

RUECVET: THE ECVET NATIONAL TRAINING CENTRES ARE OPEN



2018 is the second year of the implementation of the international RUECVET ERASMUS + project (No. 574097-EPP-1-2016-1-CYEPPKA2-CBHE-JP): Piloting ECVET to the national VET system of Russia and Uzbekistan.

4 ECVET NATIONAL TRAINING CENTRES ESTABLISHED IN YEKATERINBURG, TVER, NUKUS AND KOKAND

Significant events in solving urgent national problems in the VET policy of Russia and Uzbekistan were the opening of 4 ECVET National Training Centres in Yekaterinburg, Tver, Nukus and Kokand in 2018. Training centers were established as part of the international project RUECVET, funded by a grant from the Erasmus + programme.



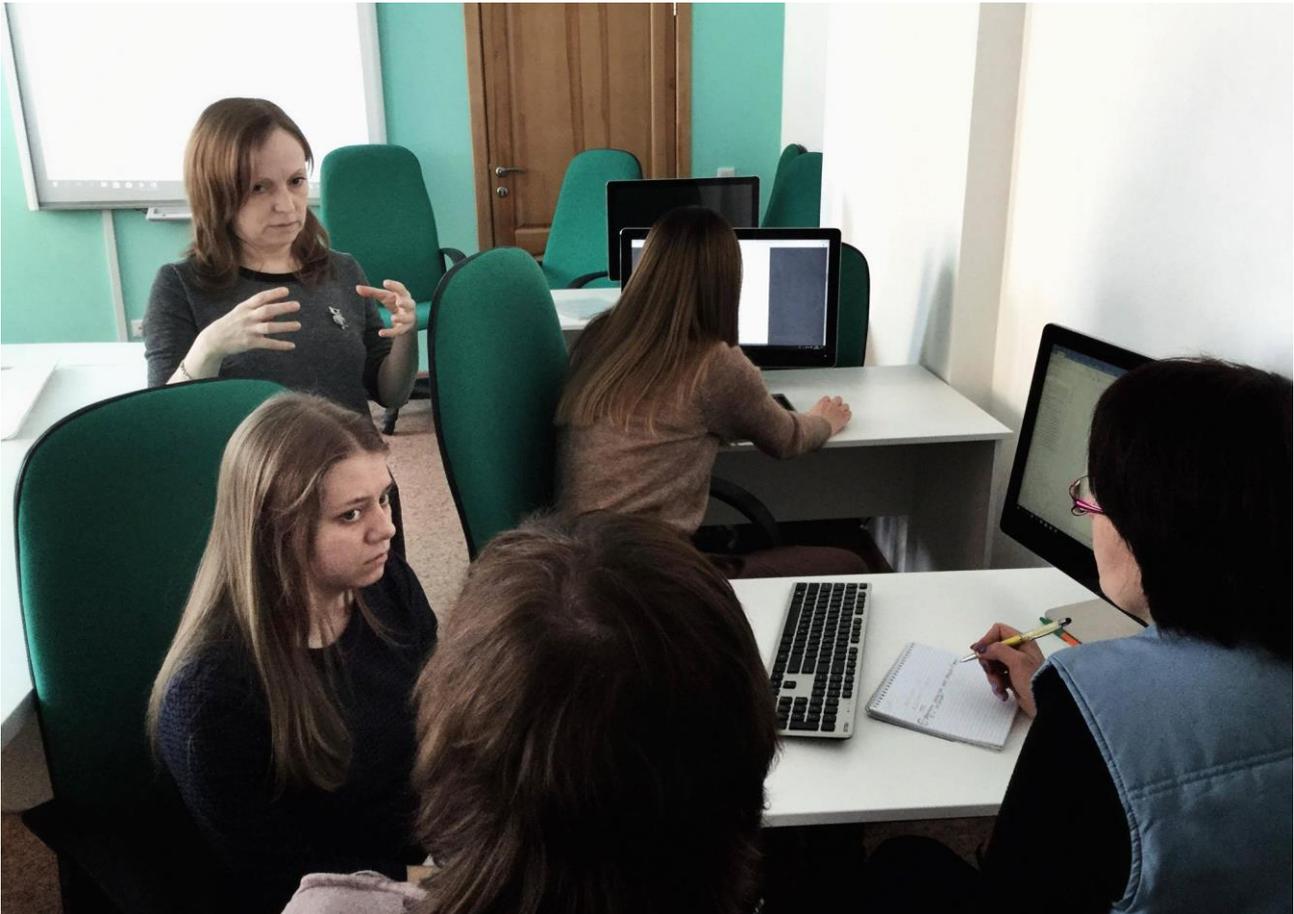
WHAT IS LEARNT AT ECVET NATIONAL TRAINING CENTRES?

