



European Cross-Border Skills

Presentation of project results

<https://european-crossborder-skills.eu>

ERASMUS+ KEY ACTION 2 - STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP
2017-1-FR01-KA203-037470



ECBS: AN ERASMUS+ PROJECT

The *European Cross-Border Skills (ECBS)* project is a strategic partnership for higher education funded with support from the European Commission through the Erasmus+ programme.

Beginning of the project:

September, 2017

End of the project:

December, 2020

(extension of 4 months due to the health crisis)



Erasmus+



Introduction: The importance of cross-border regions in the EU





- **Border areas, an important facet of the EU:**
 - Covering 40% of its territory;
 - 30% of the EU population living in this kind of region (~ 150 millions inhabitants);
 - Generating 30% of the GPD of the EU.

- **Daily crossing border by citizens:** work, leisure, purchase, etc.

- **Important labour market:** ~ 1.3 million of cross-border workers.

- **Education and cross-borders:**
 - Many pupils and students on the opposite side of the border;
 - Long term and strong cross-border cooperation between HEIs;
 - But "cross-border regions are [...] yet underexplored especially in terms of the education and training dimension" (1).

(1) L. Graf. Skill formation in cross-border contexts: The case of the trinationl Upper Rhine region. In: Pilz M./Li J. (Eds.) *Comparative Vocational Education Research. Enduring Challenges and New Ways Forward*. Wiesbaden, Springer VS, 131-147, 2020.



Genesis of the ECBS project



➤ Université de Pau et des Pays de l'Adour: **strong tradition of cross-border actions with Spanish universities.**

➤ Essential to **promote all the initiatives and to share experiences with other cross-border institutions in higher education:** seminar organized in 2015.

➤ Willingness to **create a network.**



2017: UPPA proposed an innovative project around cross-border issues.

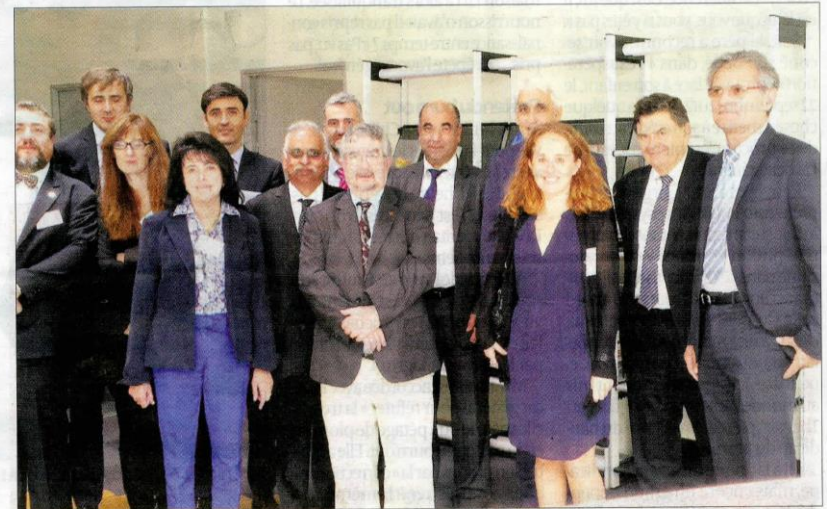
PAU Douze regroupements transfrontaliers sont réunis jusqu'à ce soir à l'université de Pau-Pays de l'Adour pour partager les expériences et créer à terme, un véritable outil stratégique

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Ce que vit l'Université de la Grande région, partenariat entre les établissements de France, Belgique, Luxembourg et Allemagne ressemble-t-il à ce que vit l'UPPA impliquée dans des réseaux transfrontaliers avec les universités espagnoles ? Les difficultés sont-elles semblables, les mêmes freins financiers existent-ils, les doubles diplômes résultent-ils d'une même démarche ? C'est pour répondre à un certain nombre de questions et partager les expériences que sont réunis depuis hier et jusqu'à ce soir, à l'UPPA, douze regroupements transfrontaliers européens. Ce rendez-vous international qui réunit une centaine de professionnels est le point d'orgue d'Euros 2020, un programme financé par la communauté européenne menée par les universités de Saragosse, de la Navarre, de la Rioja et de Lerida (réunies sous la dénomination de campus Iberus) ainsi que de l'UPPA et de l'université fédérale Toulouse Midi-Pyrénées.

