Newsletter No 3 – ELEVET
This is the third newsletter of the project. The aim of the newsletter is to keep stakeholders informed about the progress and the outcomes of the project. This letter covers the period March to May 2012. In order to meet wishes from the readers of the newsletter - from now on, it is also published in Polish- and Italian language.

Transnational Steering Committee Meeting
The first transnational steering committee meeting was hosted by the Italian partner, Elis Consel in Rome on 18 and 19 April. The main aim of the meeting was to state the progress of the project and to fine-tune the timing of the ongoing and coming project activities. At the meeting, outcomes of the first project half year were presented and discussed by the steering committee such as deliveries in project management, descriptions of VET systems in the partner countries, the prepared questionnaire for stakeholders, dissemination of project results and quality assurance.

Further, as a part of steering committee meeting, the first meeting of the monitoring committee was carried out – the aim of these meetings is to monitor the progress and the quality of the outcomes of the project.

National Workshop in Poznan, Poland
PIGE (Polish Economic Chamber for Electrotechnics) – ELEVET partner from Poland, within the work on the implementation of project ELEVET tasks, organized on 8 May 2012, during the EXPOPOWER International Power Industry Fair in Poznan, a workshop for the producers of electrical equipment.

The meeting was attended by the representatives of the following Polish companies associated in PIGE: Manex, Erko, Rabbit, Kared, Marmat, Anwil, Eltron-Kabel, Elektrounion, Elnowa, Telefonika Kable, IEL Electrotechnical Institute, Instytut Energetyki - Institute of Power Engineering. Professor Jerzy Barglik, President of SEP and Mr. Stefan Granatowicz, Vice President of SEP, who is the coordinator of the Project, were the guests of honor at this meeting.

The main task of the workshop was to analyze and to determine the comments to the Questionnaire for Companies, developed by DEHN, PIGE and SEP and defining required skills for electricians.

Following the discussion, it was decided to prefer in the survey the most desirable soft skills of potential employees (business skills) as well as hard skills (professional skills, foreign languages, computer skills) are obvious. The soft skills required in the labor market will be incorporated into the framework of vocational education and training should be clearly described. PIGE will organize during their General Assembly on 31 May 2012, a focus group in order to ultimately identify the best skills expected by the manufacturers and employers.

Skype Communication
In order to further improve the communication between the partners in the project. A Skype™ platform is established with the possibility to carry out virtual conferences. The platform will be used both by the steering committee and the monitoring committee.
DEHN has left the Partnership
The Polish partner, DEHN Polska Sp. z.o.o. wishes to leave the partnership due to lack of capacity to continue the work in the project. DEHN’s role and obligations will be taken over by the two other Polish partners, SEP (Association of Polish Electrical Engineers) and PIGE (Polska Izba Gospodarcza Elektrotechniki). The steering committee supports this decision, which will be approved by the donor of the project, the EACEA in Brussels.

Important Information on Systems of Education in the Partner Countries
As an outcome of work package 2 in the project, important information about the electrician’s education in Spain, Poland, Romania, Italy and Denmark has been prepared. The information contains a description of the formal systems and the contents of education. Further, the information contains a description on how non-formal education is assessed in some of the partner countries. The description can be retrieved from the project website.

Questionnaire for Project Stakeholders
In order to collect important information from enterprises and other stakeholders in the partner countries, a questionnaire has been prepared as an outcome of work package 3 in the project. The collected information will render visible information about views on necessary skills of people working in electrical engineering. The questionnaire focuses on business- and soft skills such as social competencies, communication, language, leadership and teamwork. The questionnaire will be sent to a sample of enterprises in each of the partner countries and about 75 responses are expected in each country.

Combined with the country analyses of the educational systems in the partner countries, the outcomes of the survey provide an excellent platform for the succeeding work packages of the project. The questionnaire will be ready at the end of May and presented on the project website.

Quality Assurance
A system to assure the quality of outcomes has been developed as an important part of the project. Each third month, the project partnership carries out a quality self-assessment in terms of what has been achieved and what still leaves room for improvement. The assessments are gathered in half-year reports and presented to the project monitoring committee, who gives the necessary feedback to the steering committee and the partnership. The quality assurance plan and the first quality report covering the period 1 October 2011 to 31 March 2012 can be retrieved from the project website.

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