



Competent and careful. Recognised and respected.



CEN/TC 428
ICT Professionalism and
Digital Competences

*e-CF and Curriculum Guidelines
in the prospect of EU Digital Skills agenda,
Fostering ICT Professionals in Europe*

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Rocco Defina, ITPE, Oxys Consulting

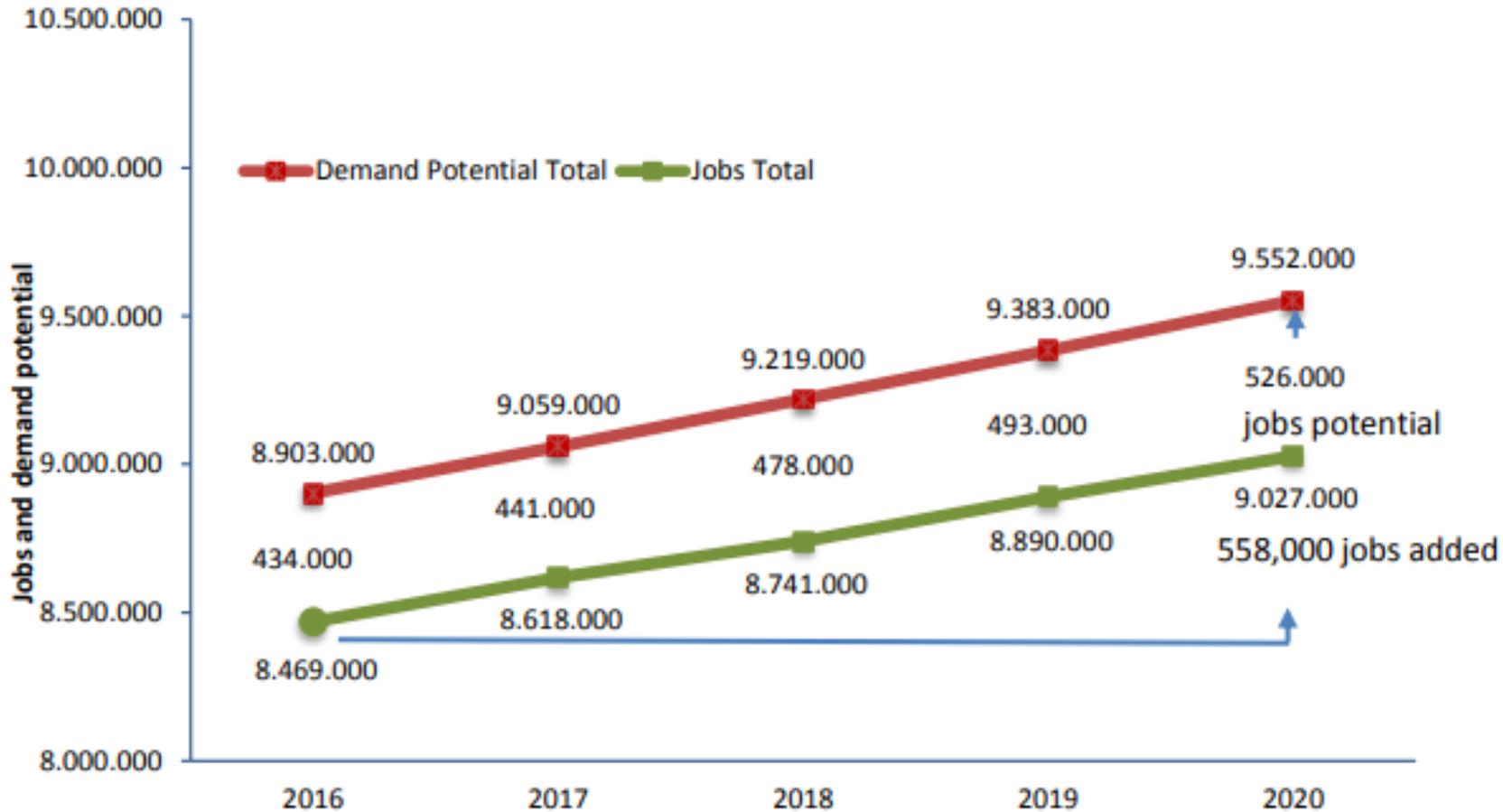
September 6th 2022

Why Europe is investing to foster the IT professionalism?

