



eCF Council: A multi-stakeholder partnership for ICT
An Erasmus+ funded project – Sector Skills Alliance KA2

		<p>Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union</p>
<p>eCF Council Project:</p> <p>e-CF Multistakeholder partnership driving ICT professional up-skilling and pick up of employability</p> <p>WP7</p> <p>DLV7.5 – Press review</p>		
Project Number: 562364-EPP-1-2015-1-IT-EPPKA2-SSA	Dissemination Level: Public	



Author	Date	Version	Description
Katarzyna Koziol (DE)	21/11/2018	01	Press review
Katarzyna Koziol (DE)	23/11/2018	02	Press review - final

Support and disclaimers

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission.

This publication [communication] reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	Introduction	4
2.	Press releases	4
2.1	Launch of the project - press release	4
3.	Publications.....	7
3.1	Article in specialised journal - IGI-GLOBAL.....	8
3.2	CIONET Magazine, March 2017.....	9
3.3	Assintel Report 2019	9



1. Introduction

This document gives an overview of all national and international publications, articles and press releases, published in offline and online media outlets, excluding the channels of project partners (such as websites, social media) or related, done along the project life-span.

As per contract dissemination actions has started at the beginning of the project, with the main objective of achieving quickly a continuous flow of information concerning the project. To this end all relevant partners channels to carry messages to project's target groups were used. More information about general dissemination results of the project, covering the whole project's duration, can be found in Deliverable 7.9: Dissemination Report.

It is important to note that there were no media partnerships established for the project outreach, neither support from media agencies to amplify the reach of the communications, as both need to be paid. This had a great impact on the results – number of publications in offline and online media outlets. Promotion and sending press releases to partners networks (including journalists) took place, but it rather helped with signalling the initiative to stakeholders, than led to selection by press and publications in media outlets.

2. Press releases

To disseminate the information as widely as possible, gain media visibility and share news on the project's development in concise way, the consortium shared press releases.

Press releases were produced on the occasion of main events:

- Launch the project – released and shared on 14 December 2015.
- Results of the project – to be published at the end of the project in 2018.

Press releases were issued /posted through the consortium's own channels. Partners were encouraged to translate them in their national languages, if that could help with their wider dissemination (and it happened).

2.1 Launch of the project - press release

Text

“

eCF Council e-CF Multistakeholder partnership driving ICT professional up-skilling and pick up of employability

eCF Council: The EU alliance for ICT professionalism, kicks off in Milan



eCF Council: A multi-stakeholder partnership for ICT
An Erasmus+ funded project – Sector Skills Alliance KA2

On December 14 and 15 in Milan (IT), a European consortium composed of industry associations, social partners, representation of Small-Medium sized Enterprises (SMEs), public authorities, training institutions and certification bodies, launched the “eCF Council”, the first EU Skills Alliance on ICT professionalism. Members of the consortium, which will be financially supported by the European Commission until 2018, are organizations that represent ICT professionalism stakeholders in four EU Member States: Italy, Spain, Bulgaria and The Netherlands. Additionally, the eCF Council features recognized EU umbrella associations such as PIN-SME, representative of European digital SMEs, and Digital Europe, the trade federation of the ICT sector. The coordination of the eCF Council consortium has been assigned to Fondazione Politecnico di Milano. An accredited employment service agency and vocational training centre, Fondazione is an operational structure of the university Polytechnic of Milan, which acts as a bridge between the academia and the industry. The e-CF Council is a platform to foster ICT professionalism at European and international level. It aims at increasing employability in order to reduce the e-skills gap in Europe. With the financial support of the EC, under the Erasmus+ program, during the next three years, the e-CF Council will work at developing unified ICT VET programmes and certifications.

