



SolarCV: Sector Skills Alliance to cover skill needs through delivery and recognition of EU joint CV in Concentrated Solar Power



Photo: Solar field maintenance at Majadas CSP Plant © Javier Campos. ACCIONA

ABOUT SOLAR CV

SolarCV is a project funded by European Commission under the Erasmus+ programme. It aims at increasing the response of Vocational Education Training (VET) systems by anticipating the Concentrating Solar Power (CSP) labour demand, integrating work-based learning (WBL) in the design of CSP VET and increasing mobility of EU CSP learners, by the recognition of learning outcomes and by achieving qualifications.

SolarCV tools (Curriculum & Validation) are designed considering European Credit system for Vocational Education and Training (ECVET) and European quality assurance in vocational education and training (EQAVET) European references, so the resulting products ensure a better understanding and comparability of qualifications across countries.

About CSP

Concentrating solar power (CSP), also known as Solar Thermal Electricity (STE), is a renewable energy technology that uses mirrors to concentrate the sun's energy and convert it into high-temperature heat to create steam to drive a turbine that generates electricity. CSP is a carbon-free source of electricity that is best suited to areas in the world with strong irradiation: Southern Europe, Northern Africa and the Middle East, South Africa, parts of India, China, Southern USA and Australia.



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OBJECTIVES:

- To increase the response of continuing Vocational Education Training (VET) systems to concentrated solar power (CSP) labour market demand for new skills;
- To strength the exchange of knowledge and practice between VET institutions and the CSP labour market by integrating work-based learning (WBL);
- To increase mobility of EU CSP learners, by increasing the recognition of learning outcomes and by providing flexibility of learning pathways to achieve qualifications;
- To strength the European Union's capacity by the "anticipation and matching of labour market and skills needs" as established in the Agenda for New Skills and Jobs.

THREE MAIN PROJECT RESULTS:

- The definition of European Standard (EU CV) for the training of CSP solar-field operators
- The creation of a ICT e-learning platform (e-simulator) for providing formal training
- The delivery of a methodology for validation non-formal learning.

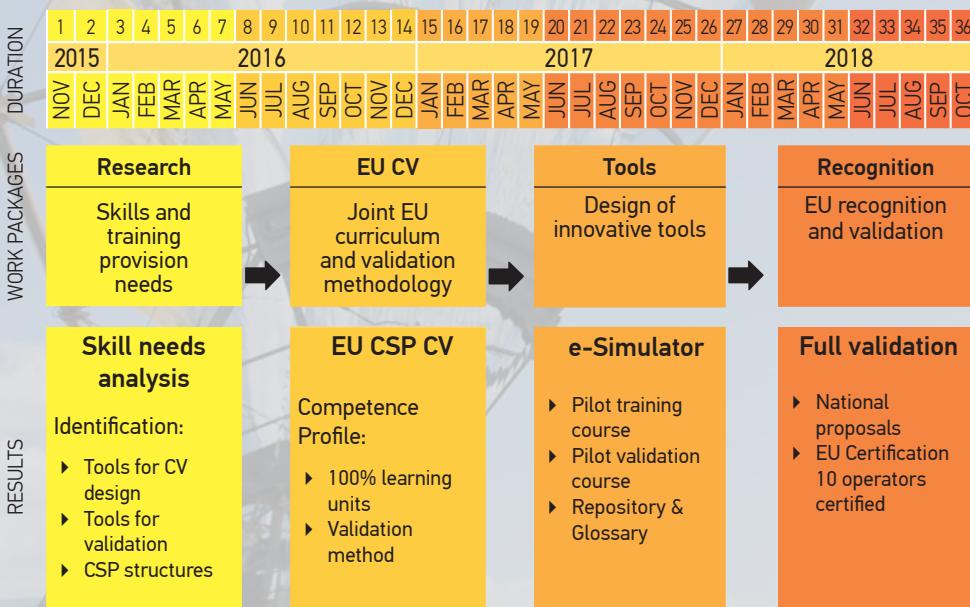
MAIN PRODUCTS AND OUTCOMES:

SolarCV implements the learning outcomes approach by proposing European Credit system for Vocational Education and Training (ECVET) in the new EU Curriculum & Validation and for the methodology validating the non-formal and informal learning of learners.

