

CALL FOR TENDERS

Quality Assurance – External Evaluator

Project Agreement number: 2021-1-IT01-KA220-VET-000032968

This call is issued by the consortium of the project **Green VET Choices**, which intends to commission a contract for the provision of external evaluation services for the project itself.

PROJECT SUMMARY

The Green VET Choices project joins this fight for a healthier planet by developing and implementing an innovative learning methodology to increase green skills and raise interest in green vocational education and training. VET professions offer rich opportunities for individuals interested in green technologies, green entrepreneurship, green social business and related environmentally-conscious industries. These professions and career paths play a key role in the pursuit of a healthier environment and green growth in European economies. The Green VET Choices project sees its central objective in developing a way to combine green VET with the fight against climate change by increasing the attractiveness and awareness of environmentally-friendly VET career options and fostering required green & digital skills and competences.

OBJECTIVES

The Green VET Choices project wants to raise awareness for urgent environmental challenges and, at the same time, foster interest in green VET careers. There are many innovative green professions and VET offers related to environmental issues; however, the awareness of these possible and attractive career paths needs to be raised among current and potential VET learners in order to satisfy the labour market and societal demand of these specific professionals in the future. Through an innovative learning and teaching approach combining environmental topics and green VET, the project fosters excitement and a sense of participation and thus enables important contributions to a more powerful fight against climate change. The project will concentrate on increasing competences necessary for these professions such as green and digital skills and will also offer a career guidance system as a comprehensive overview of possibilities and options in green VET.

MAIN PROJECT RESULTS

The Green VET Choices Survey Report (R1)

Prepares the ground in a transnational document focusing on all six partner countries. Project beneficiaries (current and future VET learners) as well as VET professionals are directly engaged through surveys and their input will contribute to the thorough desk research conducted by partners. All findings combined result in an informative report bringing significant insights and a reliable base for the following two project results. An executive summary is available in all partner languages and as a video version.

The Green VET Choices Virtual Portal (R2)

An open and participative learning environment that uses a motivating storytelling approach to empower users to make their own decisions and find out more about green careers. Digital skills and competences are fostered through challenge-based scenario technique stories which bring users to individual story endings and provide them with appropriate learning outcomes, a badge validation framework and a career guidance system with a compilation of possibilities and options in green VET professions. The Visual Portal is also available as an app version.

The Green VET Choices Digital Model (R3)

Encompasses a professional magazine and a key segment video anthology introducing the innovative methodologies and didactical concepts applied in the project and presenting keynote articles by experts. The Digital Model also supports the career guidance system by presenting green VET job profiles and relevant soft, green and digital skills.

PROJECT PARTNERSHIP

The project consortium involves directly 8 organisations from 6 EU member states: Austria, Cyprus, Italy, Ireland, Portugal, Slovenia. Under the lead of Co&So from Italy, two groups of partners will work together to develop the project results and achieve a positive, sustainable and fruitful project outcome. The specific composition of partners ensures not only expertise and technical know-how on many levels, but also hands-on experience and professional input for all results produced in the project:

- + Expert partners from the sectors of social and civic engagement, training, community development and research: Co&So (IT), Auxilium (AT), Rural Hub (IE), CARDET (CY)
- + VET institution partners: Reattiva (IT), Leonardo da Vinci (IT), Training for Future (PT), CPU (SI)

TASK OF THE EXTERNAL EVALUATOR

The external evaluator will provide the tools to evaluate the products and guarantee an objective feedback from outside the partnership throughout the project, especially during the interim and final reporting period, in order to be on track as to both the work plan timeline and the quality of project products.

Quality Management will be based on a continuous monitoring of the project at different levels. The project partners will work together under the guidance of Auxilium and the external evaluator, to assure the quality of the project and its achievements, as well as the applicability of the EU dimension in the activities foreseen in the project proposal.