The eCF council partnership includes 16 partners:

Partner	Country	VET provider	Sectoral organisation	Regulatory body
Fondazione Politecnico di Milano - FPM	IT			x
CEFRIEL	IT	x		
CNA	IT		x	
ADFOR	IT			x
FIOM Lombardia	IT		x	
ESI CEE	BULG	x		
BASSCOM	BULG		x	
NAPOO	BULG			x
bITa Center	NDL	x		
CIONET	NDL		x	
EXIN	NDL			x
UAH	ES	x		
CCOO Servicios	ES		x	
DG de Formacion - Comunidad de Madrid	ES			x
PIN-SME	BELGIUM		x (UO)	
DIGITAL EUROPE	BELGIUM		x (UO)	

Should you require more information or would you require to take part, please contact:
Consortium leader: Mr. Paolo Vercesi, Fondazione Politecnico di Milano
paolo.vercesi@polimi.it



Examples of dissemination

Besides the online distribution of the press releases on partners' websites and social media, partners also (especially at the beginning of the project) shared printed version during trainings, events and meetings.

See below a few examples of dissemination:

In English

BASSCOM's website: <http://www.basscom.org/news.aspx?nid=506>

DIGITALEUROPE's website:

http://www.digitaleurope.org/DesktopModules/Bring2mind/DMX/Download.aspx?Command=Core_Download&EntryId=2164&language=en-US&PortalId=0&TabId=353



eCF Council

e-CF Multistakeholder partnership driving ICT professional up-skilling and pick up of employability

eCF Council: The EU alliance for ICT professionalism, kicks off in Milan¹

On December 14 and 15 in Milan (IT), a European consortium composed of industry associations, social partners, representation of Small-Medium sized Enterprises (SMEs), public authorities, training institutions and certification bodies, launched the "eCF Council", the first EU Skills Alliance on ICT professionalism.

Members of the consortium, which will be financially supported by the European Commission until 2018, are organizations that represent ICT professionalism stakeholders in four EU Member States: Italy, Spain, Bulgaria and The Netherlands. Additionally, the eCF Council features recognized EU umbrella associations such as PIN-SME, representative of European digital SMEs, and Digital Europe, the trade federation of the ICT sector.

The coordination of the eCF Council consortium has been assigned to Fondazione Politecnica di Milano. An accredited employment service agency and vocational training centre, Fondazione is an operational structure of the university Polytechnic of Milan, which acts as a bridge between the academia and the industry.

The e-CF Council is a platform to foster ICT professionalism at European and international level. It aims at increasing employability in order to reduce the e-skills gap in Europe. With the financial support of the EC, under the Erasmus+ program, during the next three years, the e-CF Council will work at developing unified ICT VET programmes and certifications.

¹ This document and all contents report and reflect the activities and opinions of eCF Council partnership organizations. The EC and EACEA Agency have no responsibility about contents.



The eCF council partnership includes 16 partners:

Partner	Country	VET provider	Sectoral organisation	Regulatory body
Fondazione Politecnica di Milano - FPM	IT			x
CEFRIEL	IT	x		
CNA	IT		x	
ADFOR	IT			x
FIOM Lombardia	IT		x	
ESI CEE	BULG	x		
BASSCOM	BULG		x	
NAPOO	BULG			x
biTa Center	NDL	x		
GIONET	NDL		x	
EXIN	NDL			x
UAH	ES	x		
CCOO Servicios	ES		x	
DG de Formacion - Comunidad de Madrid	ES			x
PIN-SME	BELGIUM		x (UO)	
DIGITAL EUROPE	BELGIUM		x (UO)	

Should you require more information or would you require to take part, please contact:
Consortium leader: Mr. Paolo Vercesi, Fondazione Politecnica di Milano paolo.vercesi@polimi.it



In Italian

CAN Lombardia's website:

http://www.cnalombardia.it/images/cnalombardia/allegati/pdf/opportunita_impresa/COMUNIA_TO_STAMPA_AVVIO_PROGETTO.pdf



Milano, dicembre 2015

I partner dei progetti eCF council sono 16:

e-CF Council
la partnership multilaterale e-CF che guida l'acquisizione di competenze ICT
e la ripresa dell'occupabilità

eCF Council: l'alleanza dell'UE per la professionalità ICT, parte a Milano³

Il 14 e il 15 dicembre a Milano un consorzio europeo composto da associazioni di industrie, partner sociali e rappresentanti delle micro, piccole e medie imprese (MPMI), pubbliche autorità, istituti di formazione ed enti di certificazione ha lanciato "e-CF Council", la prima alleanza europea di competenze per la professionalità nel settore ICT.

