

COOPERATION BETWEEN EDUCATION AND TRAINING INSTITUTIONS, ENTERPRISES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Raising quality of VET in cooperation with employers and higher education

Group No: 25

Round 1

Type of visit:
VET19/9/2011-23/9/2011
Warszawa, PolandWorking language:
EnglishNumber of places: 15
Minimum required: 8

Keywords:

- education and training attainment
- quality assurance
- social partners

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CATEGORY OF THEMES:

Encourage cooperation between the worlds of education, training and work

This visit is organised by the host institution in cooperation with the European Commission addressing specifically policy- and decision-makers in education and training to transfer and share experience.

WHY?

Improving attractiveness and quality of vocational education and training (VET) is one of the priorities of Polish educational policy. To achieve this, several actions have been undertaken at national and regional levels, such as creating vocational training programmes based on learning outcomes and quality standards for VET, encouraging cooperation between VET schools and employers and higher education.

The National Centre for Supporting Vocational and Continuing Education is the central public institution whose activities support reform of vocational education.

The study visit will be part of promoting Polish education during the Polish Presidency of the EU Council.

WHAT?

Participants will learn about:

- agreements between the Ministry of National Education and employer associations;
- cooperation between VET schools and higher education establishments;
- development of core curriculum and programmes for VET;
- establishment of vocational qualifications standards and their influence on VET quality;
- organisation of vocational qualifications exams;
- implementation of EQAVET initiative in Poland (quality standards for vocational education);
- competitions and multimedia campaigns promoting VET;
- use of e-learning to increase attractiveness of VET.

HOW?

Participants will:

- meet representatives of national and regional authorities responsible for VET;
- visit vocational schools, universities cooperating with vocational schools, places of apprenticeship, chambers and associations of employers, a regional employment office;
- take part in a European conference on quality in VET.

WHOM?

- Directors of education and vocational training institutions, centres or providers,
- representatives of employers' organisations,
- representatives of local, regional and national authorities,
- representatives of trade unions.

SHORT DESCRIPTION IN THE HOST COUNTRY'S LANGUAGE:

Podniesienie jakości i atrakcyjności kształcenia zawodowego jest jednym z priorytetowych celów polskiej polityki oświatowej. Realizacji tego celu służą działania podejmowane zarówno na poziomie krajowym, jak i regionalnym zorientowane na dostosowanie kształcenia zawodowego do potrzeb i oczekiwań rynku pracy. Celem wizyty jest zaprezentowanie dobrych praktyk i rozwiązań przyczyniających się do podniesienia efektywności i atrakcyjności kształcenia zawodowego. Wizyta studyjna będzie jednym z elementów promocji polskiej edukacji podczas Polskiej Prezydencji w Radzie UE.

WWW.

www.koweitu.edu.pl – www.men.gov.pl

NATIONAL AND SECTORAL QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORKS LINKED TO EQF

The role of social partners in developing national qualifications frameworks

Group No: 126

Round 1

Type of visit:
VET26/9/2011-30/9/2011
Berlin, GermanyWorking language:
EnglishNumber of places: 12
Minimum required: 8**CATEGORY OF THEMES:**

Develop strategies for lifelong learning and mobility

This visit is organised by the host institution in cooperation with the European Commission addressing specifically policy- and decision-makers in education and training to transfer and share experience.

WHY?

Developing quality vocational education and training is central to achieving the Europe 2020 goals and to making Europe a knowledge society.

Implementing a national qualifications framework has become a priority for the education and training sector in Germany as well as in other Member States. This process requires the involvement of all relevant stakeholders in VET, including the social partners.

WHAT?

Participants will learn about:

- approaches to developing a national qualificationS framework, which includes VET, general education and higher education;
- key elements of a national qualifications framework with emphasis on learning outcomes and definition of competences from the learners perspective;
- developing national regulations;
- establishing quality assurance requirements for VET by competent national bodies;
- the role of trade unions and employers' organisations at different levels.

HOW?

Participants will:

- visit locations where discussions take place;
- meet management representatives and regional trade union representatives;
- discuss draft concepts for a national qualifications framework.

WHOM?

- Directors of education and vocational training institutions, centres or providers,
- representatives of employers' organisations,
- representatives of local, regional and national authorities,
- representatives of trade unions.

Keywords:

- national qualifications frameworks
- social partners
- transparency of qualifications

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NATIONAL AND SECTORAL QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORKS LINKED TO EQF

NFQ and EQF, frameworks for lifelong learning

Group No: 129

Round 1

Type of visit:
Mixed11/10/2011-14/10/2011
Dublin, IrelandWorking language:
EnglishNumber of places: 12
Minimum required: 8

Keywords:

- **European qualifications framework (EQF)**
- **learning outcomes**
- **national qualifications frameworks**

CATEGORY OF THEMES:

Develop strategies for lifelong learning and mobility

This visit is organised by the host institution in cooperation with the European Commission addressing specifically policy- and decision-makers in education and training to transfer and share experience.

WHY?

The need to allow for transparent education and training systems is vital for meeting learner mobility, employment needs, promoting alternative learning pathways and recognising all learning achievements, activities and outcomes. The Irish national framework of qualifications (NFQ) was introduced in 2003 establishing a single, coherent system of awards for all education and training awards promoting flexibility and integration of qualifications, supporting development of alternative learning pathways and establishing learning outcomes as the common reference point. In 2009, Ireland completed referencing the NFQ to the European qualifications framework (EQF) further strengthening European cooperation, improving transparency and increasing mobility opportunities.

This visit is hosted by Léargas, the National Agency for managing the lifelong learning programme (ex Erasmus) in Ireland.

WHAT?

Participants will learn about:

- national policies relating to education and training, NFQ and EQF;
- development and implementation of NFQ;
- EQF and NQF referencing;
- quality assurance;
- recognition of prior learning;
- benefits and implications for learners, training providers, employers with regard to quality assurance, validation of formal, informal and non-formal learning.

HOW?

Participants will:

- meet and discuss practices and development with national experts and policy-makers;
- visit a range of education and training organisations and providers to look at practical implementation and impact;
- observe and discuss projects and programmes with learners and trainers.

WHOM?

- Directors of education and vocational training institutions, centres or providers,
- representatives of employers' organisations,
- representatives of local, regional and national authorities,
- representatives of trade unions.

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