GREEN EUROPEAN VET NETWORK
APPLICANT GUIDE

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1.INTRODUCTION

The Green European VET network arise in the scope of an Erasmus plus GREEN project .

This Document is built upon 5.1 Strategic Plan, that outlines the key benefits of participation in the European Green VET Network, delineates strategic objectives, presents an action plan with explicit implementation deadlines, and involved stakeholders, and addresses critical aspects for ensuring the network's sustainability post the GREEN project.

The current application guide aims to support the submission process to become a Green Network member and have access to the network's resources for fostering the green transition in European education.

GREEN call to external organizations will enable to define the initial groundwork to settle the Network first activities, outcome results, courses piloting and fine tuning the strategies, rules and procedures that will follow. GREEN project will challenge 15 VET organisations in this first piloting stage.

Our work will be basis for the recognition and nomination of Green European Vocational Education and Training institutions at both national and European levels. It will act as the foundation for a sustainable future in which circularity and green skills will be embedded in the organisations' vision and practices, contributing to the success of European companies and the workforce.

Green European VET Network will initially engage Vocational Education and Training providers from six industrial sectors namely: <u>Additive Manufacturing, Automotive, Batteries, Defence, Energy and Maritime.</u>

Figure 1 - GREEN project targeted sectors

Based on the outcomes of GREEN piloting activities, Green European VET network will integrate education providers from other manufacturing sectors in the future.

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2. WHY TO APPLY

Participating in this European Netwok will provide your organization the chance to work together and exchange best practices with other VET providers that are geared towards being more sustainable, have more innovative and greener pedagogical approaches with less of an impact on the environment.

Entities that join the Network at this early stage will have the opportunity to take part in the research activities that are supported by the project, including the development and validation of pedagogical resources and methodologies to assist VET providers in making the transition to a greener environment, as well as their pilot implementation.

As a result, organisations that participate in the network's initial phase will benefit by:

- **Participating with at least one trainer in the GREEN Competence train the trainers capacity building event to be held in Cyprus.**

  Two days of face-to-face training of trainers, where participants will share best practices and tools to ensure a successful implementation of training activities in the VET and Industrial contexts. During this collaborative and active immersive capacity building workshop, GREEN trainer's methodology and curriculum framework to embedded GREEN skills into their practices will be presented and discussed. The starting point of these two days will be trainer's current practices, tools and applied methods that can be shifted into a greener approach.

- **Pilot training programmes for green competency in sectoral qualification courses**

  Trainers involved in the train the trainer's activity will be challenged to put into action, test and assess approaches, methods, and practices into their training contexts in each sector they belong to.

- **Get pedagogical and technical support to comply with the standards to become a green education centre.**

  The rules and procedures established for the green education centre to be awarded with the green label will be tested and will serve to help the VET organisations through remote audits to be complied with the agreed standards.

Following the GREEN project's conclusion, the Network participating organisations will have:

- RECOGNITION and REWARDING for Excellence Green practices.
- Audits regarding the compliance with the requirements to qualify as green VET CENTRE,
- Compliance with Sustainability Regulations & Standards.
- Support for the upcoming ISO 53001 – Management Systems for UN Sustainable Development goals.
- Access to GREEN Competences tailored for both educators and learners and integrate them into Training Curriculum.
- The opportunity to implement new training programs and/or methodologies within the members.
- EU collaboration among educational centres, industry partners, and regulatory bodies.
- Support to Assure Quality System by EWF Standards.
- Gain insight into organization's impact on the GREEN transition.
- The opportunity to enhance the recognition and BRAND reputation.

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3. ORGANISATION'S EVALUATION AND SELECTION

Before starting this process it's important to read the GREEN EUROPEAN VET NETWORK 5.1 Strategic Plan, where network main structure is presented.