I membri del consorzio, finanziati dalla Commissione Europea fino al 2018, sono organizzazioni che rappresentano gli stakeholder della professionalità ICT in quattro Stati Membri dell'UE: Italia, Spagna, Bulgaria e Olanda.

Il coordinamento del consorzio eCF Council è assegnato alla Fondazione Politecnico di Milano: un'agenzia di servizi per l'impiego accreditato e un centro di formazione professionale compresa nella struttura dell'Università Politecnico di Milano, che fa da ponte tra l'accademia e l'industria.

Partner del progetto CNA ICT, l'Associazione Professionale dell'Information Communication Technology, che risponde all'esigenza di rappresentanza degli interessi specifici del settore ICT delle Micro, Piccole e Medie Imprese e che garantisce la valorizzazione delle professionalità degli imprenditori e dei professionisti dell'ICT sia nel contesto Italiano sia Europeo.

eCF Council è una piattaforma che promuove la professionalità ICT a livello europeo e internazionale. L'obiettivo del progetto è l'aumento dell'occupabilità per ridurre il cosiddetto "e-skill gap" (i.e. il divario di competenze informatiche) in Europa. Grazie al supporto finanziario della Commissione Europea, compreso nel programma Erasmus +, nei prossimi tre anni l'eCF Council lavorerà allo sviluppo di certificazioni e programmi unificati nel campo ICT per il mondo dell'Istruzione e della Formazione Professionale (VET – Vocational Education and Training).

Partner	Country	VET provider	Sectoral organisation	Regulatory body
Fondazione Politecnico di Milano - FPM	IT			x
CEFRIEL	IT	x		
CNA	IT		x	
ADFOR	IT			x
FIOM Lombardia	IT		x	
ESI CEE	BULG	x		
BASSCOM	BULG		x	
NAPOO	BULG			x
biTa Center	NDL	x		
CIONET	NDL		x	
EXIN	NDL			x
UAH	ES	x		
CCOO Servicios	ES		x	
DG de Formacion - Comunidad de Madrid	ES			x
PIN-SME	BELGIUM		x (UO)	
DIGITAL EUROPE	BELGIUM		x (UO)	

Per avere maggiori informazioni:

Fabio Massimo -Presidente di CNA – ICT fabio.massimo@aesse.net

3. Publications

During the project every partner was responsible for communication and information dissemination about the e-CF Alliance.

For all dissemination activities partners were reporting to DIGITALEUROPE. Given the number of activities, partners only reported the ones that were significant in their view.

These deliverable covers monitoring of print and online press, excluding the channels of project partners (such as websites). As there was no budget for establishing media partnerships with journals etc. the impact had to be limited. Also, the website: <https://www.ecfalliance.org/> and bi-yearly newsletters sent to wide group of stakeholders, were useful channels for dissemination.

3.1 Article in specialised journal - IGI-GLOBAL

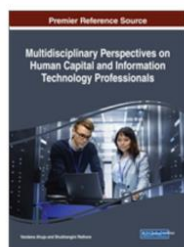
Analysis of the European ICT Competence Frameworks, published in February 2018.

FERNÁNDEZ SANZ, Luís; GÓMEZ PÉREZ, Josefa; CASTILLO MARTÍNEZ, Ana. "Analysis of the European ICT Competence Frameworks". *Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Human Capital and Information Technology Professionals* (ISBN: 9781522552970) Hershey (Estados Unidos): IGI-GLOBAL. 2018, p. 225-245.

