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# Project management as a sustainable teaching device to develop transversal skills in tertiary education

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## STATE OF THE ART

The research addresses the issue of the tertiary education performance in Italy with respect to employability, by focusing on the gap between the skills that students acquire through the tertiary education path and their readiness to respond to the request for the expertise of a world of work, subject to constant changes and complexity due to innovation, technological development, globalization, climate change, and sustainability. The research field consists of technical and professional education at tertiary education (Higher Technical Institutes, EQF 5).

## RESEARCH QUESTION

How can Project management, specifically the PRINCE2 method, used as an embedded teaching device, enable tertiary education students to develop transversal skills required by the labour market in a sustainable and autonomous way?

## RESEARCH AIM

The general objective of the research is to define the use of Project management as an embedded teaching device capable of favouring in tertiary education students the sustainable development of transversal skills, described according to an outcome-oriented approach, thus enhancing students' employability.

## RESEARCH METHOD

In order to achieve the set objective, the research will be qualitative, approached initially through a case study involving 2 classes of a Higher Technical Institute, EQF 5 (approx. 50 students) and later on through Focus Groups and Interviews with professors teaching Project management at tertiary level in different world countries (approx. 10 professors). Finally, the developed teaching device will be tested through the case study involving approx. 50 students at Higher Technical Institute, EQF 5.

## RESEARCH RESULTS

The final result will be the proposal of a project-based teaching device using Project management method, which can be embedded at tertiary level disciplinary teaching in order to support students to develop those transversal skills that support their employability in the complex context of sustainability.

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