abruzzo is a regional branch of the Italian Ministry of Education, coordinating educational policy and school development across the Abruzzo region. It oversees more than 200 schools and promotes innovation in teaching, training, and school-to-work transition. In EQAVET 4.0, USR Abruzzo contributes to the integration of EQAVET principles in the education system, supports the implementation of job profiling tools, and facilitates cooperation between schools, VET centres, and local industries.



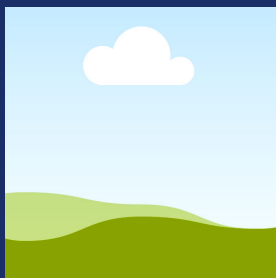
IIS Luigi di Savoia



IIS Luigi di Savoia is a public upper secondary and vocational school located in Chieti, Italy. The institute offers a variety of technical and professional programmes with a strong focus on STEM, innovation, and work-based learning. As part of EQAVET 4.0, the school supports the piloting of job profiles and skills assessment tools, while promoting the integration of EQAVET principles into daily teaching practices and student evaluation.



Walter Tosto



Walter Tosto is a leading industrial company based in Italy, specialised in the design and manufacturing of high-pressure equipment for the energy and petrochemical sectors. With a strong commitment to innovation and workforce development, the company actively supports technical education through internships, training, and collaboration with VET institutions. In EQAVET 4.0, Walter Tosto contributes to the co-design of job profiles and the promotion of work-based learning experiences aligned with industry needs.



EVBB



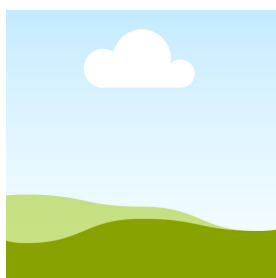
EVBB is a European umbrella organisation representing VET providers and training institutions across Europe. Based in Germany, it advocates for high-quality, inclusive vocational education and supports its members through policy engagement, knowledge exchange, and project-based cooperation. In EQAVET 4.0, EVBB leads policy outreach activities, supports dissemination at EU level, and ensures alignment with European quality assurance frameworks.



Diana Nitu
Project Manager



BGT Consulting Group



BGT is a Belgian consultancy firm specialised in education, innovation, and digital transformation. With expertise in strategic planning, impact assessment, and policy development, BGT supports public and private organisations across Europe. In EQAVET 4.0, BGT contributes to the design of evaluation frameworks, supports the digitalisation of project outputs, and ensures coherence between training content, job profiles, and labour market demands.



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