« Une étape franchie »

La France, par le biais des universités de Pau, Bordeaux, Besançon



Les représentants des universités européennes, hier, dans le bâtiment de la présidence. PHOTO O.F.

sence du conseiller scientifique de l'ambassade de France en Espagne, Arthur Souce-Marianadin, du vice-président du Conseil régional d'Aquitaine, François Maitia et des présidents des universités de Pau (Mohamed Amara), Bordeaux-Montaigne (Jean-Paul Jourdan), de

un poste dédié à l'international a été créé, occupé par Émilie Descomet, à pied d'œuvre pour ce séminaire. Trois réseaux sont désormais bien en place à l'UPPA qui touchent près de 160 000 étudiants : le premier avec l'université de Saragosse (Saragosse et Huesca) ; le second avec l'université du Pays basque

Une trentaine de co-tutelles de thèses ont également vu le jour. C'est aussi sur le volet recherche que les rapprochements peuvent être intéressants car finançables par l'Europe.

Le président palois, Mohamed Amara, estime qu'une étape « a été franchie ». Il envisage la création

Sud Ouest, September 2015



Presentation of the ECBS project



ECBS PARTNERS

Crossborder area:
FR - ES

Crossborder area:
BE - DE - FR - LU

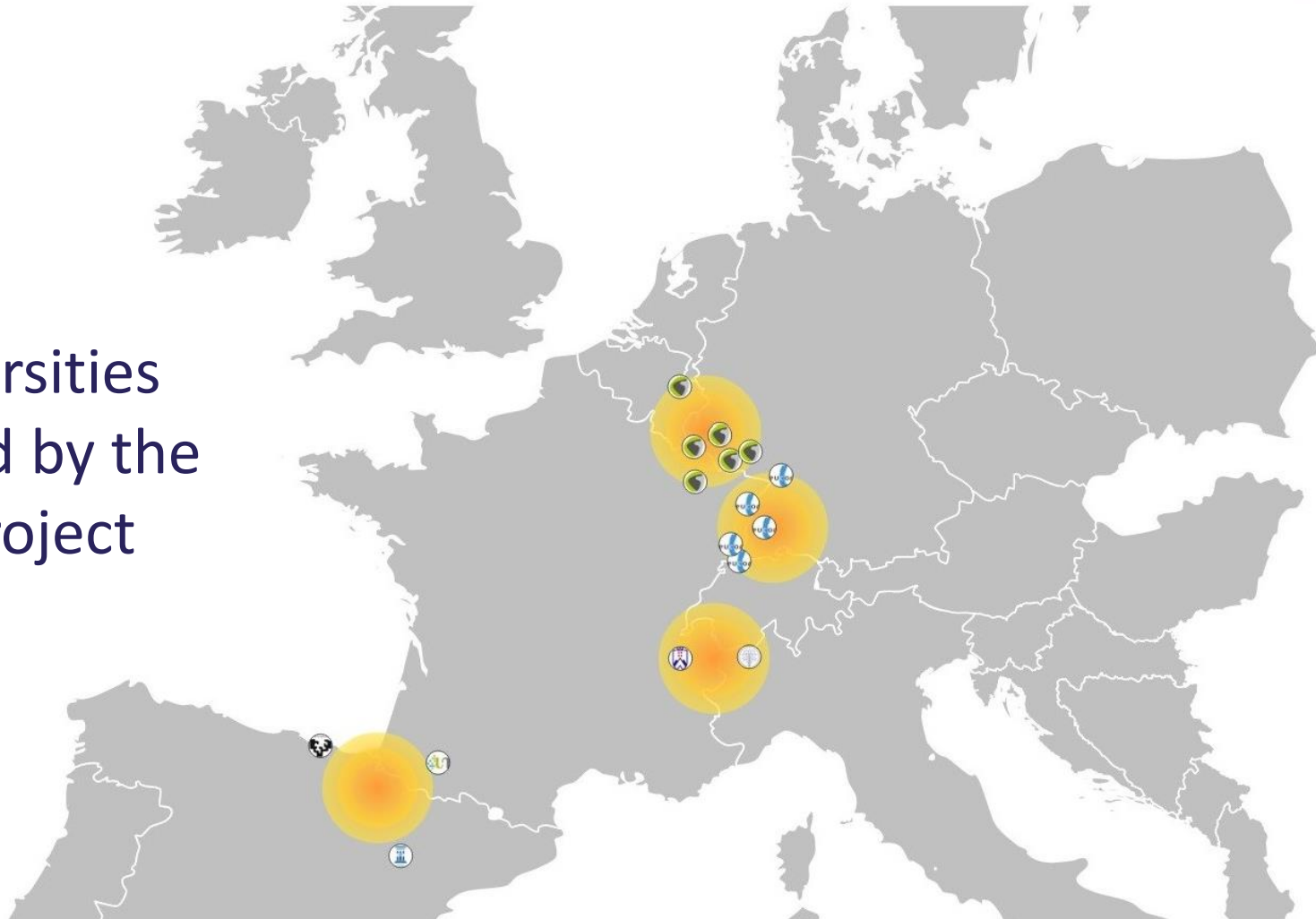
Prof en Poche

Crossborder area:
DE - FR

Crossborder area:
FR - IT



16 universities
concerned by the
ECBS project





SOME MEMBERS OF THE ECBS TEAM



Transnational meeting, Organisation UNIGR (Saarbrücken, Germany), January 2020



Transnational meeting, Organisation UPV/EHU (San Sebastián, Spain), September 2018



GOALS OF THE ECBS PROJECT

Highlighting the knowledge and skills

developed by students and staff in connection with the cross-border geographical location of universities.

Developing tools for articulating and assessing

the transversal skills developed in cross-border contexts.

Facilitating the exchange of best practices among higher education institutions

involved in cross-border projects and collaborations.



FOR WHO?

First target audience: all the academic community

- Students;
- PhD students;
- Staff: administratives, professors, researchers.

Second target audience

- Staff from local authorities;
- People in a longlife learning process.



FOR WHAT PURPOSES?

- Personal feedback
- Tools to improve CV
- Use in professional social networks
- Academic recognition
- External recognition



