



**Platform of Vocational Excellence – *Water***

Report on Context Scan Jan 2020

Completed by: Partner 5 Work Package 3  
Glasgow Clyde College



## Summary

The purpose of the scan is to assist Vocational Excellence Training (VET) providers and their stakeholders within the triple helix of the water sector in integrating Vocational Excellence in their organisation's policy, operation and embedding Vocational Excellence closely in the regional innovation ecosystems. Concentrating purely on the relationships that lie within the triple helix – also known as the knowledge triangle we can identify weaknesses that when strengthened will create the five centres of excellence that the project is striving to achieve.

This report explains the interpretation of existing systems of Vocational Excellence in the Water Sector of the participating partner organisations. This work was carried out by Glasgow Clyde College as part of work package 3.

Each of the five regional captains were asked to complete a Context Scan to assist Vocational Excellence Training (VET) providers and their stakeholders within the triple helix of the water sector in integrating Vocational Excellence in their organisations policy, operation and embedding Vocational Excellence closely in the regional innovation ecosystems.

The PESTLE model achieves this whilst answering each part utilising a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT analysis) approach.



## Regional Captains

Each region showed strengths and weaknesses in the context scan in relation to the triple helix of the water sectors. From this each partner can draw on the strengths of the other partners to deliver Vocational Excellence in the Water Sector.

- **CREA = Bretislav Skacel** – faces challenges of how to get the water supplier to engage with them on equipment/machinery required to provide a better water supply. Challenge building partnerships.
  
- **CIV = Pieter Hoekstra** – Has great links with industry and water supplier but wants to extend training platform. Challenge to reach more people based on practical activities.
  
- **CLYDE = David Innes** – Leads in the delivery of Water qualifications at SCQF level seven. Challenge is to have more water lecturers, from across a diverse subject area and work force.
  
- **MALTA = Alex Rizzo** – Water shortage is the main problem. Challenge is to find new ways of cleaning the water using existing materials.
  
- **RTU = Sandis Dejus** – Water isn't valued in the same way as it is in other countries. Challenge is educating the population to understand the value of the water industry.



## Analysis of the context scans

The five regions were tasked with providing Glasgow Clyde College (GCC) with one or more context scans, (for example we received two perspectives from CZECH, and the same from Latvia) providing us with an overview of where they are placed within the water industry. (Annex 1)

**Company Name:**

**Person Completing:**

**Contact Details (email):**

PESTLE	Political	Economic	Social	Technological	Legal	Environmental
<i>Where do you see your organisation in relation to the water industry under each of the headings above?</i>						
<b>Strengths</b>						
<b>Weakness</b>						
<b>Opportunities</b>						
<b>Threats</b>						

Each of the regions provided in depth information and from this GCC had to develop an overview for each region on one template. This demonstrated the overall Economic, Environmental, Legal, Political, Social results and lastly established the overall Technological results in each of the partners' regions. (Annex 2)

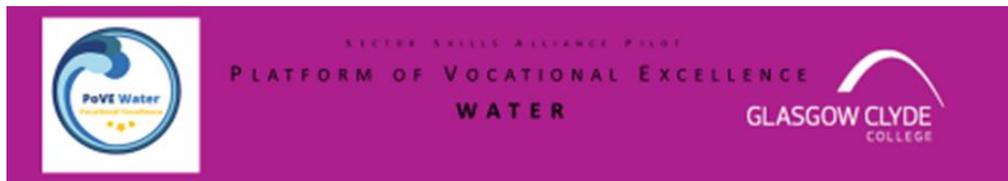
Re-organising the table once the information was returned, allowed us to compare each region side by side whilst looking at only one area of the PESTLE model, whilst still having the SWOT analysis available, which allowed us to understand areas, where partners could support each other, with particular business needs and or opportunities.



Table re-organised for analysis and presentation purposes

Economic	GCC	BRNO	CIV & Friesland	MCAST	RTU & Olaine
	<i>Where do you see your organisation in relation to the water industry under the heading to the left</i>				
<b>Strengths</b>					
<b>Weakness</b>					
<b>Opportunities</b>					
<b>Threats</b>					

The information would then be presented to the regional partners at the first meeting in January 2020 (Annex 3). The information shared within a “regional context” would ensure the feedback that was provided by each regional was captured correctly and that no fundamental information was missed. Example below:



**Glasgow Clyde College** – where do you see your organisation in relation to the water industry in your country?

- P** - Government owned in Scotland provides strong political support creating many opportunities however in the rest of the UK there is some political desire to re-nationalise.
- E** - SW invests billions annually but is working hard to maximise renewable energies, private water companies investment is lower due to big bonuses for shareholders
- S** – SW educate at home and internationally on how to look after your water supply and are leading many initiatives to protect the infrastructure from climate change, Environmental protection post Brexit is a concern
- T** – UK has a successful water industry, pioneering in water technologies sharing best practice across 20 water utilities, 5 year fixed term investment periods. Introducing new technologies is a problem with an aging workforce – skills gap
- L** – Looking to achieve 100% compliance, England & Wales = 99.96% and Scotland 99.88%
- E** – Lots of investment on protecting the environment, 4 major floods since 2007 causing billions in damage. Work with the country on waste and its affect on the water supply.



## Technical Partnership opportunities

BRNO = Bretislav Skacel – faces challenges of how to get the water supplier to engage with them on equipment/machinery required to provide a better water supply. Challenge building partnerships.

### **Work with CIV water on how to build relations focusing on the need for a better equipped industry.**

CIV = Pieter Hoekstra – Has great links with industry and water supplier but wants to extend training platform. Challenge to reach more people based on practical activities.

### **Work with Clyde to share practical work practices and introduce to similar training providers in Scotland.**

CLYDE = David Innes – Leads in the delivery of Water qualifications at SCQF level 7. Challenge is to have more water lecturers from a cross section of the water industry.

### **Work with Malta/Latvia to engage is lecturer exchange.**

MALTA = Alex Rizzo – Water shortage is the main problem. Challenge is to find new ways of cleaning the water using existing materials.

### **Work with Crea/Mendel Uni to look at innovative equipment whilst protecting the environment.**

RTU = Sandis Dejus – Water isn't valued in the same way as it is in other countries. Challenge is educating the population to understand the value of the water industry.

### **Work with Clyde on education of the population.**

All of these regions can be fully supported by the other partners, Katapult and EfVET who can help with the organisation/guidance of the partnerships.



## Partnerships

Having such a wide range of water industry experts allows for many different partnerships to develop throughout the duration of the project and beyond. From the partner responses it was clear that we are all invested in the water industry and would like to develop it further. For example, going forward with this project Glasgow Clyde College will learn from all other partner regions, to improve our own working practices and develop a centre of excellence which will provide fantastic opportunities for staff and students.