Link to book: <https://www.igi-global.com/book/multidisciplinary-perspectives-human-capital-information/187290>

Link to chapter: <https://www.igi-global.com/chapter/analysis-of-the-european-ict-competence-frameworks/198259>

Link to preprint: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/323167135_Analysis_of_the_European_ICT_Competence_Frameworks



Analysis of the European ICT Competence Frameworks

Luis Fernández Sanz (Universidad de Alcalá, Spain), Josefa Gómez-Pérez (Universidad de Alcalá, Spain) and Ana Castillo-Martínez (Universidad de Alcalá, Spain)

Source Title: *Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Human Capital and Information Technology Professionals*

Copyright: © 2018 | Pages: 21

DOI: 10.4018/978-1-5225-5297-0.ch012

Abstract

The rapid evolution and expansion of ICT labor markets requires a common language to manage offer and demand of talent, which is especially critical and complex in a transnational integration scenario like the European Union. Models and frameworks represent useful tools for this purpose. This chapter analyzes the most relevant e-competences frameworks in the European Union (e-CF or EN16234, ESCO, and Body of Knowledge or BoK) as well as their integration and similarities. The present impact of these European frameworks in the ICT labor market and their connection to training and education is presented through data and several examples taken from two EU-funded projects: e-Skills Match and e-CF Council.

Luis Fernández Sanz, Josefa Gómez-Pérez and Ana Castillo-Martínez
Universidad de Alcalá, Spain

ABSTRACT

The rapid evolution and expansion of ICT labor markets requires a common language to manage offer and demand of talent, which is especially critical and complex in a transnational integration scenario like the European Union. Models and frameworks represent useful tools for this purpose. This chapter analyzes the most relevant e-competences frameworks in the European Union (e-CF or EN16234, ESCO, and Body of Knowledge or BoK) as well as their integration and similarities. The present impact of these European frameworks in the ICT labor market and their connection to training and education is presented through data and several examples taken from two EU-funded projects: e-Skills Match and e-CF Council.

INTRODUCTION

Competences, skills, knowledge, job profiles, qualifications or occupations are some of the concepts most commonly used in the present within the IT profession. They can be easily found in all types of information written in e.g. job ads, training courses and CV of jobseekers. Ensuring that these terms are used consistently with a common language is essential for a correct match of needs between employers, job candidates and training providers. When we analyze the case of European Union (EU) where the transnational coordination is a primary objective, this need of a common frame for all actors in ICT employment is urgent and vital for the mobility of ICT people across borders. This is one of the main reasons why EU has promoted different ICT competence frameworks to support a better coordination of the ICT job market where, as it happens in many other developed countries, companies are generally experiencing a shortage of qualified workers to cover their needs of digital transformation of businesses (Hising et al., 2015).

The efforts of EU in this area has led to a set of results in the shape of frameworks or competence models. The most relevant ones are the European e-Competence Framework (e-CF) (EN 16234-1, 2016), the European Competence, Skills, Qualification and Occupations (ESCO) classification (European Commission-1) and the European Foundational Body of Knowledge (BoK) (Olivier, 2012). Before continuing it is important to mention that the ICT labor market also considers important the role of certifications. However, there are several reasons why we are not going to devote space to this area in this chapter:

- It is important to point out that certifications are not competence frameworks. We have also analyzed the case of ITIL (Fernández-Baladrón, 2007) which basically is just a model which defines the best practices for IT management. Axelos, the company which manages ITIL, PFINCE and other certifications created under guidance of the UK Government, has launched the Axelos Skills Framework. It has been derived from ITIL and other sources, and embraces a restricted set of skills in Project Management and IT Service Management. Although this framework pretends offering additional value to their certifications, its structure with qualifications, skills/competences and occupations is not exhaustive and is totally inspired in the e-CF Framework mentioned above.
- Certifications are always relevant as sources of information for competences frameworks but they are usually very specific and restricted to the documentation of syllabus and evaluation methods.
- ICT certifications represents a huge number of cases as can be seen in a non-exhaustive non formal catalogue of ICT certifications (<http://identificationmaster.com/list-of-all-ict-certifications/>), there are 2313 different ICT certifications from 163 vendors/entities.

- Certifications cover a broad range of rigor and quality of design and justification from the worst to the best level something already identified in (García and Fernández-Sanz).