- Importance for society
 - IT is not a regulated profession but...
- Digital skills gap
 - Shortage of IT Professionals in 2020 → 756.00
 - Shortage of digital leaders in 2020 → 250.000
- Competitive advantage
 - Related to US, China
 - Issue of digital sovereignty



The Skills Gap Continues to Widen



Supply growing but outperformed by demand

- Education/training
- Conversion
- Novel schemes
- Immigration

Capgemini 2018

Recovery and Resilience for Europe 2030

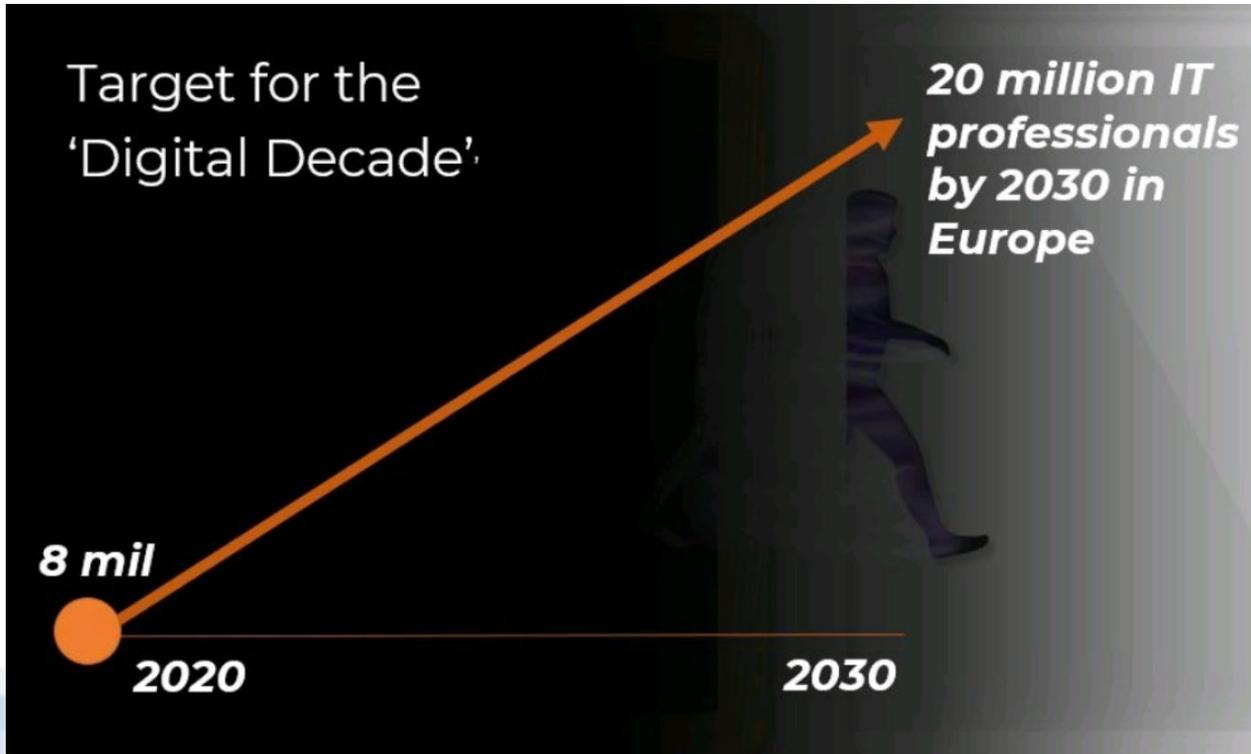
- Welcome for the RRF that includes 20% for digital transition and reform
- 4 Cardinal Points for digital in RRF targets in Europe
 - A **digitally skilled population** and highly skilled digital professionals
 - **Empowered and capable citizens** – protected from cyberattack
 - **20m ICT specialists (7.8m in 2019)**
 - Secure and high-performing, sustainable digital infrastructures
 - Digital transformation of businesses
 - Digitalisation of public services – **KEY to citizen skills**
 - **Citizen/user skills to high level professional skills** part of a continuum, neither makes sense without the other

User Skills



Professional Skills

The Digital Decade



Europe needs a competent, respected, mature IT Profession to drive recovery and resilience

We need 20m IT professionals by 2030 – we have 8m in 2021

We can't allow urgency to let quantity trump quality

The ICT Profession

- Many investigations of the cause of the skills shortage
- Many initiatives to address it
- Critical factor might be the notion of professionalism

Collaboration between EC, CEN, Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition to address this

In the absence of tradition and a professional regulatory body, these agreed pillars must be standardised and assimilated into the realisation of IT professionalism



Bodies of Knowledge

Professional Ethics

Education and Training

Competences

Professionalism Stakeholder Collaboration

- European Commission
- **CEN – Technical Committee 428 – ICT Professionalism and Digital Competences**
- **IT Professionalism Europe (ITPE)**
- **Professional bodies**
- Higher Education Sector

