



EQVEGAN

European Qualifications & Competences for the Vegan Food Industry

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Skills database an employability skills portal

Workpackage 1 Professional profiles and skills
Task 1.3 VFI reference skills database and employability skills portal
Lead Beneficiary ISEKI-Food Association (IFA)

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Foreword

The work described in this report was developed under the project EQVEGAN: European Qualifications & Competences for the Vegan Food Industry (621581-EPP-1-2020-1-PT-EPPKA2-SS). If you wish any other information related to this report or the EQVEGAN project, please visit the project web-site (www.eqvegan.eu) or contact:

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PU	Public	√
PP	Restricted to other programme participants (including Commission services and projects reviewers)	
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Summary

The [“Food-skills”](#) portal is the result of the work carried out in task 1.3 “VFI reference skills database and employability skills portal”. The portal aims at informing on EQVEGAN activities and at facilitating the use of the following EQVEGAN services: training, internships programme, and professional certification scheme. These services are targeted to training providers, food companies, employees, students and food associations.

“Food Skills” has been launched to the web and it is open to the public. Two sections are at advanced stage (“Home” and “Stakeholders” sections) and the other (“Training”, “Learning at workplace”, “Certification”) need to be enriched with information coming from EQVEGAN activities.

This report describes the portal and its sections and provides indications on future work to carry out for its full functionality.

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1. Design of the portal

The “[Food-skills](#)” portal is the result of the work carried out in Task 1.3 “VFI reference skills database and employability skills portal”. The main objective of the task was to provide a virtual space for different outcomes and services developed during the project, such as the updated occupational profiles (Task 1.2), the guidelines for their development (Task 1.4), information on the EQVEGAN training activities (WP2 and WP4), the work-based training programme (WP3) and the professional certification scheme (Task 4.5). In conclusion, “Food Skills” aims at informing on EQVEGAN activities and at facilitating the use of different EQVEGAN services for the main project stakeholders: training providers, food companies, employees, and students.

It is important to clarify that, unlike the EQVEGAN [website](#), which aims at disseminating the project outcomes and activities, the Food-skills portal has been developed to exploit the project services during the project lifetime and beyond, and will be one of the important features of the exploitation strategy to be prepared at Task 6.4. In this context “Food skills” initially feeds from EQVEGAN activities, but it is designed in a way that will allow the inclusion of information from other projects and initiatives in the future. It is also important to comment that “Food-Skills”, by providing information on the project outcomes, also serves as a dissemination channel for the project, although it is not its main objective.

The work started with the design of the visual identity and the identification of the sections of the portal, by holding meetings between IFA and IPC. After that, an initial version of the portal was implemented and input from WP1 leader and task partners was requested. From this input the portal was improved and launched on the web in June 2021. The following section shows the current state of the portal.

2. Main features of the portal

2.1. “Home Page”

The “[Home](#) (Landing) Page” shows a background image and the tagline “Discover opportunities to upgrade your Food Industry skills” (Figure 1). It also shows the portal logo on the top right: the name of the portal in capitals and a green light bulb with food products inside.

It can be seen a menu bar as well with 5 tabs: “Home”, “Trainings”, “Learn at the Workplace”, “Stakeholders”, and “Certification”.

Scrolling down the “Home Page”, it can be found three boxes (Figure 2) dedicated to the three main target groups of the portal: Food Professionals, Employers, and Training organisations. These boxes provide indications on which portal services can be of interest for each target group.