These are the reasons why ICT certifications in general are not considered as sources of information for our analysis of competence frameworks. However, we have also included a short analysis of Axelos Skills Framework to allow readers to also know this case.

As a consequence, we can summarize that the aim of this chapter is to provide a comprehensive view of the above mentioned frameworks and to highlight the need of having a good understanding on such basic and fundamental concepts. But the work does not stop here because an integration of the different views provided by the mentioned frameworks is also needed.

This simple idea of integrating the existing ICT related reference schemes and standards (Fernández-Sanz, et al., 2017) was the origin of the European Project e-Skills Match (e-Skills Match Project: <http://www.eskillsmatch.eu/en/>), aimed at providing integrated services for self-assessment of Skills and digital competences and further training recommended to reach the target profile as well as market certifications offered by the developed e-Skills platform. It is also directly related to another project, e-CF Council (<http://www.ecfalliance.org/>) which works with the e-CF Framework to develop training paths for the different competences.

The chapter is organized as follows. The first three sections describe and analyze each of the mentioned frameworks (e-CF, ESCO and BoK) adding a reference to Axelos Skills Framework. Once presented the frameworks, a short section analyzes their similarities and the possible alignment of basic terms coming from the different frameworks. The next section illustrates the impact and utility of these models within the IT profession. We will see how a clear relationship between competence frameworks and the world of education and training can be easily set up as well as an example of the link between competence frameworks and daily practice of recruiters and employers in ICT labor market. The section will also illustrate how the e-CF framework has been linked to qualification profiles and training itineraries as an additional link to ICT labor market needs. The chapter ends with a section on conclusions.

THE E-COMPETENCE FRAMEWORK (E-CF)

The European e-Competence Framework (e-CF) provides a common language to describe and support mutual understanding of the competences required and deployed by ICT professionals, including both practitioners and managers. In 2005, further to the recommendations of the European e-Skills Forum, the CEN ICT Skills Workshop members agreed that national ICT framework stakeholders as well as European ICT industry representatives should consider developing a European e-Competence Framework. ICT Framework stakeholders met with representatives from European larger enterprises to carry out this initiative, encouraged and accompanied by the European Commission.

The e-CF version 1.0 was published in 2008 from the outcome of two years e-Skills multi-stakeholder, ICT and human resources experts' work from multiple organization levels. The e-CF version 2.0 was published 2 years later, with dimension 4 fully developed, and accompanied by an updated user guide and a newly developed methodology documentation. The e-CF framework has recently become a standard for the ICT competences in Europe (EN 16234-1, 2016).

This framework is designed to fulfill the requirements of businesses and other organizations and it is based on the following points:

- The e-CF expresses ICT competence.
- The e-CF is an enabler; it is designed to be a tool to empower users, not to restrict them, being them from private or public sector organization, ICT user or ICT supply companies, educational

3.2 CIONET Magazine, March 2017

The eCF Council has been addressed in CIONET Magazine, March 2017 in the article “European Digital Skills awards”.

The CIONET magazine is disseminated to around 10,000 ICT related people, including CIOs. The mentioned issue featured articles on GDPR, IoT, drones etc.

The issue can be accessed at:

<http://blog.cionet.com/2017/03/24/the-future-proof-cio-read-the-latest-cionet-magazine/>



3.3 Assintel Report 2019

Assintel is Italian association of Small and Medium ICT organisations, with about 1.000 associates. Assintel Report 2019, on “ICT market and digital evolution in Italy” was presented on 24 October in Milan and on 25 October in Rome and is distributed to all associates. It is available online and in print version. It is the most important yearly report on ICT in Italy.

Adfor contributed with an article “How to face the continuous need to evolve competences: Adfor’s point of view”, on page 92.

There is a reference to eCF Alliance and the final event of the project, with a link to the presentation by André Richier on [eCF Alliance YouTube channel](#).

For good quality you can find the page at <http://www.assintel.it/assintel-report-2019/qrc15/>

Il volume completo Assintel Report 2019 con tutti i dati del mercato ICT 2018 e le proiezioni 2019. Per poter scaricare il pdf occorre fare login al sito

