

First EQAVET Seminar Standardisation & Contextualisation: Lessons Learned from 2003 to 2011

Dates: 14-15 July 2011

Location: OeAD-GmbH, Ebendorferstraße 7, A- 1010 Vienna, Austria

Context of the seminar:

The EQAVET framework is designed to promote better vocational education and training by providing authorities with common tools for the management of quality. Although the implementation is on voluntary basis, the Member States are promoted to use and implement the Reference Framework progressively and in accordance with national legislation and practices. Since its adoption in 2009, important emphasis is put on the testing and further developing of the EQAVET framework. For example by the launch of pilot projects funded through the Lifelong Learning Programme and national initiatives... The European calendar foresees that by 2011 Member States are expected to have an approach aimed at improving quality assurance at national level, making use of the EQAVET framework, so that in 2013 the Commission can report to the European Parliament and the Council on these results of testing and assessment of actions taken at Member State level. This may result in a review and adaptation of the Recommendation.

In 2010 five national projects were selected for funding to promote the national development and implementation of EQAVET. These projects, run by the National Reference Points for quality assurance, are the cornerstone of the EQAVET implementation at national level and can be an example for other European Member States.

To support the project teams in this challenge, the “EQAVET knowledge management and promotion unit” has been set up. One of these supporting activities is the organization of five seminars over 30 months to bring together the five project teams. Each seminar will take place in the country of one of the projects and will be organized in cooperation with the hosting organization. This allows the project team of the hosting country to invite national stakeholders as well during the seminar.

This first seminar is organized to look back at the EQAVET developments from its starting phase in 2003, when the technical working group on quality in VET worked on the CQAF, till the establishment of the EQAVET framework in 2010; and at the same time to look forward: What are the most important lessons learned? What can be the main key messages for the project teams? How to go further at national level? How do the five projects cope with this challenge?

The seminar provides information on this theme from different perspectives: from national, European and sector level.

The objectives of the seminar are:

- To facilitate synergy building, exchange of experiences among the projects;
- To advance on specific themes with inputs from different perspectives (national, European, sector levels)
- To involve national stakeholders and to inform about EU developments in EQAVET;
- To ultimately contribute to the European cooperation process on EQAVET.

Seminar Agenda

14th July

First Session 10.00 to 13.00

(restricted to representatives of the five EQAVET projects, the EQAVET Unit, the European Commission, the Executive Agency - expected 20 participants)

10:00 Welcome Speeches

- Franz Gramlinger, Austrian Reference Point for Quality Assurance in VET, ARQA-VET
- Sophie Weisswange, Policy Officer, Unit Vocational Training - European Commission
- Claudio Dondi, Coordinator, EQAVET Promotion and Knowledge Management Unit

10.30 Presentation of the EQAVET support Unit planned activities, Q&A

11.00 Brief presentations of the five projects activities and expected results, by the projects coordinators

12.00 Discussion on synergies and common steps

13.00 Lunch

Second Session 14.00 to 17.30

(open to the EQAVET Secretariat, EQAVET reference points, invited experts - expected 30 participants)

14:00 Presentation "Standardisation & Contextualisation: Lessons Learned from 2003 to 2011"
Pauline Van Den Bosch, EVTA

14.30 Presentation "Standardisation & Contextualisation: the Austrian approach"
Jürgen Horschinegg from the Ministry of Education (tbc)

15.00 Q&A

16:00 Panel: "Standardisation & Contextualisation: contributions from the five projects"

Moderator: Claudio Dondi

Participants: representatives of the five projects (one short presentation each), EQAVET Network, European Commission, Executive Agency

Guiding questions:

How to face the tension between countries with an existing culture of quality in VET and countries with a less established scheme for VET quality assurance?

How far we can work towards a common EU approach and how much we have to respect the consolidated approaches of Member Countries?

Should we aim at building a scheme with a common core and different layers of adaptable criteria?

17:30 Conclusions and end of day

15th July

Third Session 9.00 to 13.00

(open to participants from Austrian VET stakeholders and participants of session 1 and 2, expected 50 participants)

9:00 Welcome, Prof. Dr. Hubert Dürrstein, CEO, OeAD - Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research

9.15 Presentation: "Standardisation & Contextualisation: state of the art. Report from previous day"
Pauline Van Den Bosch, EVTA

9.45 Presentation: "Role and importance of Quality Assurance for EU E&T policy"
Elizabeth Watters, Reflection Group on synergy between EQF, ECVET and EQAVET (tbc)

10.15 Presentation "Which way forward for EQAVET? From lessons learned to next strategic steps"
Sophie Weisswange, Policy Officer, Unit 'Vocational Training - European Commission

Q&A

11.00 Coffee Break

11.30 Panel: What lessons can we learn from other E&T areas?

Moderator: Anthony Camilleri, EFQUEL

- Alexander Kohler, Head, Austrian Agency for QA in Higher Education (tbc)
- Martin Netzer, Responsible for Adult Education, Austrian Ministry for Education (tbc)
- Jörg Markowitsch, 3s research lab (tbc)
- ENQUA representative
- European Commission

13:00 Conclusions and end of day

- Franz Gramlinger, Austrian Reference Point for Quality Assurance in VET, ARQA-VET
- Claudio Dondi, Coordinator, EQAVET Promotion and Knowledge Management Unit

Anmeldung für Freitag 15.7.2011

möglich bis 4.7.2011 mit Mail an: beatrice.niyibigira@menon.org

Bei Fragen wenden Sie sich bitte an ARQA-VET: arqa-vet@oead.at oder 01/ 53408-301