CEN Technical Committee 428

- Delegates from CEN National Standards Bodies
- Established in 2014 to create ICT competence standard from the CWA European e-Competence Framework (EN 16234-1:2019)
- Focus on maturing the IT profession
- Responsible for all standardisation related to the ICT Profession
 - Development of standards, TS, TR on remaining 3 “pillars” of ICT Professionalism and other prioritised areas
- Supported by European Commission

IT Professionalism Europe (ITPE)

- Network of stakeholders committed to the advancement of IT professionalism
- Includes public and private sector experts from critical IT domains, including policy, standards, HR and IT management, as well as education, training and other service providers that support IT professionalism
- Works closely with key public actors, from the European Commission, the European Parliament, CEN and National Standards Bodies, and Professional Bodies

IT Professional Bodies

- A professional body
 - Speaks for the profession
 - Guarantees highest standards for public
- Navigates a pathway for the profession in changing landscape
 - Social, economic, climate
 - Digital transformation
 - Healthy and green society
 - Vulnerabilities in digital space, dependence on external tech
 - Skills shortage
 - Digital Divide
 - Covid
 - Digital Sovereignty
- Trust/confidence/respect
- Builds on strengths, address weaknesses

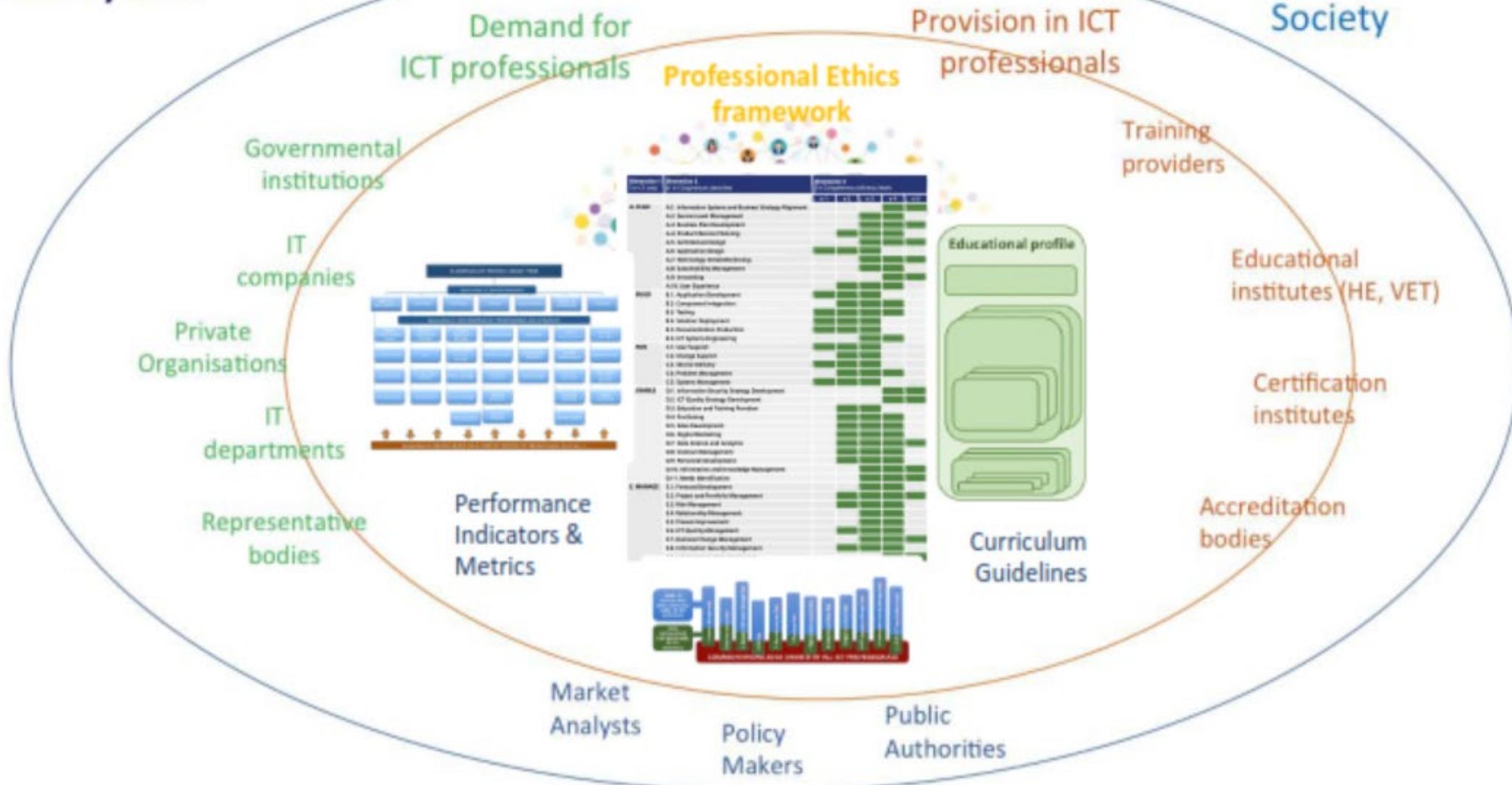
The 43 IT competences are described in 4 dimensions