The Evaluation and Selection phase intends to be easy and is split into main levels:

the first level is to be eligible for the current call, the organisation must comply with the following mandatory Criteria:

- To be based in Europe
- To be an education provider in scope of manufacturing in the identified sectors[1] for 3-7 EQF[2] levels
- To have English speaking internal staff (working language within the Network)
- To participate on the face-to-face Train the Trainers [3][4]

The second level is to identify and show documental evidence <u>to at least on one best practice for each criteria concerning the following</u>:

Criteria	Description	Evidence
Commitment to Sustainability	Institutions should demonstrate a clear commitment to environmental sustainability and a willingness to integrate green practices into their curriculum, training methodologies, and infrastructure.	Implementing Green initiatives involves engaging students and educational agents in sustainability projects, tracking environmental metrics, and leading sustainability awareness campaigns. **Examples:** Organised awareness campaigns involving the educational community (flyers, outdoors)
Stakeholder Collaboration	Institutions should be open to collaborating with industry stakeholders, regulatory bodies, and other educational centers within the network to foster a community of sustainability.	Engaging in fruitful collaborations by partnering with local green businesses, industry associations and other relevant organisations, including environmental non-profits. The initiative forms a weighted advisory board with representatives from these organisations, ensuring ongoing dialogue and knowledge exchange on sustainability practices. **Examples:** protocols with sectorial associations (word document). Environmental projects with other organisations

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[1] Additive Manufacturing, Automotive, Batteries, Defence, Energy and Maritime
[2] https://europa.eu/europass/en/europass-tools/european-qualifications-framework
[3] This criterion is applied only during the project course.
[4] Travel and accommodation (only) will be financed

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Innovative Training Methods	Institutions should showcase innovative training methodologies that promote environmental awareness and responsibility, offering students hands-on experiences and real-world applications of sustainability principles.	Employing blended learning approaches that combine classroom instruction with hands-on, real-world applications providing students with internships and practical experience, allows them to apply sustainability principles in a real work environment. **Examples:** Training programs with blended pedagogical methodologies. Use of digital tools (simulators, AR…). Protocols with industry for work base learning approach.
Curriculum Standards	Institutions must have green curriculum standards in place or be willing to develop and implement them, ensuring that sustainability principles are integrated into their educational programs.	The institution ensures that sustainability principles are embedded into the curriculum content and assessed through student projects and assessments. This involves having a transversal sustainability competence unit common to all training courses. **Examples:** Green skills embedded into curriculum (competence units specific or transversal)
Green Infrastructure	Have or commit to improving their infrastructure to meet green and eco-conscious standards, including energy efficiency, waste reduction, and sustainable resource management.	Investing in energy-efficient lighting, heating, and cooling systems. Implementing waste reduction programs and utilising renewable energy sources, such as solar panels or wind turbines to power its facilities. Comply with ISO 14001 standards. **Examples**: Energy consumption monitoring (excel file) or waste management
Monitoring and Assessment	Organisations must have implemented evaluation and monitoring procedures to understand the impact that their actions have on the community in which they operate.	Establishing KPIS and monitoring action plan through community consultation, which may involve questionnaires, interviews, focus groups, etc. **Examples:** Action plan with sustainability KPIs and monitoring (word document)

The Green Project Consortium will give preference to the initial applications as a tiebreaker criterion, considering the requirement for representatives from the mentioned sectors.

4. HOW TO APPLY

1. The application process starts with the fulfilment of Applying Questionnaire (click to access link)
2. All identified criteria in the questionnaire should have documented evidence sent by email to info@greenvetnetwork.eu within eight working days following the submission.
3. We strongly encourage the questionnaire to be answered from those with a broader

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understanding of organisational procedures (Training Manager, quality manager, Pedagogical Coordinator)

4. Put your justifications in writing for wanting to join the network in a text message.
5. Use the annex Template.
6. Attach the curriculum for the trainers who could participate (ideally from the industries the initiative addresses).

7. ANNEXX 1 – APPLICATION TEMPLATE

EU GREEN VET NETWORK APPLICATION

This document is part of the application process to join the Eu Green Vet Network and must be completed after the questionnaire submission .
This Application must be sent within 8 days before the submission in PDF format.

Organisation Name:	
Organisation website:	
Contact name and email address[5]:	
Organisation brief description	

List of annexed document evidence:

Doc nº and title	Criteria evidence	Brief Description

Explain why you want to join the EU GREEN VET NETWORK (impact to your organisation and added value)

Name/ Position / Date   Signature

_____   _____