

ECVET in Austria – National strategy and implementation

Monika Auzinger
auzinger@3s.co.at

3s research laboratory
www.3s.co.at

22 November 2013

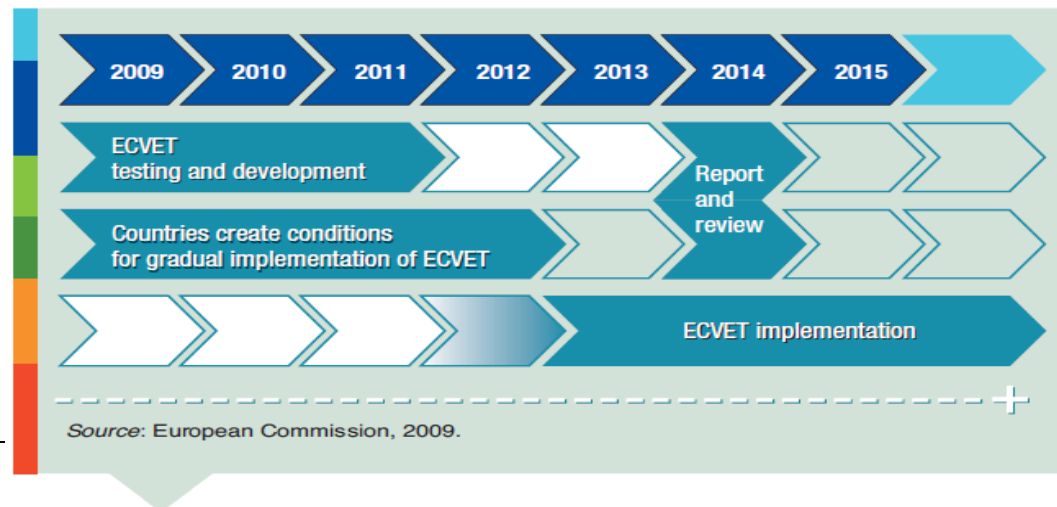


ECVET in Austria – Overview

- __ Background at EU level: ECVET Recommendation
- __ Background at national level: the Austrian VET system
- __ National objectives of ECVET implementation in Austria
- __ ECVET implementation activities & timeline

ECVET Recommendation and national implementation

- 2009 ECVET Recommendation invites Member States to create necessary conditions for introducing ECVET
- Gradual implementation of ECVET: significant differences across Member States in terms of focus, progress & commitment towards ECVET implementation
- 2014: evaluation report & review of ECVET Recommendation