<p>Dimension 1: e-CF area</p> <p>Dimension 2: Title + generic description</p> <p>Dimension 3: level descriptors</p> <p>Dimension 4: knowledge and skills examples</p>	<p>Dimension 1 e-Comp. area</p>	A. PLAN					
	<p>Dimension 2 e-Competence: Title + generic description</p>	STANDARD	A.2. Service Level Management Defines, validates and makes applicable service level agreements (SLAs) and underpinning contracts tailored to services offered. Negotiates service performance levels taking into account the needs and capacity of stakeholders and business.				
	<p>Dimension 3 e-Competence proficiency level e-1 to e-5</p>		Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
	<p>Dimension 4 Knowledge examples <i>Knows/aware of familiar with</i> Skills examples <i>Is able to</i></p>	EXAMPLES FOR INSPIRING	<p>K1 SLA documentation</p> <p>K2 how to compare and interpret management data</p> <p>K3 the elements forming the metrics of service level agreements</p> <p>K4 how service delivery infrastructures work</p> <p>K5 impact of service level non-compliance on business performance</p>				
	<p>S1 analyse service provision records</p> <p>S2 evaluate service provision against SLA</p> <p>S3 negotiate realistic service level targets</p> <p>S4 use relevant quality management techniques</p> <p>S5 anticipate and mitigate against potential service disruptions</p>						

- T1 Accessibility,
- T2 Ethics
- T3 ICT legal issues
- T4 Privacy
- T5 Security
- T6 Sustainability
- T7 Usability

Transversal Aspects

The IT professionalism eco-system



Professionalism

Development, promotion and adoption of common professional practices and professional standards by the IT workforce. IT Professionalism emphasises competent and careful individual practice and collective action to develop an IT profession that is recognised., respected and accountable

[Professionalism Brochure](#)

“Build the best IT Workforce to deliver Europe’s digital transition”



Professional Practice

Standards are regulations, rules or guidelines for technical, HR or ethics fields

They are developed by consensus among experts

Professional **practice** in IT is the set of **common behaviours** by IT workers that implement standards, covering:

- Approach to work and career
- Routine decision making and interpersonal relationships
- Emphasis on **competent** and **careful** individual practice, and collective action to ensure the IT profession is **recognised** and **respected**.

The industry-academia collaboration promoted by CEN/TC428

ICT Curriculum Guidelines

ICT Curriculum Guidelines for e-Competence and Digital Leadership is Technical Specification (TS) providing guidelines on

how to design, develop, maintain, adjust and compare ICT curricula for e-competence and digital leadership, as scoped by the European ICT Professionalism framework and its basic components

A joint effort and a sound methodology (1)

The screenshot displays a Zoom meeting interface. On the left, a grid of 16 video thumbnails shows participants. The top row includes Rocco Defina, Helen Carnevale, Andre Richier, and Mary Cleary. The second row features Pascal Ravesteijn (HU), Terry Hook, Katarina Pažur Aničić, and Francesca Bonazzoli. The third row shows Veronica Salsano, Jutta Breyer, Valentina Kirinić, and Denise Leahy. The bottom two rows consist of black thumbnails with white text labels: Keiko Tanaka, Simone Opel, Nadezda Semjon..., Giancarlo Monti..., Richard Nealon, Anneke Hacque..., Fabio Massimo S..., and Natalia C... A chat window on the right shows messages from participants like Valentina Kirinić, Simone Opel, Anneke Hacquebard, Wilfried Berlin, Martine de Groot, Liesbeth Ruoff, Giancarlo Montico, and Dragutin Kermek. A participant list on the far right, titled 'Partecipanti (31)', lists names and roles such as Helen C... (Co-organizzatore, me), Veronica Salsano (Organizzatore), Andre Richier (Co-organizzatore), Rocco Defina, Terry Hook, Anneke Hacquebard, Boriss Misnevs, Clare Thornley, Denise Leahy, Dragutin Kermek, Fabio Massimo SBS, Francesca Bonazzoli, and Galaxy A8 (2018).



