

Objectives

1. Creation of an innovative and supportive mechanism (models, guidelines, software) to HEI providers for representing learning opportunities with integrated learning outcomes/competence information.
2. Development of a free tool for students, to benefit from the new learning opportunity services for competence-based pathway building, with emphasis on their professional development.
3. Production of a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) offering training, guidance for building Learning Opportunity descriptions and flexible lifelong learning pathways.
4. Implementation of a large-scale pilot test in the ICT sector, with leading European HEIs and HEI consortia in the field. In this application, the CEN ICT Skills e-Competence framework will be leveraged to achieve comparable descriptions of offered learning opportunities.
5. Policy recommendations and technology guidelines for national and European exploitation of results.
6. Public awareness on LLL pathways through dissemination events and exchange of good practices in cooperation with stakeholders and associated partners.

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LEARNING COMPASS
OPEN PATHWAYS
IN A SEA OF LEARNING



LEARNING
COMPASS

<http://www.learning-compass.eu/>

Aim

The COMPASS project aims to the Composition of Lifelong Learning Opportunity Pathways through Standards-based Services investing on the establishment of a cohesive, strategic partnership for the long-term promotion of Lifelong Learning-related European strategies and the development of instruments that will raise the awareness of both learning opportunity providers and learning opportunity seekers and stimulate the design of policies for enhancing Education & Training with alternative, flexible pathways on the basis of easy, technology-enhanced access to learning opportunities. The proposed approach targets all types of lifelong learning stakeholders with a specific emphasis on a Higher Education context.

More specifically, COMPASS:

- a) promotes the concept of flexible lifelong learning pathways through the use of guidance instruments and produces policy suggestions for fomenting their implementation by Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)
- b) develops standards-based technical tools to engage HEI learning opportunity providers in producing well-structured, competence-based Learning Opportunity descriptions and in supporting the creation of flexible learning paths, thus improving the quality and relevance of higher education to current and emerging labour market needs
- c) leverages the consortium's significant impact and span to policy makers, collaborating HEIs and to ICT-related industry, to design and implement pilot tests, that will boost awareness and institutional commitment
- d) makes explicit contributions for integration of technical developments into existing European and national guidance instruments for access to learning opportunities (e.g. Ploteus).



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Innovation

COMPASS builds around (a) the modelling of well-structured representations of Learning Opportunities with explicit integration of learning outcome and competence related information and (b) implementation of technology-enhanced, flexible learning pathways.

These concepts have been tackled within policies and some of their integral parts have been the object of modelling, technical standardization work and implementations. The innovation of this project consists in the integration and extension of previous related work for the creation of meaningful services within a higher education context that target (a) the improvement of quality and relevance of offered learning opportunities to current and emerging labour market needs, (b) the enhancement of mobility, making learning opportunities more visible and understandable for students that want to gain additional skills, (c) the strengthening of cross-border cooperation of HEIs in the definition of quality flexible learning pathways for their learners, (d) the increase of social responsibility of HEIs through the transparent descriptions of their offerings, (e) the implementation of sustainable infrastructure for all European HEIs and for the EU to leverage in the enhancement of existing or the creation of new related services.