Now...what about

~~Austria?~~



Vocational education and training in Austria

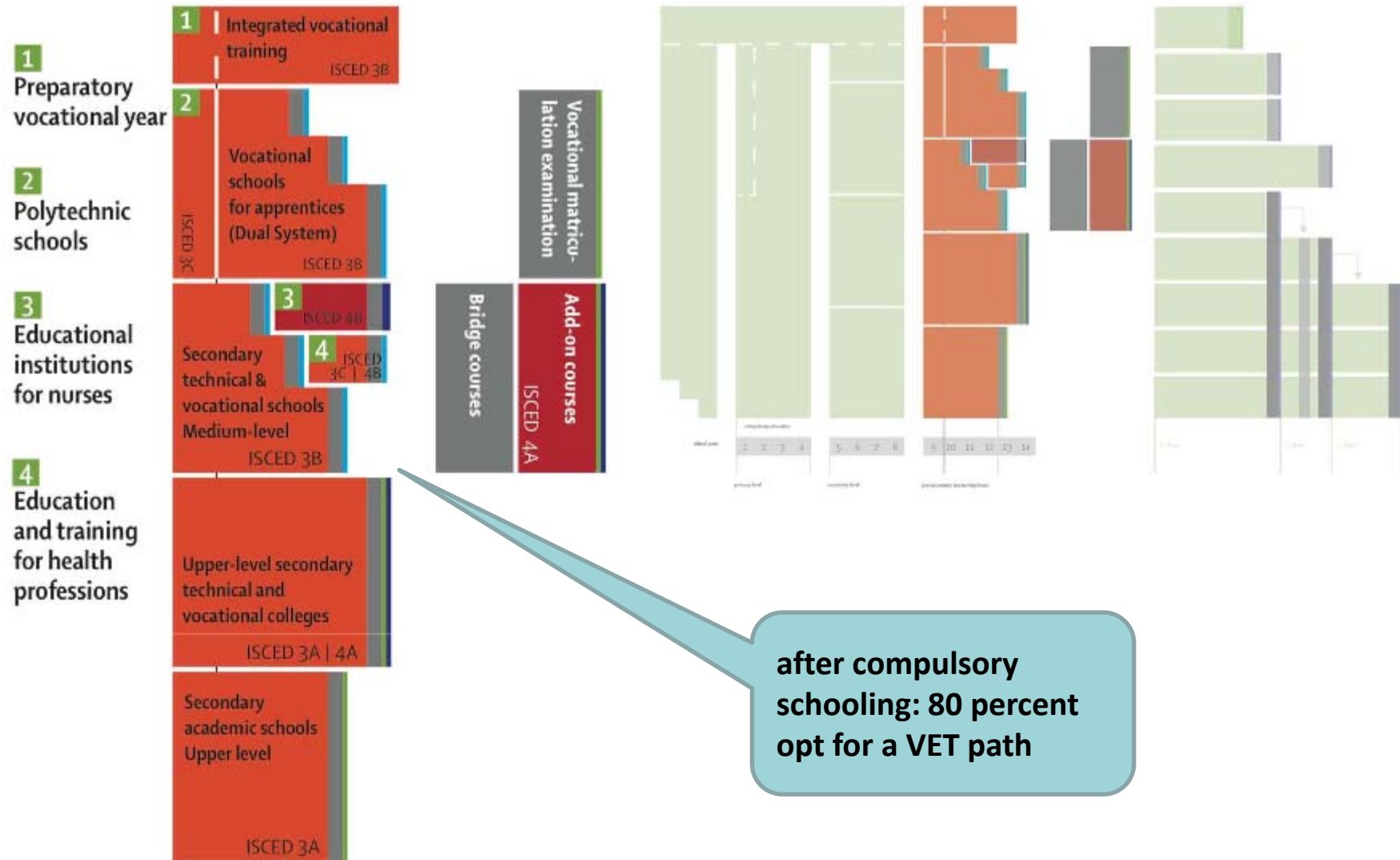
- High attractiveness of VET programmes for young people: some 80% of all pupils who have completed compulsory schooling opt for a VET pathway
 - VET schools
 - VET colleges
 - apprenticeship training ('dual system')

 - Traditionally a very strong separation between the different segments of education, in particular between VET and higher education

 - Learning outcomes approach is a relatively new concept in the Austrian education system
 - before: tradition of input orientation
 - shift to LO approach is ongoing: integration of LO descriptions in VET curricula, based on 'VET standards'
-

The Austrian Education System | secondary level II and postsecondary level

www.edusystem.at



Vocational education and training in Austria

Three basic types of IVET routes:

VET colleges

5-year full-time programmes
,double qualification': general
access to higher education or
labour market entry

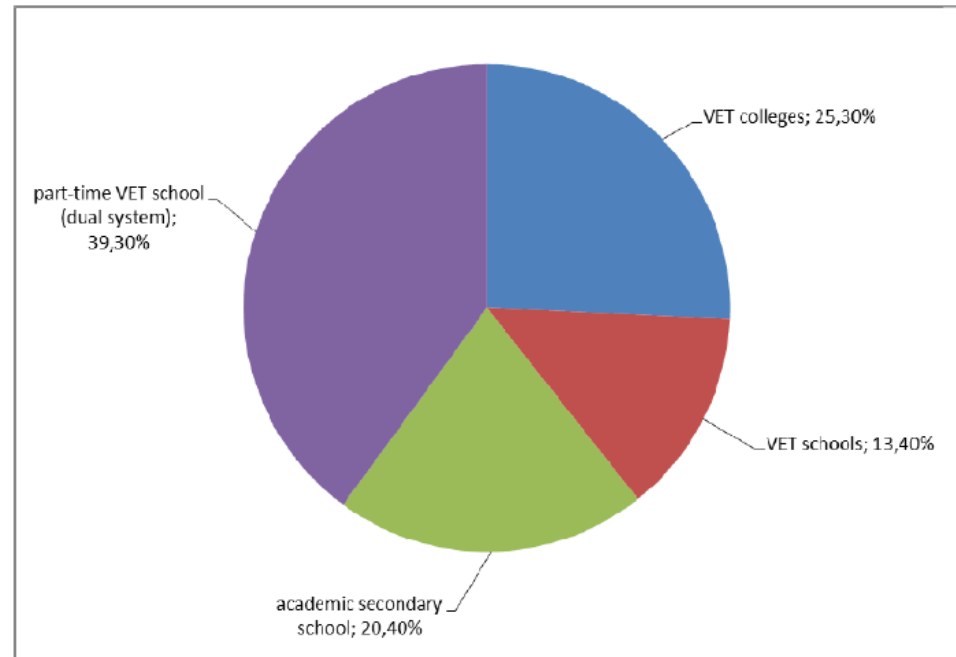
VET schools

3-4 years
prepare for direct entry to
labour market

Part-time VET schools for apprentices

,dual system' – apprenticeship
training
direct entry to labour market

Share of learners in tenth grade by educational programmes, school year 2010/11 (in%):





Now...what about

ECVET in Austria?