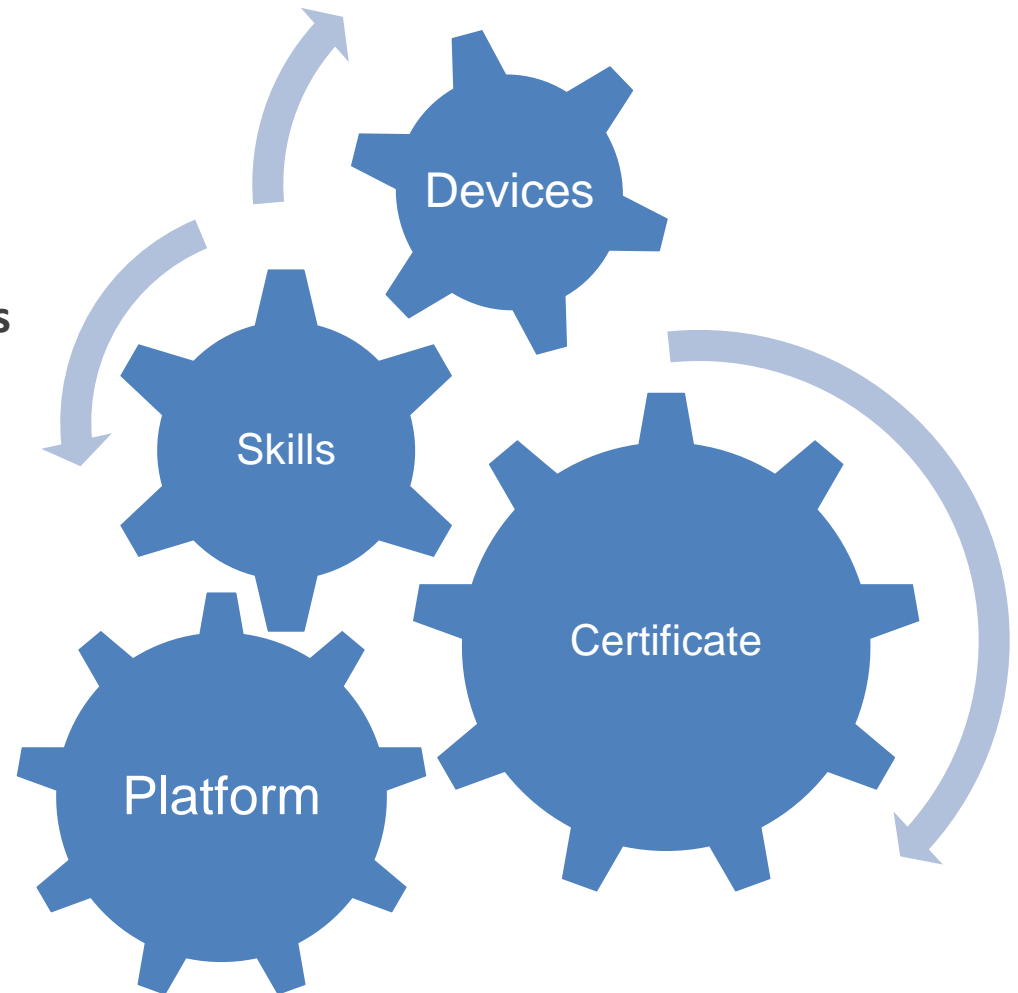
INTELLECTUAL OUTPUTS (IO)

IO 1: Catalogue of existing devices and tools that allow the acquisition of cross-border skills

IO 2: Framework of cross-border skills

IO 3: Certificate of cross-border skills

IO 4: Platform





Presentation of project results

IO 1: CATALOGUE OF EXISTING DEVICES AND TOOLS THAT ALLOW THE ACQUISITION OF CROSS-BORDER SKILLS

Methodology:

- Design of a survey,
- Online survey to collect data on devices (sent to all the persons in charge of cross-border programmes in each institution).

Outputs:

- Production of a [PDF catalogue \(in English\)](#), available on the website of the project,
- Interactive catalogue, available on the platform.