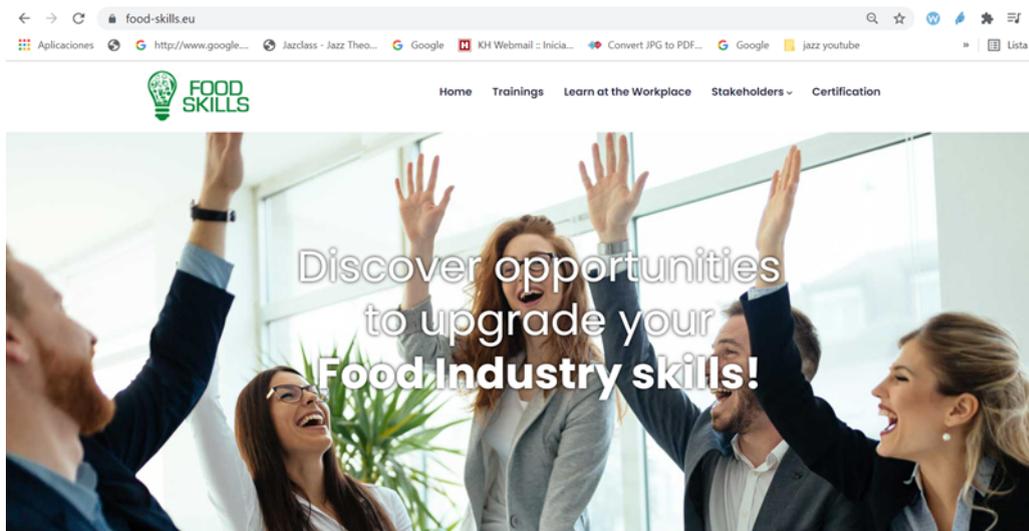


Figure 1. “Home” (Landing) Page of the Food Skills Portal

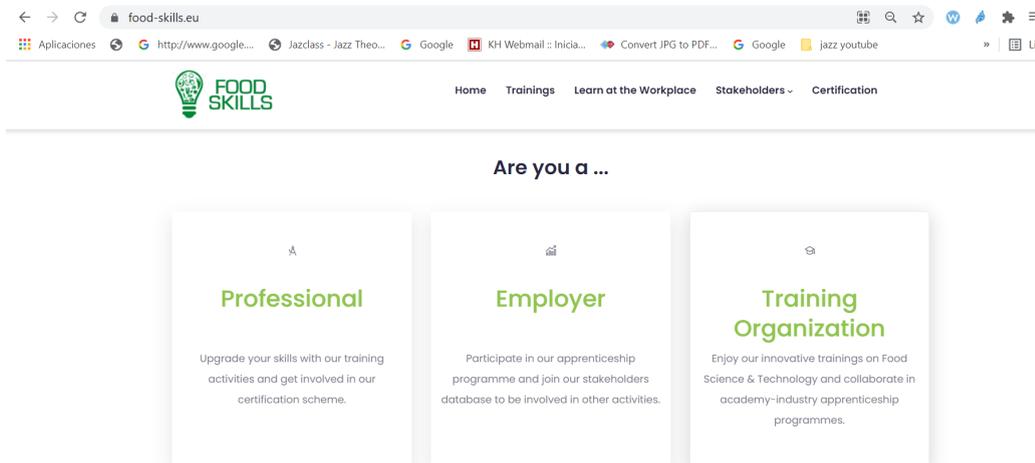


Figure 2. “Home Page” space for the main target groups of the portal

At the lower part of the Home Page (Figure 3) there is space for an introduction to the stakeholders database, its current number of entries and a link to the corresponding section. Below one can find different links: related EU initiatives, portal contact info, EQVEGAN website, and EQVEGAN Social Media. Acknowledgements to the funding provided by the ERASMUS+ Programme are found here as well.

