



# **NEWSLETTER No. 4**

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### **skillME PROJECT**

The **Skills in Metal and Electro Industry** or **skillME project** is a three-year collaborative project between vocational education and training (VET) providers, national regulatory partners and representatives of the metal and electro industries of the EU member states **Croatia**, **Latvia**, **Slovakia** and **Slovenia**, which aims at **identifying the most endemic skill gaps in the metal and electro industries** and **developing curricula to fill those gaps** that will be implemented into national VET systems.

The project lasts from **November 2014 until October 2017** and is **co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme** of the European Union.

## ■ ■ LATEST NEWS

Following the third project meeting in Zagreb, Croatia on 9 December 2015, skillME participants met for the fourth time at the **fourth project partners' meeting** in **Bratislava**, **Slovakia** on **18 and 19 May 2016**, which was hosted by the Slovakian project partners ZEP SR, SIOV and SPEST and attended by all project partners.



The meeting lasted for two days, during which partners discussed in detail the progress of the project, outlined the main achievements, potential issues and activities to be implemented in the next project phase.

## PROJECT PROGRESS

1. Desk research 2. Skills selection 3. Curricula design 4. Pilot testing

- 1. In the first project phase, partners analysed existing data from previous skill gaps research findings in order to gain insight into the scope of the issue and form a starting point for further activities. The findings were further explored and upgraded with focus group and interviews with metal and electro companies from project countries. The results gave a clear picture as to the most sought-after competencies and the most endemic skill gaps in the metal and electro industry today.
- 2. Based on the analysis findings, four most critical fields of skill gaps among workers in the metal and electro industry were observed and narrowed down to prepare grounds for the creation of curricula in order to fill skill gaps in the following areas:
  - 1. READING TECHNICAL DOCUMENTATION
  - 2. CAD/CAM SYSTEMS
  - 3. MACHINE VISION
  - 4. COMPOSITE MATERIALS
- **3.** In the third project phase, each national team of partners, consisting of a VET school, a regulatory partner and an industry representative, took over the design of **one curriculum** corresponding to the defined areas of skill gaps. The curricula design is complemented with the production of **learning materials**, consisting of a handbook for the presentation of theoretical knowledge for specific skills, theoretical and practical exercises for consolidating the acquired knowledge, and testing materials, all of which will be used by teachers in the implementation of the curricula. All curricula and learning materials are being localized into the languages of participating countries.
- **4.** In the next project phase, the project will enter into its testing phase. Partners will **implement pilot trainings** to evaluate the functionality and adequacy of the curricula in every project participating country.

## PROJECT PARTNERS



Metal Processing Industry Association





