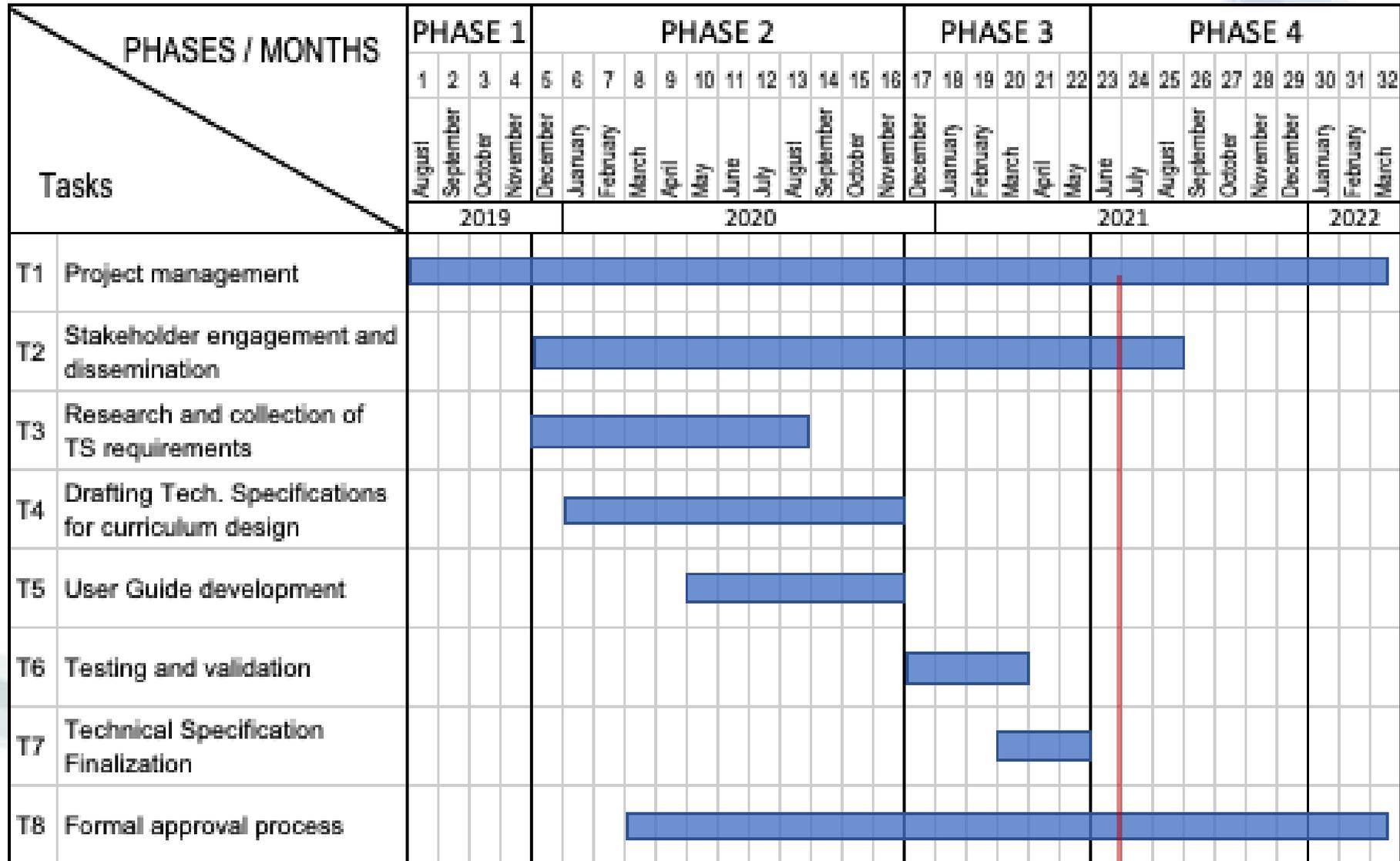
European Committee for Standardization

ONLINE WORKSHOP

*Guidelines for developing ICT Professional Curricula
as scoped by EN16234-1 (e-CF)*

