

# Newsletter #3

## PROfessionalising DOMestic housekeepers in Europe

June 2018

### News

#### Deliverable 1 is out!

The project has completed its first main key deliverable, the “The state of the art of domestic work in Europe”.



This deliverable is a study including an updated overview of the training offer for the sector of domestic work across the EU, as well as an in-depth analysis of the available competence frameworks, learning offers, certification and recognition pathways, and legal frameworks for the profile of domestic housekeeper in the countries of the consortium.

It is based on an initial **desk research** analysing 27 sector-specific publications and reports, as well as **field research** involving 54 experts and 109 domestic housekeepers via semi-directive interviews, a Delphi exercise and questionnaires.

Its main findings are the following ones:

- ➔ Despite some significant differences between the three countries, the reality of domestic work and the **needs of the workers are largely comparable**.
- ➔ **The need of professional domestic workers will increase**.
- ➔ An **appropriated legal framework** is the best way to reduce undeclared work.
- ➔ It is **necessary to advance in the professionalization** of domestic work and in the recognition of the skills of workers, so it can be acknowledged as a “real profession”.
- ➔ The most important competences according to the expert’s views will be **care competences, soft skills, IT skills, green skills and occupational safety and health skills**.

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➔ This report is available at the project website: <https://www.prodome.eu/en/the-results/>.

#### PRODOME partners are establishing contact with ECVET experts



Considering the complexity of ECVET tool, P1 IPERIA as coordinator of the project, and upon the suggestion of WIAB (external reviewer of the project), contacted ECVET Secretariat, who suggested to contact the national **French ECVET expert team**.

An expert was appointed, and a **meeting was organised at P1 premises on the 29/03/2018**. The expert concluded the project was making good progresses and using all the relevant EU instruments and tools (mainly EQF, ECVET and ESCO), and suggested to contact the other relevant national experts in Italy and Spain to better evaluate the options for using and defining ECVET options, and if any, a **memorandum of understanding** among the relevant certifying authorities.

The Italian and the Spanish partners are currently analysing the options at national level and contacting their national reference ECVET experts.

#### PRODOME website keeps its positive trend!



According to the data gathered for the first interim report, due by end May to EACEA, the project website has already reached 2.775 visits, which is almost the **92,5% of the total forecast of visits** (3.000 visits) by the end of the project.

Indeed, the initial data seem to be confirmed: in February 2018 a positive trend was highlighted with more than 2.000 pages seen with an **average duration of 5 minutes**. Just after three months, the total jumped to almost 3.000, with a slightly lower average duration of about **4 minutes and a half**. All these data enable to confirm again the interest and usefulness of the website.

### Project progress

#### WP2 Curriculum design is catching up...

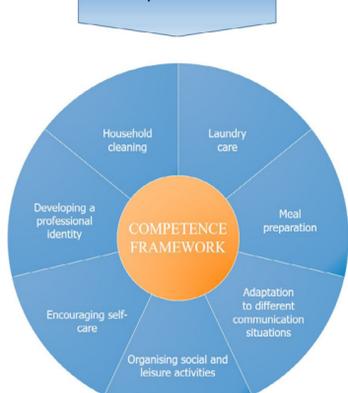
**Deliverable 2 “European Curriculum for Domestic Housekeepers”**, the second key deliverable of the project it is currently being completed under WP2.

According to the application form, this deliverable includes mainly a definition of the core skills, the learning outcomes and learning units to develop identified hard and soft skills, EQF levels.

This has enabled the creation of a **common competence framework and a learning architecture gathering 18 hard, soft and transversal competences, structured in 7 areas**: household cleaning, laundry care, meal preparation, adaptation to different communication situations, organising social and leisure activities, encouraging self-care and body care and developing a professional identity.

In order to ensure quality and relevance, as well as compliance with the relevant EU instruments and tools (EQF, ECVET and ESCO), a **first peer review by partners** has validated both the competence framework and the learning architecture, and the second review has also been completed **by external experts from WIAB** (The Viennese Institute for Labour Market and Education Research).

#### 7 competence areas



#### ... focus groups on D2 have been organised successfully ...

After this double review, and in order to ensure the consistency of the content and the designed training path with the workers (supply side) and the employers’s needs (demand side), **2 focus groups per country** (a total of 6, 2 per country) have been organised in Italy, France and Spain during May and June 2018.



As planned in the application form, these focus groups have enabled to tackle potential issues during the design and production process under WP2 and WP3. Again, as for D1, despite the differences among the three countries involved, some common conclusions were reached:

- ➔ All the 7 competence areas seemed relevant and consistent.
- ➔ The domestic housekeepers need to be multi-skilled and polyvalent.
- ➔ Basic ICT and also language skills as a pre-condition to enroll to the training.
- ➔ Considering the “average domestic housekeeper”, 3 EQF level is a good choice.



#### ... and the first “policy visit” under WP4 Certification and recognition is already planned !

The initial activities under WP4 have been started with the final aim of defining possible certification paths for the mutual recognition of the training across countries, which implies a strong social dialogue within the sector’s stakeholders and policy makers.

To do so, guidelines and methodology for policy visits (1 of the total 3 tasks planned, together with national workshops and meetings) have been produced and partners have started drafting lists of contacts accordingly.

In this sense, the first policy visit, to be held in **Paris, on the 24th and 25th of September** has been planned in combination with an EFFE meeting to optimise synergies and transportation of common participants.

This preparation work and documents will serve as inspiration to the other partners, who have planned the following policy visits:

- ➔ One policy visit in Madrid and one in Bilbao, Spain.
- ➔ One policy visit in Rome or Milan, and one in Bologna, Italy.



These locations have been selected considering both the national and the regional dimension (particularly relevant in Italy, where there is no NQF but regional QFs), especially important for MARGOTTA (with a close contact with Emilia-Romagna Region) and for Grupo SSI (associated partner) based in Bilbao (having a close contact with the City Hall of Bilbao and the Region of the Spanish Basque Country). A single visit has been planned for France in the capital, since it is a highly centralised state and almost all the relevant stakeholders of the sector are in Paris; also, both French partners (IPERIA and FEPEM) are based or have main offices in this city.



**Together, we can contribute to the recognition of the profession and its competences.**



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