CATALOGUE OF PROGRAMMES
AND TOOLS DEVELOPPED
IN A CROSS-BORDER CONTEXT

JUNE, 2020



EUROPEAN CROSS-BORDER SKILLS PROJECT

EXTRACTS OF THE CATALOGUE OF PROGRAMMES AND TOOLS DEVELOPPED IN A CROSS-BORDER CONTEXT



CATALOGUE OF PROGRAMMES AND TOOLS DEVELOPPED IN A CROSS-BORDER CONTEXT

JUNE, 2020



EUROPEAN CROSS-BORDER SKILLS PROJECT



Catalogue of programmes and tools developed in cross-border context

Contents

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1) UPPA

1.1) Double diplôme de Master en sciences du sport - UPPA / UNIZAR

Name	Double diplôme - Master en sciences et techniques des activités physiques et sportives, parcours spécial en préparation physique et matériel et organisation de la performance / Máster universitario en educación y entrenamiento físico para la salud
Name in English	Double degree - Master in sport sciences
Short description	The objective of this double diploma is to train participants with a double skill in physical preparation and tactical preparation, directed according to two courses: (1) The preparation course, directly in relation to the world of training and high sport level, aims to train sports performance specialists; (2) The prevention course related to the field of sport and health, prepares professionals' ability to intervene in the face of non-pathological populations and to promote physical activity with a view to well-being and body maintenance.
To be in the catalog	Yes
Frequency	Not applicable
Type of activities	Education, Training, Cross-border curriculum
Pedagogical format	Multiple degree (double-diploma, triple-diploma)
Recognition	Degree
Target population	Postgraduate students - Master; Teachers/Lecturers
Partnership with outside actors	
Currently active	Yes
Involved languages	Spanish, French
Skills acquired	Behavioral, Vocational, Cultural, Linguistic
Efficacy to gain these skills	5
Contact 1	
Contact 2	
Organisations	Université de Pau et des Pays de l'Adour
Academic partners	Universidad de Zaragoza

1.5) Appel à projets cotutelles UPPA / UPV/EHU

Name	Appel à projets UPPA cotutelles avec l'Université du Pays basque
Name in English	UPPA Call for projects-jointly supervised doctoral theses UPPA-UPV/EHU
Short description	Call for projects launched by UPPA - the objective is to finance every year 3 joint theses between UPPA and UPV/EHU (3 full allocations by the UPPA and this for a period of 3 years). The projects are jointly submitted by the UPPA and UPV / EHU teams. The selection will be made taking into account the quality of the thesis project and the file of the doctoral candidate (3). A main list of successful applicants and a list of applicants on the waiting list will be established. Applicants funded by UPPA will pay UPPA registration fees for the three years of their thesis.
To be in the catalog	Yes
Frequency	Before
Type of activities	Education, Training, Cross-border curriculum, Financial support
Pedagogical format	Multiple degree (double-diploma, triple-diploma)
Recognition	Degree, ECTS credits or equivalent
Target population	Postgraduate students - PhD
Partnership with outside actors	
Currently active	Yes
Involved languages	English, Spanish, French, Basque
Skills acquired	Behavioral, Vocational, Cultural, Linguistic
Efficacy to gain these skills	5
Contact 1	
Contact 2	
Organisations	Université de Pau et des Pays de l'Adour
Academic partners	Universidad del País Vasco - Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea

IO 2: FRAMEWORK OF CROSS-BORDER SKILLS

Methodology:

- First draft of a framework on skills useful in a cross-border context,
- Face-to-face interviews to improve the framework,
- Collection of use-cases to illustrate the framework,
- Final version of the framework.

Output:

[Framework of 15 skills](#): available in 6 languages, both on the website and on the platform.





THE 15 SKILLS OF THE ECBS FRAMEWORK

1. Communication

2. Intercultural sensitivity

3. Adapting

4. Teamwork and collaboration

5. Problem solving

6. Learning

7. Conflict resolution and negotiation

8. Organisation and time-management

9. Critical thinking

10. Strategic and innovative thinking

11. Decision-making

12. Leadership

13. Systems-thinking

14. Work-ethic/Conscientiousness

15. Service orientation

THE EUROPEAN CROSS-BORDER SKILLS FRAMEWORK



European Cross-Border Skills Framework

Skill	Definition
Communication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Articulating thoughts and ideas effectively in a cross-border setting using oral, written, and nonverbal communication for a range of purposes (e.g., to inform, instruct, motivate, and persuade) in a variety of forms and contexts, including multiple media technologies. -Listening actively and effectively to decipher meaning, including knowledge, values, attitudes, and intentions. -Expressing one's feelings, preferences, needs, and opinions in a way that is neither threatening nor punishing to another person. -Foreign language skills: understanding and speaking more than one national language. Facilitating communication in a multilingual context for oneself and others.
Intercultural sensitivity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Possessing factual and theoretical knowledge about culture-specific concepts (such as history religion, politics, society, culture, environment, economy etc.). -Understanding culture-specific ways of behaviour and international/intercultural relations.
Adapting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Coping with uncertain, new, and rapidly changing conditions in cross-border settings, including different communication styles, cultures, and bureaucratic systems. -Handling stress related to change. -Changing one's own strategies to correspond to situational changes.