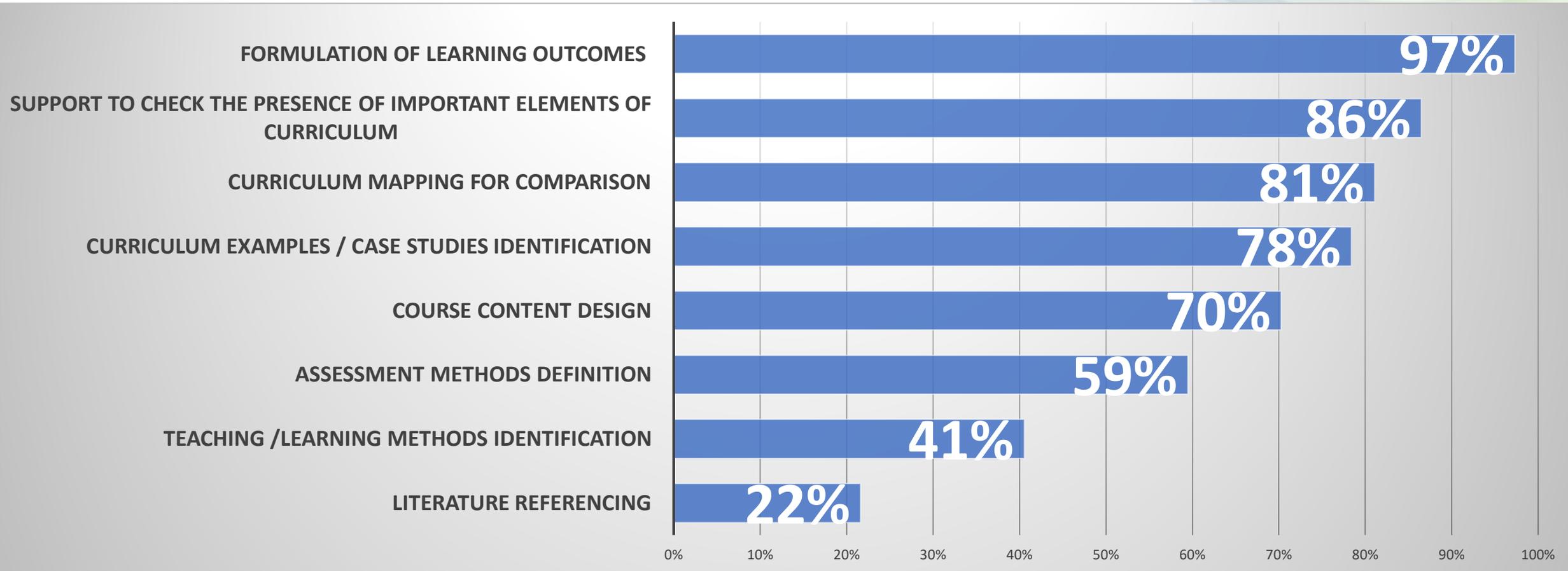
March 26th 2021 from 10:00 am to 1:30 pm (CET)

A joint effort and a sound methodology (2)



Expectations

«To what extent the ICT Curriculum Guideline can provide benefit to the following activities?»

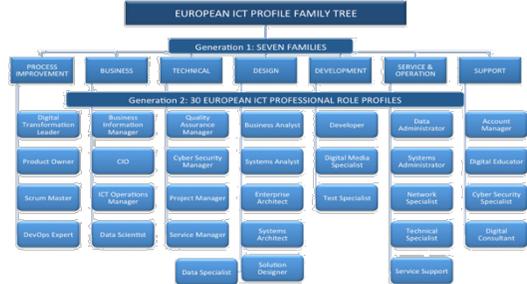


From any input to any educational programme using the educational profile

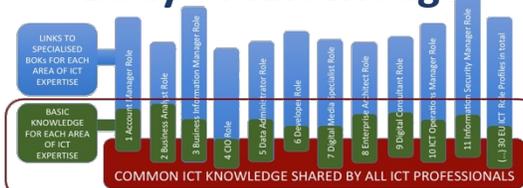
Competences from e-CF

Dimension 1 e-CF area	Dimension 2 e-Competences identified	Dimension 3 e-CF Competence proficiency level
		eC1 eC2 eC3 eC4 eC5
A. PLAN	A.1. Information Systems and Business Strategy Alignment	
	A.2. Service Level Management	
	A.3. Business Plan Development	
	A.4. Product/Service Planning	
	A.5. Architecture Design	
	A.6. Application Design	
	A.7. Technology Trend Monitoring	
	A.8. Sustainability Management	
	A.9. Innovating	
B. BUILD	B.1. User Experience	
	B.2. Component Integration	
	B.3. Testing	
	B.4. Solution Deployment	
C. RUN	C.1. User Support	
	C.2. Change Support	
	C.3. Service Delivery	
	C.4. Problem Management	
D. ENABLE	D.1. Information Security Strategy Development	
	D.2. ICT Quality Strategy Development	
	D.3. Education and Training Provision	
	D.4. Purchasing	
	D.5. Sales Development	
	D.6. Digital Marketing	
	D.7. Data Science and Analytics	
	D.8. Contract Management	
	D.9. Personnel Development	
E. MANAGE	E.1. Needs Identification	
	E.2. Project and Portfolio Management	
	E.3. Risk Management	
	E.4. Relationship Management	
	E.5. Process Improvement	
	E.6. ICT Quality Management	
	E.7. Business Change Management	
	E.8. Information Security Management	
	E.9. Information Systems Governance	