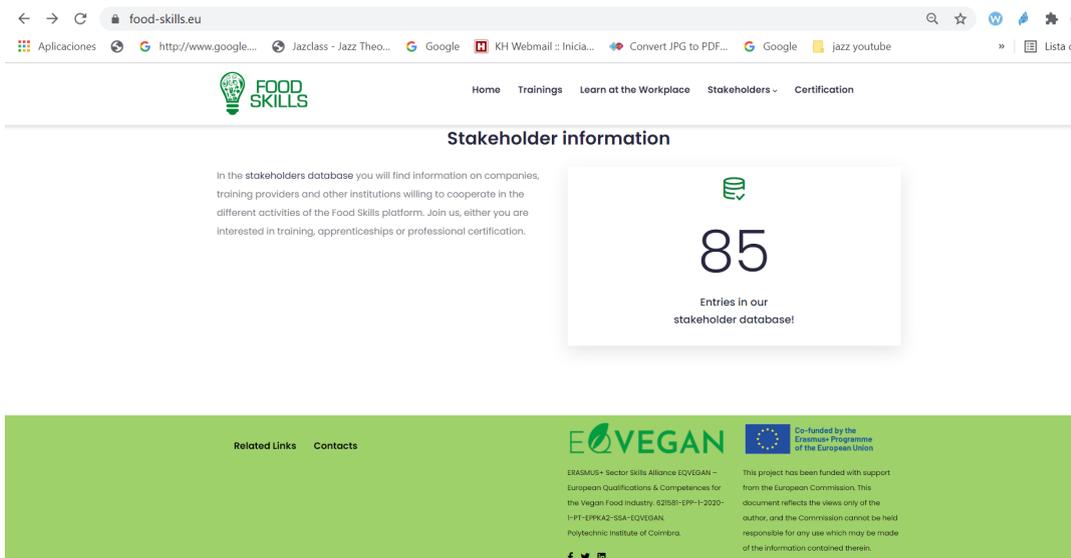


Figure 3. “Home Page” space for the stakeholders database, links and acknowledgements

2.2. “Trainings”

So far it is possible to find information on what will come in the future (Figure 4), related to the training activities developed in EQVEGAN.

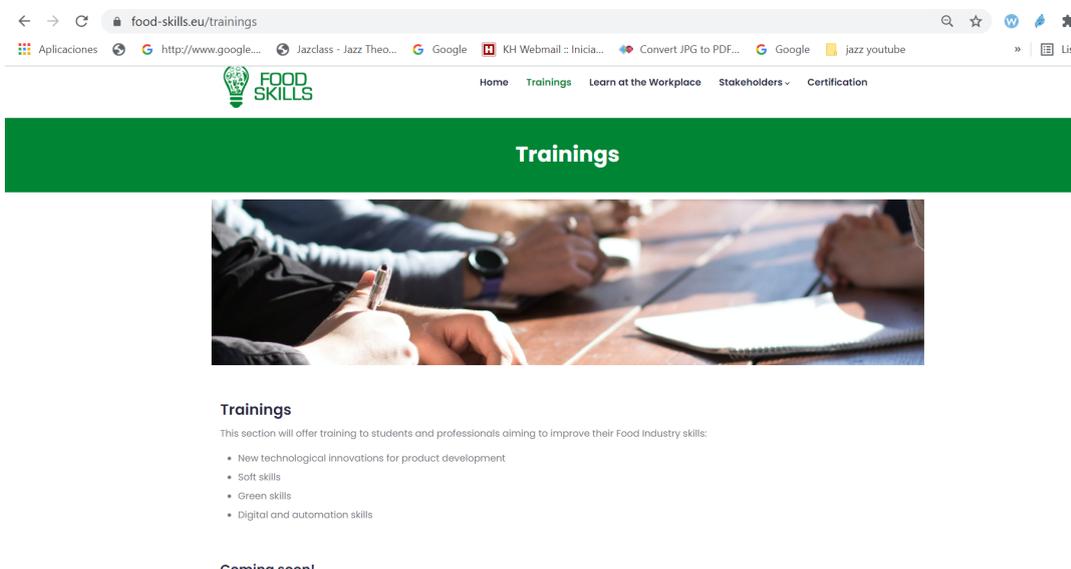


Figure 4. “Trainings” section

The “[Trainings](#)” section will be enriched with:

- Brief descriptions of the updated Vegan Food Industry occupational profiles (EQVEGAN Task 1.2), including the corresponding EQF levels.
- Information on the designed training: training modules, dates and locations (EQVEGAN WP2 and WP4).

- Information on the e-learning activities and link to the [ISEKI e-learning platform](#) (EQVEGAN e-learning will be placed there).