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Teamwork and collaboration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Working effectively and respectfully in a cross-border setting with colleagues who have different skill sets, personalities, work styles, and cultural backgrounds. -Operating smoothly and efficiently within a group, monitoring or evaluating progress. -Understanding diverse motivation levels in order to deliver efficient and effective results. -Exercising willingness to be helpful in making necessary compromises to accomplish a common goal. -Assuming shared responsibility for collaborative work, and value the individual contributions made by each team member.
Problem-solving 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Engaging in cognitive processes to understand and resolve problems in cross-border situations where a solution is not immediately obvious. -Examining a broad span of information, recognizing patterns, and narrowing the information to reach a diagnosis of the problem. -Moving beyond diagnosis to a solution. Creatively generating new and innovative solutions.
Learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Improving knowledge, personal behaviour and professional skill sets through diverse channels, systems, and contexts of training, and education. -Learning from one's own experiences, including international and intercultural experiences, and the striving to improve his/her status. -Managing one's learning, understanding one's learning strategies, seeking out learning opportunities.
Conflict resolution and negotiation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Understanding situations in cross-border setting in which some interests of two or more sides are shared and some are opposed when interacting and dealing with partners, colleagues or even competitors. -Participating effectively in a back-and-forth communication in order to reach an agreement. -Following win-win approach that maintains or contributes to building relationships: advocating one's position with an open mind, not taking other

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	members' disagreements personally, putting oneself in the other's shoes, following rational argument and avoiding premature evaluation, and trying to synthesize the best ideas from all viewpoints and perspectives.
Organisation and time-management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Prioritizing and managing resources and tasks in cross-border situations, taking into consideration the influence of culture. -Planning activities and defining priorities on the basis of available resources, deadlines and expected outcomes. -Checking out the progress of activities and projects in order to ensure results to be achieved.
Critical thinking 	The ability and willingness to carefully reflect and consider the validity of information and ideas when making decisions in cross-border settings.
Strategic and innovative thinking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Possessing a clear vision for the future in a cross-border setting that enhances both individual and collective opportunity. -Bringing in new methodologies, ideas that lead to incremental and radical outcomes in a tangible or intangible form.

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Decision-making 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Deciding autonomously between alternative choices in a complex cross-border context. -Evaluating the consequences and risks, expected cost, benefit and strategic impact of decisions taken.
Leadership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Influencing and guiding others toward a goal in a cross-border setting with integrity and ethical behaviour. -Inspiring others to reach their best by setting an example. -Leveraging strengths of others to accomplish a common goal. Transmitting a sense of confidence to others that facilitates their success. -Transmitting knowledge that has been acquired through experience in a clear and simplistic manner.
Systems thinking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Understanding, in a cross-border setting, how an entire system works; how an action, change, or malfunction in one part of the system affects the rest of the system. -Adopting a "big picture" perspective on work.
Work ethic / conscientiousness 	Acting in an ethical and responsible way in a cross-border setting by behaving in a way that respects others and by taking responsibility for one's acts.

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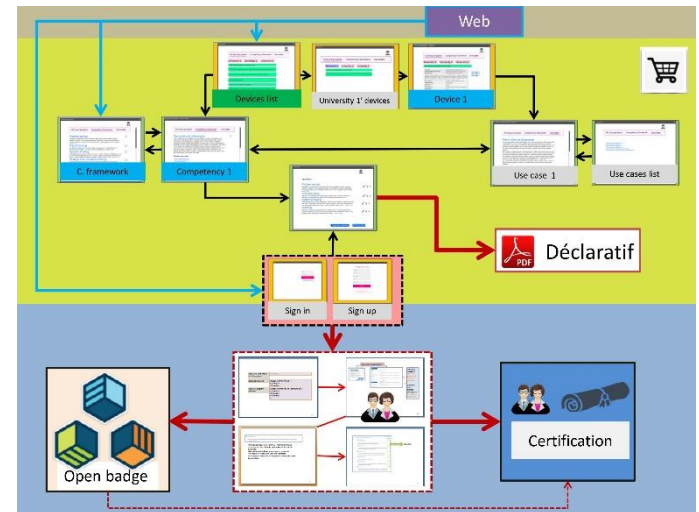
Service orientation 	The ability and inclination to provide service in cross-border situations, to be courteous and helpful in dealing with others.
SOURCES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Framework Definitions, Partnership for 21st Century Skills December 2009. http://www.p21.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=254&Itemid=120 • National Research Council. 2011. Assessing 21st Century Skills: Summary of a Workshop. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press. https://doi.org/10.17226/13215 • Keystart2work Erasmus+. 20 April 2016. Catalogue of Transversal Competences Key for Employability. http://keystart2work.eu/images/docs/KEYSTART2Work_O2_Catalogue_TCs.pdf • Référentiel des compétences transversales des étudiants d'UniDistance 	