The first group of VET/HE teachers, tutors and instructors took part in the continuous professional development (CPD) course "European credit system for vocational education and training ECVET ", 72 academic hours, in the early spring of 2018. As part of the course, students discussed the need to open the "doors" of Russian and Uzbek vocational education and training to foreign students, to

promote academic mobility and to spread Russian and Uzbek experience in vocational education and training in the European educational space. To carry out these actions, learners need to master the skills of using the ECVET.

In addition to a short introductory course, a full 180-hour ECVET course was created enabling learners to implement the principles and technical specifications of ECVET in their colleges.

The CPD courses were developed by members of the transnational team of the RUECVET project; the courses comply with national legislation and the European rules for application of ECVET and the European Qualifications Framework.



During face-to-face theoretical classes learners get acquainted with the main trends that are now observed in the system of vocational education and training in European countries (Bologna process, Copenhagen process, Turin process). They also learn the main tasks of national vocational education and training at the present stage:

- Strengthening and developing international cooperation in the field of vocational education and training;
- Assistance in implementation of the ECVET system in VET organizations based on new information technologies of educational-laboratory and educational-production complexes;
- Creation of a mechanism for harmonizing the interests of all subjects of the domestic and international labor and educational markets;
- Development of a system of additional education and training for employees at VET institutions to study, test and implement ECVET;

- Expanding opportunities to increase vocational training coverage for various age groups of the population;
- Development of modular curricula and methodological support in the context of introducing the credit system;
- Training-the-trainers and experts on the ECVET system.

The course trainers articulated the main directions of the European politics in the enhancement of academic mobility and lifelong learning. Assistance in this is provided by the credit system, which are introduced not only into the system of higher education, but also into the system of vocational education and training. In the Russian Federation and Uzbekistan this process is under development, so adaptation of European experience will provide additional opportunities for establishing closer interactions with potential employers and other stakeholders.

As a part of the course, practical classes are also held, where students learn to select and justify the learning outcomes for a chosen qualification and present the material in a visual format. The further training process under the CPD programme involves performance of reporting work on the proposed topics with their subsequent evaluation and issuance of certificates.

Particularly noteworthy is the fact that learners are sympathetic to the information provided and even put forward several proposals related to implementation of the RUECVET project. For example, a lively discussion causes a debate about the relationship between the concepts of “functional analysis” and “analysis of a qualification”, “analysis of work functions”. It became clear that many definitions used in EU countries cannot always be taken verbatim in the Russian and Uzbek education systems.

The following training groups for this CPD course are expected to be held in 2019 with participation of representatives of VET organizations and other stakeholders. The learning process itself takes place using the on-line platforms Canvas (Tver) and Moodle (Ekaterinburg), which allows us to reach a wider range of stakeholders and attract a wide variety of representatives.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

Basically, ECVET National Training Centres will conduct experimental and methodological support for implementation of credits in vocational education and training based on experience of European countries.

Under the project, the services of the National Centre will be free. Here anyone can:

- Get advice on ECVET theory, policy and practice on-line;
- Take contact and / or distance learning on implementation of ECVET (trainings and workshops).

It is assumed that in the future the activities of National Training Centres will significantly increase the influx of foreign students to colleges of the Russian Federation and Uzbekistan through introduction of technologies for development and conversion of vocational education Curricula into ECVET format. In turn, these events will enhance reputation of national vocational education and its attractiveness to foreign citizens.



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