Results of the

4th European Conference:
"Innovations in the Environmental Sector"

Competence Models, eLearning, Social Communities

Brussels, 2011-09-21

organized by WACOM
(WAter COnpetences Model Transfer)
Transfer of Innovation (ToI) Project
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Results

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4th European Conference
"Innovations in the Environmental Sector"
Competence Models, eLearning, Social Communities

organized by the European Research Project WACOM
www.wacom-project.eu

21\textsuperscript{st} September 2011 (Wednesday)
10:00 - 18:00

Venue: “The Bedford Hotel & Congress Centre”
Rue du Midi, 135
Brussels, Belgium
Speaker INES Conference:

10:00 am
Prof. (KR) Christian M. Stracke from the University of Duisburg-Essen in Germany gives a detailed introduction of the theme and background of the 4th INES Conference. The 4th conference INES 2011 continues the discussion developed at the first three related European conferences:
The first INES conference took place in Vilnius (Lithuania), the second in Budapest (Hungary) and the third most recently in Bucharest (Romania) last September 2010.

10:20 am
Dr. Claudia Schreier from the National Agency BIBB in Germany held a Welcome Speech on the following topic: New Skills for New Jobs.
She presented three main and important facts: 1st: Upgrading skills, 2nd: Matching Skills to Labour Market Needs and 3rd: Skills Assessment and Anticipation.

10:50 am
Prof. (KR) Christian M. Stracke from the University of Duisburg-Essen in Germany answers in his presentation "Competence Modelling for the Water and Environmental Sector - An Overview" the questions why we do need Competence Modelling, what Competence and Competence Modelling is. In addition he gives an Overview on the German Reference Model for Competence Modelling PAS 1093 and other developed Competence Models and instruments for implementation such as IDEA(L): the Adaptation Model for Quality Development and Competence Models.

11:20 am
Dr. Adeel Zafar, chair of UN-Water and director of the United Nations University Institute for Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH) in Toronto, Canada held a Keynote speech "Competence Modelling and Water Sector" using Skype. He presented the United Nations’ approach to competence modelling in the water sector, including the importance of shared language and standards for the evaluation of personnel under the title “United Nations Competencies for the Future.

11:50 am
Mrs. Naing Yee Mar, programme officer at the UNESCO International Centre for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (UNEVOC). Her keynote emphasized the potential of a constructive connection between competences and vocational training, arguing that the use of competences can make technical vocational training much more efficient.

12:20 am
Mr. Durk Krol from WssTP, The European Water Platform gave a Keynote "A vision for coordinated, integrated and innovative Water European Research Area".
**Speaker WACOM Conference:**

**14:30 pm**
Ph. D. Stanislav Avsec from the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia presented the results of the COMBAT Project: Competence Modeling on Solid Waste Management COMBAT (= Competence-based training for VET professionals in clean environment).

**14:50 am**
Dr. Karel Charvat, Chairman of Czech Centrum for Science and Society from Czech Republic presented the results of the NaturNet Plus Project. The project is focused on the training on how to manage sustainable tourism in regions and mainly in sensitive areas as protected areas, national parks and costal zones - Solution for Sustainable Tourism, Education and Environment Protection.

**15:10 pm**
Dr. Stephan von Keitz, Deputy Water Director of the Hessian Ministry of Environment, Energy, Agriculture and Consumer Protection from Germany showed in his presentation "Close cooperation between governmental and scientific institutions as a precondition for delivering proper results in IWRM" challenges between research and policy.

**15:30 pm**
Ph. D. Maria Ilinca Cheveresan, Technical University of Civil Engineering Bucharest from Romania held a presentation on the Influence of the WACOM project in Romania "Innovation for Water Management in Romania", forecasting a huge importance of competence modelling.

**15:50 pm**
M.Sc. Charalampos Thanopoulos from Agro-Know Technologies in Greece showed up the Design and Development of the ICT Tools for the Online Dissemination of the WACOM Competence Model (WCM), describing background and different aspects of the online tool.

**16:10 pm**
Ph. D. Lia Alexandra Baltador from ULBSIBIU/ CRFCAPL Sibiu in Romania showed the outcomes of the WACOM pilot Testing in all participating countries in her presentation: Competence Models – a “must have” in the knowledge based society?

**16:30 pm**
As a last part of the INES Conference in Brussels, Prof. (KR) Christian M. Stracke from the University of Duisburg-Essen in Germany made a Final Conclusions and Future Prospects for Competence Modelling.
17:00 pm
Panel discussion
Following points were mentioned during the panel discussion:

- Continuous VET
- Neighbourhood Approach
- Different Situations
- Combined View:
  - Working operations and
  - Environment
- IWRN
- Ecosystem to share
- Education + Training
- Towards global Perspective in VET
- Formal and Informal
- Upgrading of existing Competences, Skills and Qualification
- Technical Requirements + personal Qualifications
- Level of Qualification: same Competences worldwide leading to global Harmonisation
- All in one a very interesting day
- Experience maybe good Standard for Training
- Need for Competences in Directives
- Diverse Outcomes
- Simple Competence Description for Employment and HR
- Real Work starts now: Implementing into VET
- Interesting Project in particular for Bottom-up for better Curricula

End of Conference was at 18:00

All presentations on WACOM, reflecting the submitted conference papers, are published in the proceedings of the conference (Competence Modelling for Vocational Education and Training - Innovations for Learning and Development Christian M. Stracke (Ed.), ISBN: 978-3-8440-0341-3)

An electronic copy of the proceedings can be downloaded from www.wacom-project.eu and from www.qualitydevelopment.eu

More information about the WACOM initiative for water competences online at: www.wacom-project.eu
Annex

Annex 1: Participants list of the 4th European Conference

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Country</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adrienn Hunyady</td>
<td>VITUKI</td>
<td>Hungary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alexandra Mihai</td>
<td>Technical University for Civil Engineering of Bucharest</td>
<td>Romania</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anca Nistor</td>
<td>Regional Training Centre for Local Public Administration Sibiu</td>
<td>Romania</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barbara Sundermeyer-Kirsten</td>
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<td>Germany</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charalampos Thanopoulos</td>
<td>Agro-Know Technologies</td>
<td>Greece</td>
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<td>Christian M. Stracke</td>
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<td>Germany</td>
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<td>WSSTP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Giorgio Saio</td>
<td>GISIG - Geographical Information Systems International Group</td>
<td>Italy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hanna Mennenöh</td>
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<td>Ian Bojko</td>
<td>Forest Management Institute</td>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
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<td>Ilse Baumann</td>
<td>ClimB-IT</td>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
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<td>Karel Charvát</td>
<td>Czech Centrum for Science and Society</td>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
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<td>Karna Wegner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Katja Schimank</td>
<td>Europabüro der bayrischen Kommunen</td>
<td>Belgium</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laura Kondra</td>
<td>Local government of Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg County (Eszak-Alföld region)</td>
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<td>Olga Dányi</td>
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About the European project

WACOM:

WACOM is the European Leonardo-da-Vinci Project for the transfer of a competence model to the water sector and its integration and harmonization with the European Qualification Framework (EQF) for competence modelling throughout whole Europe.

The Competence Model can be adapted and used within any water sectors and also within all other branches in the future:
It will improve the transparency, competitiveness, and mobility both for the citizens as well as for the enterprises towards a better European VET and society.

Finally it is submitted to the European Standardization Committees (CEN/TC 353) as the input to launch a standardization project for a harmonized European Norm (EN).

More information about WACOM online:
http://www.wacom-project.eu

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