What has happened so far?

Past and current ECVET initiatives in AT

2009

... ..

2013

Ongoing (since 2012)

- National ECVET contact point
- National Team of ECVET experts:
8 experts from various fields/backgrounds providing consulting and advice

Participation in various (transnational) ECVET-related projects, e.g.

- VQTS, SME-Master Plus,
- NetECVET (<http://www.ecvet-toolkit.eu/>),
- ECVET-TOUR, M.O.T.O,
- ECMO, ECVAET, etc.

Development of guidelines for implementing ECVET in transnational VET mobility

- Document in English and German: ‚ECVET – Let’s go Europe!‘
- Website: <http://www.ecvet-info.at/>



What's next?

Current and future ECVET initiatives in AT

2013

A horizontal timeline graphic consisting of three arrow-shaped segments pointing to the right. The first segment is dark teal and contains the year '2013'. The second segment is a lighter teal and contains three dots '... ..'. The third segment is the same light teal color and is empty.

... ..

19 Nov 2013: 1st National ECVET Conference

Policy paper: national implementation of ECVET & recommendations

- Based on ‚consultation document‘ and results from stakeholder consultation

National ECVET working group

- Including representatives from social partners and higher education

National pilot projects (ongoing & forthcoming)

- Using ECVET for non-formal learning
- Using ECVET for compulsory internships (e.g. VET colleges)
- Using ECVET to improve permeability between VET and HE

National implementation of ECVET

ECVET key element: learning outcomes approach
& transfer of learning outcomes

Mobility

- Leonardo da Vinci projects
- Memorandum of Understanding
- Learning Agreement
- Documentation of LO achieved



Transparency & quality

Permeability

- Between VET & HE (possible use of ECVET points)
- Between VET & VET
- Cooperation agreements
- Building a bridge towards ECTS



Transfer & recognition

Nationally coordinated sub-strategies

- Sub-sectors decide individually how to implement the strategy within their sphere.
- VET schools
 - VET colleges
 - Adult education
 - Apprenticeship training

National implementation of ECVET – permeability: example

The pathway of a typical VET student in Austria:



This is Fred. At age 14, Fred entered a 5-year full-time VET college for **mechanical engineering**.

This qualification will provide him with a ‚double qualification‘, i.e. upon graduation, Fred is now 19 years old, he may either directly enter the labour market or higher education.

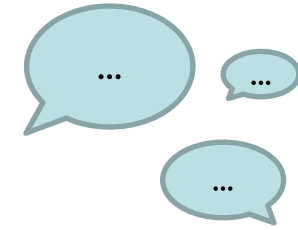
Fred decides to enrol in a Bachelor’s in **Mechanical Engineering** at Vienna University of Technology.

ECVET implementation in Austria: How can we use ECVET here to improve permeability, so that Fred does not have to learn things twice and can possibly shorten his study course?

Approx. 50 percent of VET college graduates will enter higher education.

Half of the VET college graduates who enter higher education will remain in the same field of study.

National stakeholder consultation



Stakeholders' concerns towards ECVET:

- ,Unitisation' / fragmentation of qualifications
- Excessive bureaucracy
- Harmonisation of national systems across Europe
- ECVET points: yes, but only where feasible/applicable



Some projects which might be of interest to you....

ECVET Toolkit

<http://www.ecvet-toolkit.eu/>



BeTWIN2



ECTS-ECVET: Building Bridges and Overcoming Differences

<http://www.be-twin2.eu/>

**DECViP –
Developing
ECVET in Practice**

www.decvip.eu

**VQTS – Vocational Qualification
Transfer System**

<http://www.vocationalqualification.net>

equal
class

EQUAL-CLASS

Engineers qualified in higher non-university VET institutions – providing arguments and evidence for NQF/EQF classification

<http://www.equal-class-eqf.eu/>



WBLIC

Work-based Learning as an Integrated Curriculum (Higher Education)

<http://www.wblic.org.uk>



Monika Auzinger
auzinger@3s.co.at

3s research laboratory
www.3s.co.at

22 November 2013