ICT professional role profiles



ICT Foundational Body of Knowledge



e-CF assessment indicators

Educational profile

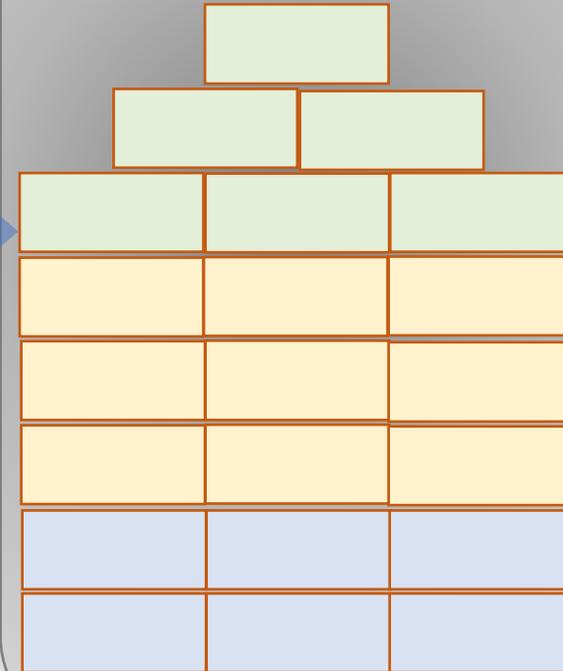
Description

Programme learning outcomes

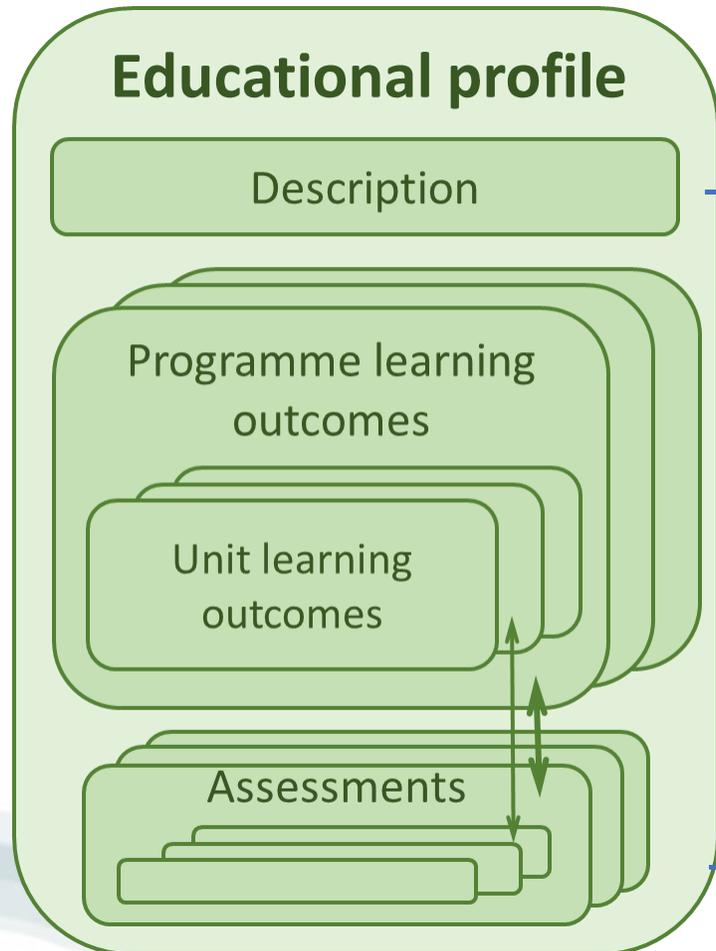
Unit learning outcomes

Assessments

Learning programme (Curriculum)