2.3. “Learn at the workplace”

As in 2.2, input from EQVEGAN is needed to populate the “[Learn at the workplace](#)” section (Figure 5). So far it is possible to find information on what the EQVEGAN apprenticeship scheme will offer to complement the training activities.

The section will be fed with WP3 outcomes, and will include:

- The description of the apprenticeship programme.
- Apprenticeship vacancies, displayed on a database and map.
- Forms to register as apprenticeship provider (for Food Companies) and as apprenticeship applicant (student, food professional).

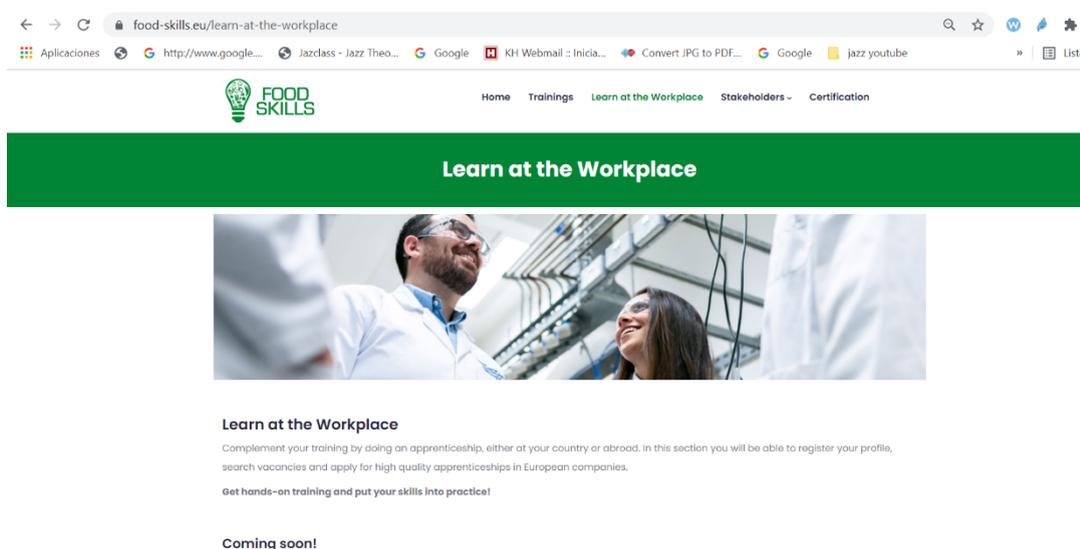


Figure 5. “Learn at the workplace” section

2.4. “Stakeholders”

This section provides a list of institutions that have shown interest to participate in the Food Skills activities, which are at this moment those organised under the EQVEGAN project. These institutions accept the display of information of their institutions in the database, and will be invited to participate in EQVEGAN activities: trainings, apprenticeship scheme and certification. The database was initially set up in Task 1.1 and then was placed in the Food Skills portal.

When putting the mouse on the section tab, a menu with two subsections opens:

- “Registration”
- “Stakeholders database”

In the “[registration](#)” subsection there is a text that explains the purpose of the database and invites stakeholders to join, including a link to the [registration form](#) (Figure 6)