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IO 3: CERTIFICATE OF CROSS-BORDER SKILLS

Methodology:

- Definition of a process to validate a skill,
- Definition of a certification scheme.



Outputs:

- Validation map: non-public document (internal use), a tool for evaluators (for each learning outcomes: expected kind of evidences and evidence validation requirements),
- Certification procedure specific to each partner: annual calendar, certificate and/or OpenBadges.



IO 4: PLATFORM

Based on all the previous outputs

Methodology:

- Definition of the needs,
- Writing a specification notebook for the practical implementation of IO 3,
- Setting up the platform: implementation with moodle, rasa (chatbot) and mahara; design of the platform; implementation of OpenBadges,
- Test for improvement (based on feedbacks from staff and students).

Outputs:

An online platform:

- Open to all with restricted functionalities (anonymous),
- Full access to users from members of the project.

Web: <https://app.european-crossborder-skills.eu>

iOs: <https://apps.apple.com/fr/app/european-cross-border-skills/id1537073504>

Android: https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=eu.ecbs.app&hl=en_US&gl=US





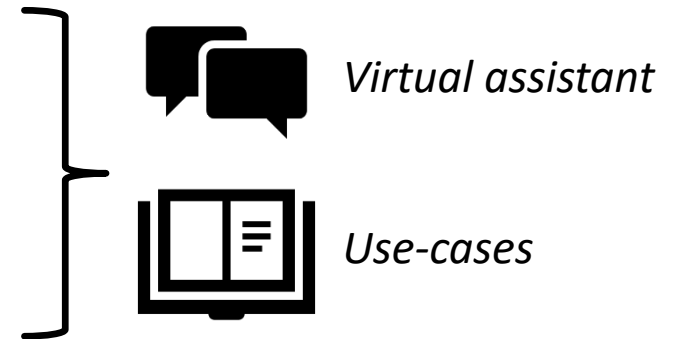
THE 5 DIFFERENT STEPS FOR THE USER



1. Explore (and understand) the 15 skills.



2. Select the skills supposed to have gained (self-evaluation).



3. Prove of the acquisition of the selected skills.



4. Submit the request for certificate (examination by a local committee).



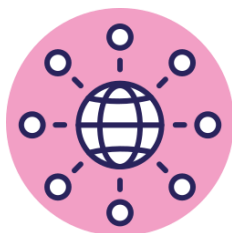
5. Get (if applicable) the certificate.



