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GVETS: Introducing gamification in vocational education and training for professionals and social workers in the field of migrant children protection and support

The GVETS project aims to develop an online interdisciplinary capacity building program through gamification for new professionals working with children in migration environments. The project takes upon the goal to design and implement effective strategies for enhancing basic skills for professionals and increasing incentives for adult training by providing an engaging learning environment.

Skills Ecosystem and Methodological Framework

Our first product is a research paper in the form of an e-book, contains analysis on the state of art in the 7 consortium countries and on the EU level regarding training opportunities, methodologies and practices directed to professionals working with children in a migration environment.

The e-book can be found on our project website.

Findings

Among the key findings we discovered that although there are (or have been) good examples of training in the field of social work in an intercultural environment, most trainings have been provided as part of projects, therefore continuity is not ensured. Additionally, there is an apparent need for a more systemic and holistic approach in relation to supporting and training professionals working with children with a migrant background.

The most important elements of the new training will be:

- Soft skills and practical knowledge
- Conflict resolution/problem solving
- Practices and tools of self-awareness/reflectivity
- Face-to-face as well as e-learning elements of the training



Focus Group discussions

As part of the preliminary research, Focus Group discussions were held by all Partners. These discussions gave highly relevant opportunity to the researchers and trainers to involve target group members and stakeholders in the project development at an early stage. Focus Group participants not only provided valuable input to our research but also expressed interest in the GVETS training as a future opportunity either as learners or as training providers.



Next steps

- Development of the GVETS Curriculum and VET Toolbox of Key Skills Acquisition Resource
- Preparation of skills assessment tools
- Development of the online training environment
- 3rd Project Meeting in Florence, Italy
- 5-day Joint Staff Training program



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