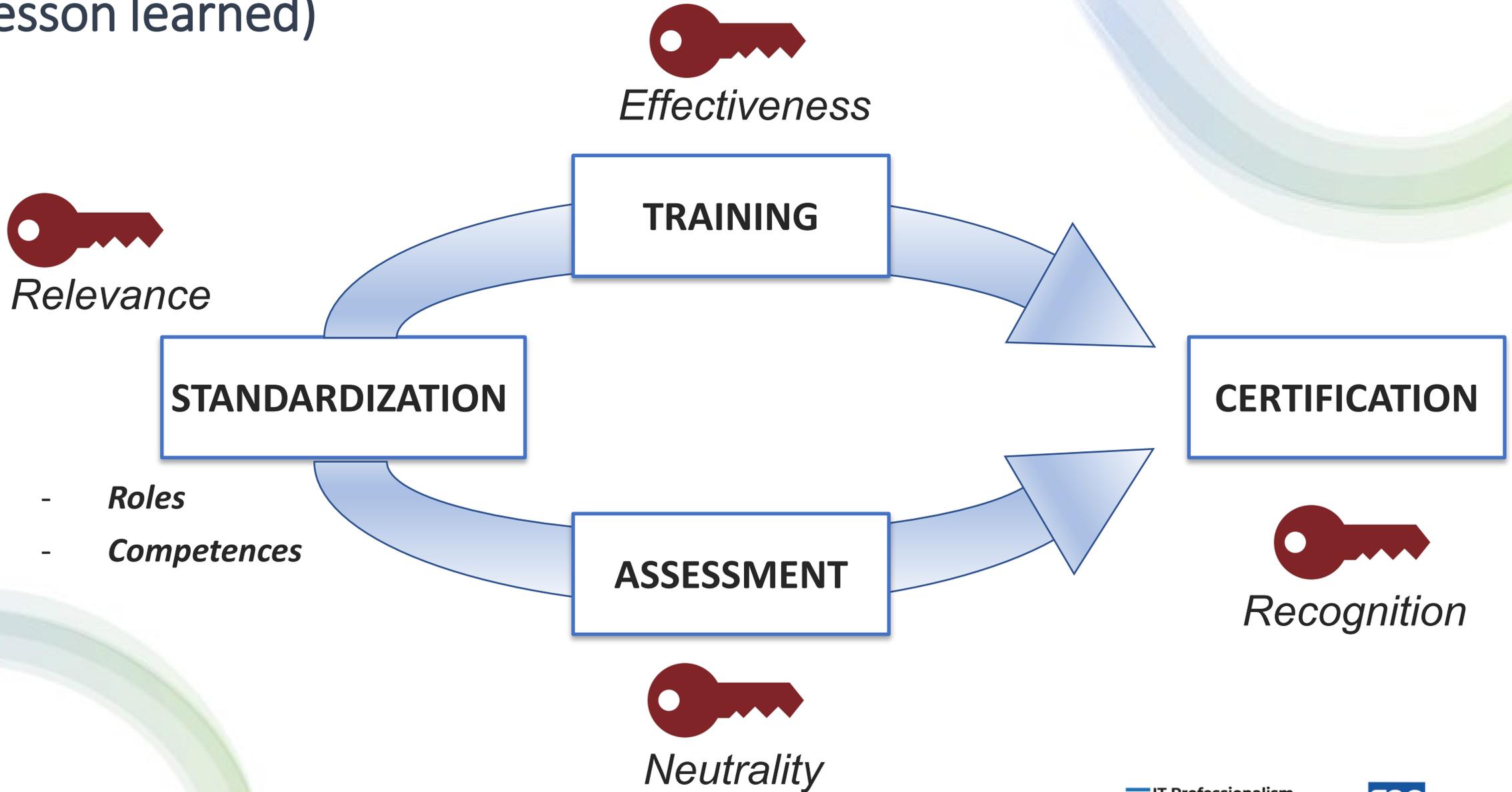


The educational profile



TITLE	Title of the Educational Profile	
Description		
Goal	<i>A short description of the overall focus of the Profile in terms of results</i>	
Scope	<i>An indication of the e-CF area and the knowledge domain; optionally a description of the professional field or specialism</i>	
Competences	<i>An indication of the relevant e-competences</i>	
Complexity	<i>An indication of the level of complexity and autonomy of the Profile; for example, in relation to the EQF's Dublin descriptors and/ or other qualification standards</i>	
Deliverables	<i>A short list of the deliverables that learners should master</i>	
Perspective	Professional perspective	
	<i>A description of the possible professional functions and/or roles a person may fulfill.</i>	
	Educational perspective	
	<i>A description of the possible further education or training a person can take.</i>	
1. Programme learning outcome		
	<i>Programme learning outcome</i>	
learning outcomes	1.1 learning outcome 1	
	1.2 learning outcome 2	
	1....learning outcome ...	
... Programme learning outcome		
	<i>Programme learning outcome</i>	
learning outcomes1 learning outcome 1	
2 learning outcome 2	
learning outcome ...	
Assessment		
learning outcome	Assessment type	Validation of prior knowledge
1.1		
1.2		
1....		
....1		
....2		
.....		

From standardization to certification (lesson learned)



THANK YOU !