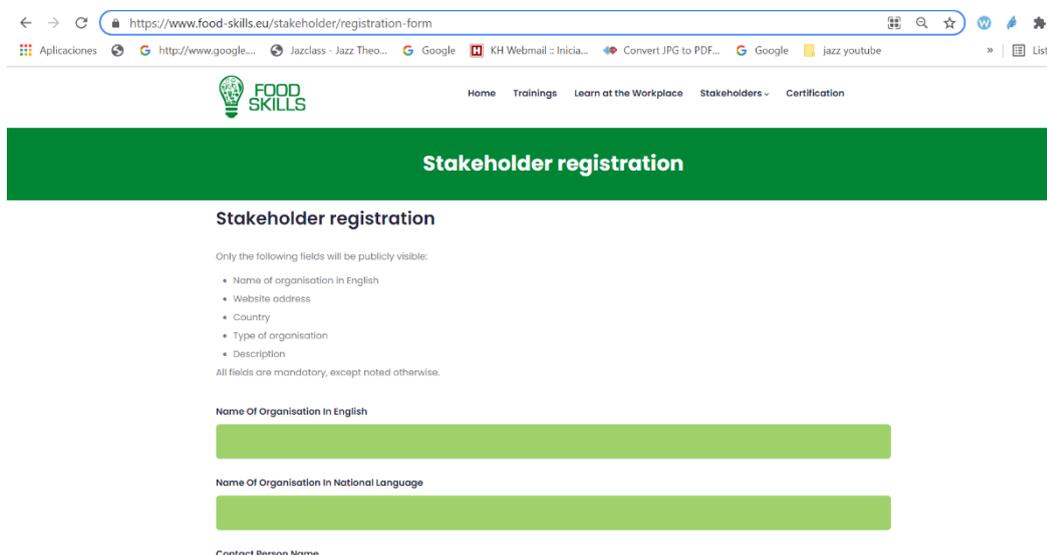


Figure 6. “Stakeholders registration” form

The information requested is the following:

- Name of the organisation in English.
- Name of the organisation in national language.
- Contact person name.
- Contact person email address.
- Address.
- Country .
- Type of organization. Select among association, enterprise, public body, research institute, university, VET institution, other.
- Short description of the organization (200 characters).
- Organization website address.
- NACE code (not mandatory).
- Additional email address (not mandatory).
- Training Providers And Others (not mandatory), select among public body, VET institution, higher education institution, private association, federation, other
- "Other" additional information (fill in only if you have selected "other" in the field above)

In compliance with EU GDPR rules, only some fields are publicly displayed in the database, the others remaining confidential and only used for project purposes,

In this context, in the “[stakeholders database](#)” subsection (Figure 7) the following information is displayed and open to public: name of the organisation in English, website address, country, type of organisation, and description.

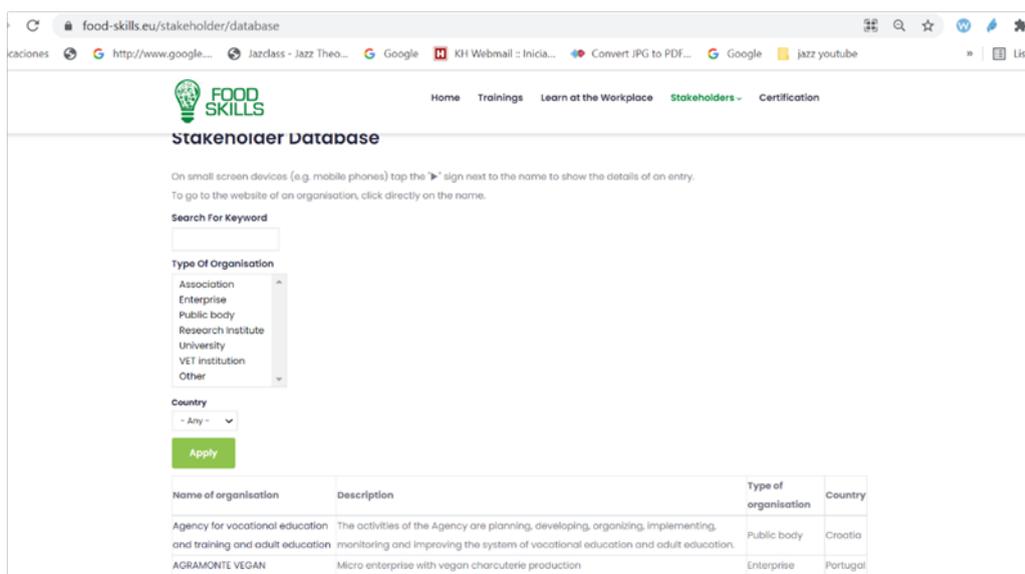


Figure 7. “Stakeholders database”

It is also observed in Figure 7 that it is available a search tool to find specific stakeholders by keyword, type and country.

So far the database has 85 entries. Tables 1 and 2 show the database entries by stakeholder type and country respectively.

