



CENTRE OF VOCATIONAL EXCELLENCE IN WELDING AND NON-DESTRUCTIVE TESTING

[Porto Salvo, Jun, 2024] – The Centre of Vocational Excellence in Welding and Non-Destructive Testing (COVE-WENDT) proudly announces the launch of its ambitious project aimed at creating a robust international network of Centers of Vocational Excellence (CoVEs). This initiative brings together the expertise of teachers and trainers from Vocational Education and Training (VET) centers, research institutes, universities, industrial companies within the welding sector, and other stakeholders from the Quadruple Helix to support the European-wide skills ecosystems.

General Objectives:

Extend Collaboration and Innovation: The project aims to enhance partnerships among Quadruple Helix actors, driving innovation and co-creation in the welding sector and allied technologies to foster local and regional development.

IT Platform Development: An international collaborative network will be established through an IT platform, enabling CoVEs from different countries to exchange best practices and disseminate new knowledge, thereby promoting excellence in VET.

Innovative Educational Materials: Cutting-edge educational materials will be developed, and training programs essential for the green and digital transitions within the welding sector will be provided.

Trainer Competence Improvement: The skills of VET trainers will be developing and implementing innovative approaches to address societal challenges, enhancing the quality and effectiveness of existing CoVEs.

Specific Objectives:

The project aims to develop policy materials, including two curricula and guidelines, along with two innovative educational materials to support learner-centered courses for the digital and green transition in the welding sector. A transnational IT platform will be implemented to facilitate the exchange of best practices, conduct meetings, webinars, and courses, and disseminate activities. Additionally, a job board will be created, and a network of living labs will be established to test innovative ideas, new products, and technologies. The project will organize 24 digital and green training events, 12 job fairs, two training sessions for trainers, two campuses, two international skill competitions, and 16 dissemination events, while also enhancing the infrastructure of four CoVEs.

Key Results:

Key results of the project include the establishment of an Open Innovation Living Lab Network, a Transnational Collaborative IT Platform, and the development of innovative curricula and educational materials for digital and green training.

Expected Impact:

The COVE-WENDT project aims to meet current challenges in the welding and allied processes sector by fostering dynamic regional skills ecosystems where Quadruple Helix actors collaborate to innovate. It supports the implementation of regional, national, and European policies for smart specialization and the transition to a green and digital industry. Through the establishment of an international network of Centers of Vocational Excellence (CoVEs), the project strengthens collaborative relationships among regional skills ecosystems across different countries.

This involves exchanging best practices, harmonizing educational systems, and promoting mobility for educators, trainers, specialists, and others, ultimately maximizing the project's impact across vocational training centers worldwide.

The demand for digital education and the shift toward green industries is escalating, necessitating adaptation from training centers. However, there is a shortage of experienced e-learning instructors, and many educators are unprepared for this new approach.

The project targets specialists in welding and allied processes, educators from academia and research institutes, engineers, and individuals interested in careers as welders or non-destructive testing (NDT) operators. This includes recent graduates and career changers. SMEs in the welding industry and stakeholders from related sectors can also benefit by training their employees, while Approved Training Bodies (ATBs) can expand their services to offer certified personnel in welding and NDT.

Implementation Phases:

1. Mapping Regional Skills Environments: Assess the current skills environments at the regional level in each partner country.
2. Consolidating Regional Skills Ecosystems: Strengthen the skills ecosystems at the regional level.
3. Co-creation Process: Collaboratively develop innovative solutions.
4. Piloting Innovative VET Solutions: Test and refine new approaches in vocational education and training.
5. Maximizing Impact: Implement actions to maximize the project's impact across the consortium countries.

Partners involved

Lead organisation

Institutul Național de Cercetare-dezvoltare în Sudură și Încercări de Materiale – ISIM Timișoara

Partners

1. European Federation for Welding, Joining and Cutting (EWF)
2. Mátrai Hegesztéstechnikai és Szakkepzési Korlátolt Felelősségű Társaság
3. Miskolci Szakkepzési Centrum
4. Istituto Italiano della Saldatura Associazione
5. Consorzio per la ricerca e lo sviluppo delle Applicazioni industriali del Laser E del Fascio elettronico e dell'ingegneria di processo, materiali, metodi e tecnologie di produzione
6. Ecor International S.p.A.
7. Walter Tosto S.p.A.
8. International Institute of Welding (IIW)
9. S.C. COMELF S.A.
10. Brandware Media S.R.L.
11. Camera de Comerț Industrie și Agricultură Timiș
12. Asociación Española de Soldadura y Tecnologías de Unión
13. Asociación Española de Fabricantes de Bienes de Equipo

Associated Partners

1. Magyar Hegesztéstechnikai és Anyagvizsgáló Egyesület
2. Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén Megyei Kereskedelmi és Iparkamara
3. Bora 94 Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén Megyei Fejlesztési Ügynökség Nonprofit K.F.T.
4. Miskolci Egyetem
5. Tecnologie Innovative per il Controllo Ambientale e lo Sviluppo Sostenibile Società Consortile a Responsabilità Limitata
6. Associazione Italiana delle Tecnologie Manifatturiere
7. Regional Development Agency of the West Region of Romania
8. Agenția Județeană pentru Ocuparea Forței de Muncă Timiș
9. Timiș County Council
10. Clusterul de Energii Sustenabile din România Rosenc
11. Filiala Transilvania a Asociației Române pentru Industria Electronică și de Software
12. Asociația Automotivist
13. Asociación de Centros Europeos de Empresa e Innovación Españoles
14. Asociación Española de Ensayos No Destructivos

Partners



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