

Project overview – Increasing beneficial data exchange
Interoperability of European ICT Career websites

The volume and diversity of ICT career and e-Skills development websites found and hosted on local, national, European and international levels by organisations, companies and institutions is unsurprisingly huge. These websites provide ICT career promotion and job guidance, qualification and certification promotion, assessment tools or job opportunities, or they focus on statistical data and sector policies or simply provide space for interaction between sector players.

However, navigating through the web and identifying relevant links is confusing as website information about ICT careers and e-Skills development are structured and presented in many different ways. Nevertheless, ICT operates in a global market and differences between jobs, methods, competence requirements and solutions are becoming less. Common reference standards to communicate about jobs, skills and competences could provide for interoperability of e-career related websites, increasing efficient data exchange and interconnections across EU member states.

What is relevant for practitioner e-skills and ICT career development?

Guided by the key question: “What is relevant for practitioner’ ICT careers and e-skills development?”, the CEN project “e-Career” seeks to structure relevant services provided today by the internet to key target groups, e.g. students and ICT professionals, companies, social partners, training and certification bodies and recruitment agencies, in a way that is logical and beneficial links between services can be established.

Building on the European e-Competence Framework as key reference, the project will elaborate strategic, functional and technical recommendations for website designers and Information Systems architects on how to interconnect beneficially ICT career web services in a European environment.

The recommendation will include:

- a clear “helicopter view” representation of the human resources domain in the ICT field, its relevant e-Career development services provided to key target groups
- the strategic and functional standard specifications for interoperability between existing as well as future portals and the forthcoming European e-Skills and Career portal
- a competence / qualifications connecting translation standard for ICT qualification contents, enabling to link learning outcomes to e-competences of the European e-Competence Framework

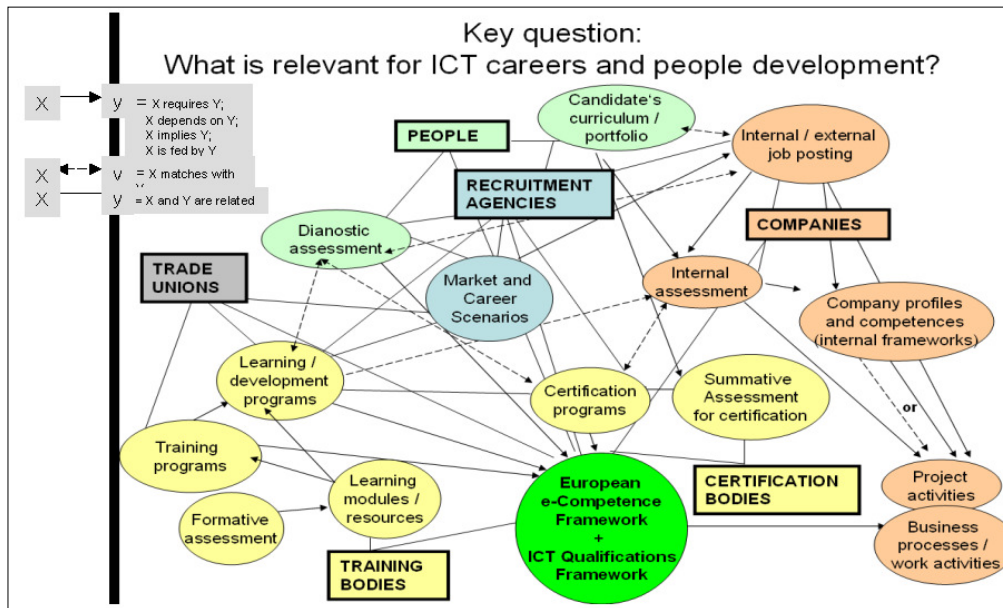


Figure 1 – The reference Human Resources domain model: elements found online and possible links – wip

Pilot-experimental network of stakeholders

The CEN e-Career project team is actively supported by the pilot-experimental network of stakeholders (PEN), a community of European ICT career and online services experts who are interested and willing to validate, test, use and exploit together interoperable e-Career Services in Europe.

Project outcomes to be published by mid 2009

The recommendations addressed to European ICT Career website designers and IS architects are planned to be published as a CWA (CEN workshop Agreement) by April 2009.

The CWA will consist of:

- Overall Human Resources domain model “helicopter view”: Which aspects are relevant for e-skills, ICT Careers and people development and how can they be linked?
- A semantic model for e-Career services interoperability
 - providing recommendations on strategic, functional and technical specifications (ontology-based model)
 - e.g. connections and information exchange between competences assessment results, training paths required, certifications issued, eCurricula to enrich
- Recommendations/ guidelines for designers and IS architects of interoperable e-Career Services in Europe