

Good practices in vocational guidance: e-CF Explorer



WHAT?

The e-CF Explorer is an interactive tool to explore the competences as applied at the ICT workplace and the ICT Professional Role Profiles identified by the European Committee for Standardization (CEN). The tool allows someone to create his/her profile by choosing a role, altering the pre-defined e-competence levels and generate a pdf. The tool's purpose is to raise awareness and facilitate the understanding of the e-CF.

WHO?

The tool has been developed by IT Professionalism Europe (ITPE), a network of stakeholders committed to the advancement of IT professionalism.



IMPACT OF THE PRACTICE?

The common language provided by the e-CF may be applied in practice across the entire European IT professional skills development landscape. IT organizations of all sizes, qualification providers of all types and policy makers on national and European levels can benefit from this shared reference to work together towards closing the digital skills gap.

TARGET GROUP?

The framework can be applied to IT services provision and IT professional development by public and private organizations, IT professionals, managers and HR departments, higher education, vocational education and training, assessment and accreditation bodies, social partners, professional associations, market analysts and policy makers.

ELEMENTS OF GOOD PRACTICE:

- Impact local level 
- Impact national level 
- Impact EU level 
- Transferability 
- Quality assurance 
- Innovative practice 

WHERE?

All countries of the European Union

ORGANISATIONS IMPLEMENTING THE PRACTICE

There are several examples of organizations applying the e-CF (framework) in practice. These examples can be sorted under eight different categories:

- Vocational education and training
- Industry and HR departments
- Higher education institutions
- Private qualification and certification providers
- Career guidance and assessment providers
- Education and labour market policymakers
- Professional unions and sector associations
- Research and consultancy organisations

METHODS OF IMPLEMENTATION

The tool was created to increase the visibility and accessibility of the e-CF. The tool allows the user to i) browse the framework diagram to read the descriptors of each competency; ii) select roles to view the competency/levels that define them, as well as the role and competency descriptions; and iii) create his/her own custom profile (a set of competencies/levels) to be saved as a pdf to the personal device.

Concepts and Principles included in the e-CF: Dimension 1: 5 e-Competence areas, derived from the IT macro processes PLAN -BUILD -RUN - ENABLE - MANAGE. Dimension 2: 41 e-Competences provide the European standard references of IT Professional competence as required and performed in IT work context. Dimension 3: 5 e-CF proficiency levels characterized by increasing levels of context complexity, autonomy, influence and typical behaviour. Dimension 4: knowledge and skills examples provided to add value to the competence descriptor and are not intended to be exhaustive. They offer inspiration and orientation for the identification of further specific knowledge and skills assignment according to contextual needs.

LESSONS LEARNED

VET Voices can use the structure and organization of e-CF tool to create a similar summary of interested professions for either young people or coaches supporting young people in the investigation of new interests.

RELEVANCE FOR VET VOICES

The e-CF tool is relevant for VET Voices and should be further explored by the team developing the concept and app. **Comparison:** Both support young people or coaches supporting young people in the investigation of their interests; Both are multilingual; Both are aligned with the ESCO framework. The main difference of these two tools is that the e-CF tool is focusing on the identification and definition of ICT competences, while VET Voices will be more oriented toward exploring/testing individuals' interests.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- General information on the e-CF Explorer: <https://itprofessionalism.org/e-cfexplorer/>
- Information on the Competence Framework: <https://itprofessionalism.org/about-it-professionalism/competences/the-e-competence-framework/>