An overview of the TecCOMFrame project

Leading organization:
European Association for Technical Communication – tekom Europe e.V.

http://www.teccom-frame.eu/
What is TecCOMFrame?

- Technical Communication Competence Framework
- A European collaboration project to improve higher education in the field of Technical Communication (TC)
- Launched in the autumn of 2015
- Runs until August 2018
- EU-funded as Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership
- 9 project partners

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Project consortium
• The project is coordinated by tekom Europe, the European Association for technical communication
  • They submitted the application and created the budget

• Each partner receives funding to his/her institution for travel and project management

• Partners complete timesheets and submit these to tekom Europe

• Tekom Europe reports on the project to the EU
Purpose and scope

Only a small number of higher education institutions in Europe offer study programmes in TC.
There is a shortage of graduates in the field.
In some countries, there are no technical communication programmes.
→ Companies hire graduates from related study programs such as translation and engineering.

As a consequence:

- The occupational profile is unclear.
- The competencies and qualifications for technical communicators are inconsistent.

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Major outputs

- TecCOMFrame: Academic Competence Framework for TC based on the existing tekom cross-industry competence framework

- Development of curricula at three levels (cf. European Qualifications Framework):
  - EQF level 5: Specialization courses for language/translation studies and engineering studies
  - EQF level 6: Bachelor programme
  - EQF level 7: Master programme

- Update TecDocNet Guideline 2018

- Competence and Qualification Profiling Tool

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Increasing number of:

- Study programmes in TC (specialisation, bachelor and master)
- Graduates in TC
- Qualified professionals in TC

Facilitating:

- Better understanding of the profession and its requirements
- Job mobility through definition of standards
- Student and staff exchange through availability of programmes
- Employability of students from related studies through specialization in TC
- Employee recruitment due to clear assessment criteria
Benefits of being involved

• Participation in a project network
• Development of materials that can be used by other educators
• Travel (four face-to-face meetings per year for this project)
• Opportunities for publishing
• Opportunities for profiling
• Opportunities to participate in future projects

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Thank you!

Questions?

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