Quality management is strongly linked with other management issues. The results of all evaluation activities will be regularly reviewed by the partnership at each meeting, and it will have direct consequences on all further project management decisions. In collaboration with the external evaluator, the Project Steering Committee, which is the main decision-making body in the consortium assess whether the guidelines set in the quality assurance framework are adhered to by all partners, and project targets and deadlines have been met.

The key areas of quality management will be:

- Perspectives: ex-ante (before action), formative (during action), ex-post (after action)
- Levels: process, product, impact
- Experts: internal and external experts, partnership, stakeholders, target group members
- Methods: questionnaires, observations, document analysis, variance analysis, etc.

PROJECT EVALUATION

The external evaluator will be responsible for reviewing all three main project results, additional project products such as project promotion and sharing, PR material, meeting evaluations, multiplier events, event documentation and reports, project processes, impact numbers, implementation fulfilment and quality. Specifically, and in addition to the three main project results R1, R2, R3, the external evaluator will be responsible for reviewing the following products:

Deliverable No.	Deliverable name/type	Format	Language
1	<i>Quality Management Handbook</i> Containing information on evaluation instruments, procedures, products and outcomes with timetable and definition of quality criteria.	Electronic	EN
2	<i>5 Meeting Evaluation Monitoring Reports</i> Elaborated after each project meeting concerning the main aspects of project meetings and phases.	Electronic	EN
3	<i>Progress Evaluation Report</i> A comparative report of the 1st project year concerning project process (meetings and phases), products developed, dissemination activities and impact.	Electronic	EN
4	<i>Final evaluation report</i> A comparative report of the whole project period concerning project process (meetings and phases), products developed, dissemination activities and impact.	Electronic	EN
5	<i>Impact and Exploitation Report</i> Elaborated at the end of the project, based on the dissemination activities carried out by partners, with a section on the applicability of the EU dimension in the project activities.	Electronic	EN
6	<i>Report on Local Pilot Trainings</i> Elaborated on the basis of questionnaires filled in by participants and trainers.	Electronic	EN
7	<i>Report on the Short-term joint staff Training Event (Green VET Choices Team Teaching)</i> Elaborated on the basis of questionnaires filled in by participants and trainers.	Electronic	EN
8	<i>Report on Local and National Multiplier Events</i> Elaborated on the basis of feedbacks received by participants concerning the relevance and quality of the Intellectual Outputs presented.	Electronic	EN

TIME SCHEDULE AND REPORTING

The contract shall have the duration from the 01/02/2022 to 31/05/2024. The evaluation reports are due to be submitted at M14 (interim report) and M28 (final report) and shall include the following elements:

No.	Review of	Deadline
1	Quality Management Handbook	April 2021
2	R1: Survey Report	December 2022
3	Report on the Short-term joint staff Training Event (Green VET Choices Team Teaching)	December 2022
4	Evaluation Monitoring Reports	August 2022 March 2023 October 2023 May 2024
5	Interim progress evaluation report	March 2023
6	Report on Local Pilot Testing Sessions	April 2024
7	Final evaluation report	May 2024
8	Impact and Exploitation report	May 2024
9	R2: Virtual Portal	May 2024
10	R3: Digital Model	May 2024
11	Report on Local and National Multiplier Events	May 2024

SELECTION AND PAYMENT

The subcontractor will be chosen by Auxilium, the project partner responsible for Quality Management, taking into consideration the external evaluator's experience and expertise in project evaluation. The contract will be awarded to the tender offering the best value for money on the basis of the quality and price, taking into account the specific requirements and selection criteria of the tender.

Selection criteria: Applicants should have significant experience and sound knowledge in the following domains:

- + Quality Management in EU funded projects.
- + Evaluation of programmes, policies or projects.

Applicants must have excellent knowledge of the English language, be able to work within specified deadlines, and respect budgetary limits.

SUBMISSION OF TENDERS

This call for tenders is published on all partner organisations' websites on 21/02/2022; it will stay open for 21 calendar days. The deadline for the submission of bids is on 21/03/2022.

Offers must be submitted by email to both the following email addresses:

office@auxilium.co.at and dominika.stiger@auxilium.co.at