A number of outcomes will be delivered with direct links to the European Qualifications Framework (EQF), the National Qualifications Frameworks (NQF) and ECVET:

- Analysis on skills and training provision needs in EU
- Analysis on current situation of non-formal, informal and formal training in the CSP sector
- Competence profile for solar-field operator
- EU Curriculum and Validation for solar-field operator
- e-Learning platform with training materials
- CSP solar field e-Simulator
- Pilot courses on concentrated solar thermal (CST)
- Proposal for a Common European Qualification

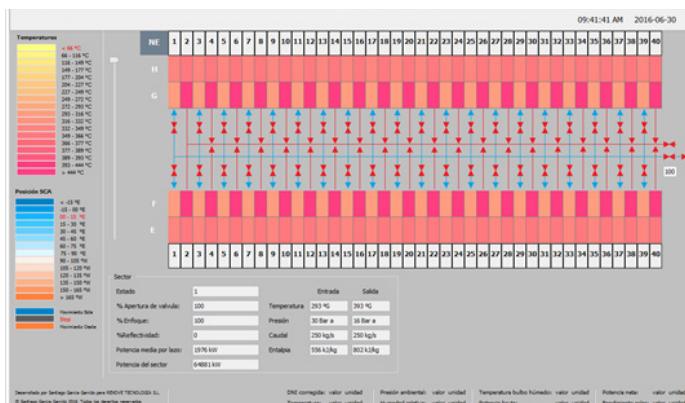
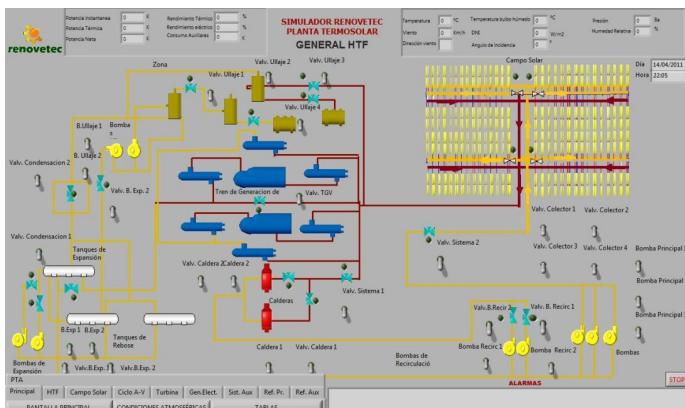
SolarCV develops tools allow learners to achieve qualifications, partly by having non-formal and informal learning validated and recognized, and by achieving the remaining units through formal learning. A further step consists in promoting the National CSP CV to the National Qualification Institutes. Finally, the EU Certification of CSP Plant Operators assures a EU recognition even if the national Institutes do not integrate their National CSP CV.



E-LEARNING PLATFORM

e-Learning platform provide formal training programmes and materials, as well as validation of non-formal learning courses.

This platform allows flexible course management, robust security and useful communication between teachers and trainees in order to make the learning process effective and borderless.



E-SIMULATOR

The e-Simulator is a powerful tool which includes innovative teaching methods and high quality learning units based on company experiences. It allows a real-time operation and management of the solar field. The learning of the operation of solar-field is complex because it is used to be based on experience, but now this simulator will provide a full implementation of acquired knowledge via distance learning. The e-Simulator will show several screens with the distribution of a pilot plant sample, including all the required components and parameters of operations.



The e-Simulator is one of the final products of the project and it will keep running even after the end of the project.

Photo: e-Simulator monitors and screen shots of the tool © Renovetec

SOLARCV PROVIDES YOU:

- skill needs analysis for CSP market in Europe
- CSP Competence Profile for solar-field operator
- e-learning platform with formal training materials
- specific skill training for solar-field operators based on real-working experience, with materials provided by CSP companies and the development of the e-Simulator (real simulator of the CSP solar field);
- full validation

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Photo: Solar Parabolic Trough Collector Shape Measurement © CSP Services

PROJECT PARTNERS:



Contact

Project Coordinator:

AGENEX - Agencia Extremeña de la Energía

Avda. Antonio Masa Campos, 26

06011 - Badajoz

+34 924 262 161

agenex@agenex.org

Find us on:



For More Info:
www.solar-cv.eu