Table 1. Database entries by stakeholder type

Stakeholder type	Number of entries
Association	11
Enterprise	56
Public body	6
Research institute	1
University	7
VET institution	4
Other	0

Table 2. Database entries by country

Country	Number of entries
Austria	3
Croatia	8
Estonia	3
Finland	2
France	10
Greece	9
Poland	22
Portugal	8
Spain	11
Turkey	9

The number of entries is good considering that the most important EQVEGAN activities have not yet started: trainings, internships scheme and certification programmes. It will be convenient in the future to increase these numbers in general and in particular: i) more training providers (universities, VET institutions, other), and ii) more institutions from Austria, Estonia, and Finland. It is important also to note that for the moment only institutions from EQVEGAN partners' countries are included; in future engagement campaigns institutions from other European countries will be invited to join the database.

2.5. Certification

As in other sections (Training, Learning at workplace), it is possible to find an introductory text on what will be available in the future (Figure 8).

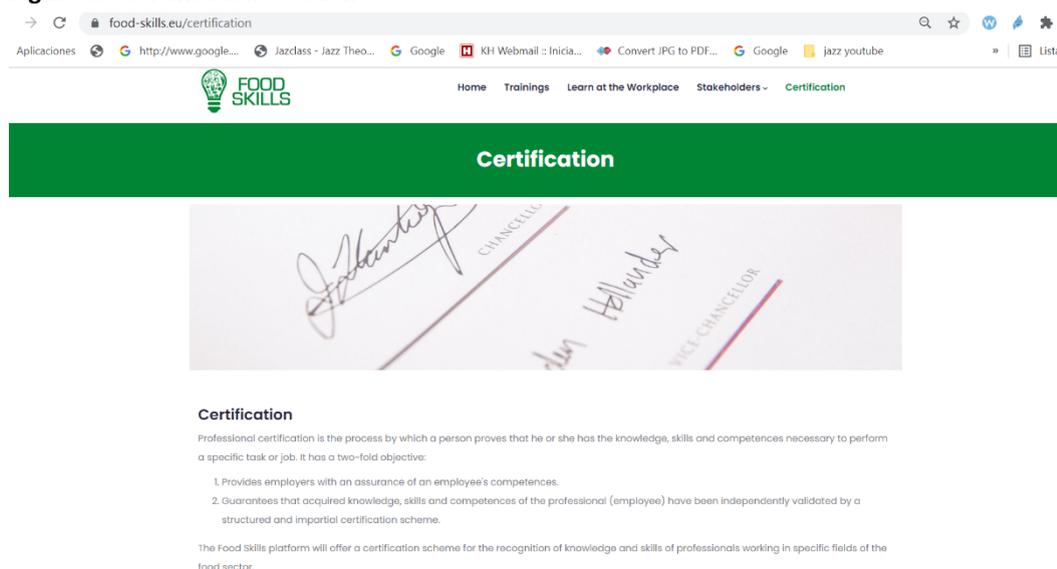
The "[Certification](#)" section will provide information and services on:

Certification of trainings (Task 4.3).

Work-based and prior learning recognition (Task 4.4)

Job profiles certification (Task 4.5)

Figure 8. "Certification" section



3. Conclusions and future work

The "[Food Skills](#)" portal has been launched to the web and it is open to the public. Two sections are at advanced stage ("Home" and "Stakeholders" sections) and the other need to be populated with information coming from EQVEGAN activities, basically:

"Trainings": description of training modules, dates, locations, and procedures to participate in the activities (WP2 and WP4)

"Learning at workplace": description of the apprenticeship programme, apprenticeship vacancies, registration forms to join the programme (WP3)

"Certification": certification scheme for the updated VFI profiles (Task 4.5)

This information will be progressively added to the portal when available.

Dissemination and engagement campaigns will be organised during the project at any time that the portal have new services available:

- Enrolment campaign for the stakeholders database
- Dissemination and engagement campaign for the project training
- Launch of the internship scheme
- Launch of the certification programme

For these campaigns WP6 support will be requested.