DESIGN OF BADGES



Communication



Intercultural sensitivity



Adapting



Teamwork and collaboration



Problem-solving



Learning



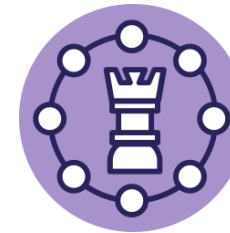
Conflict resolution and negotiation



Organisation and time-management



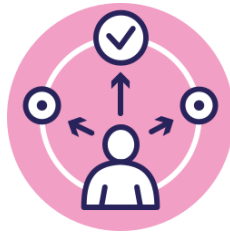
Critical thinking



Strategic and innovative thinking



Service orientation



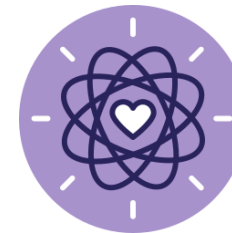
Decision-making



Leadership



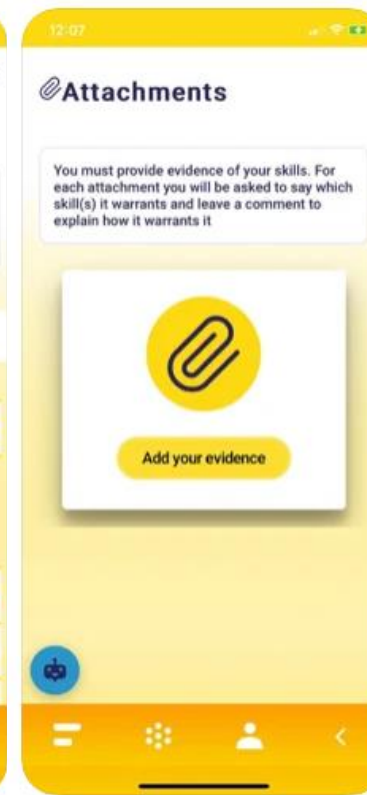
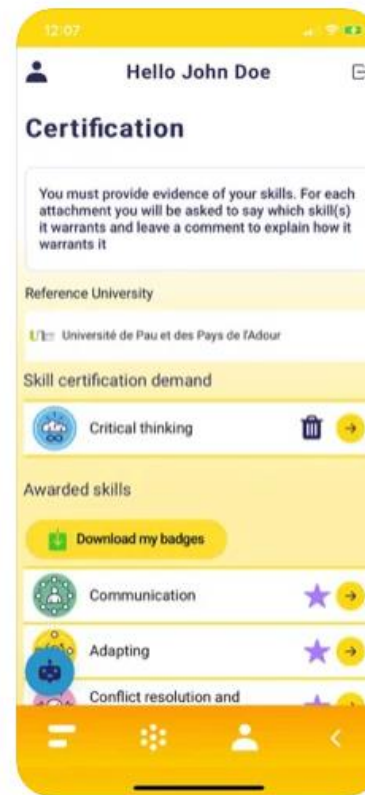
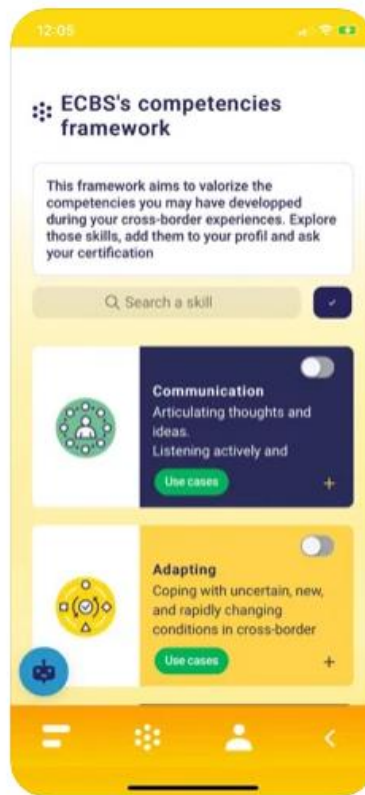
Systems thinking



Work ethic / conscientiousness



FEW SCREENSHOTS OF THE PLATFORM





MULTIPLIER EVENTS

8 events organized between September and December 2019:

- Audience: students and/or PhD students and/or staff (academic and non-academic),
- From small group (to understand the framework) to larger one.





The future of the ECBS project



Deploy the certificate
in all partner
universities

Include other
European crossborder
areas

Next?

Enlarge the
target audience

Promote the Platform



Thank you for your attention

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ECBS Web site

www.european-crossborder-skills.eu/en/index.html

Plateforme ECBS :

Web: <https://app.european-crossborder-skills.eu>

Appli iOS: <https://apps.apple.com/fr/app/european-cross-border-skills/id1537073504>

Appli Android: https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=eu.ecbs.app&hl=en_US&gl=US