

QualiMoVET Newsletter – November 2009



Dear Readers,

A very warm welcome to our second QualiMoVET Newsletter! Since August the QualiMoVET project partners were engaged in bringing forward the project. In this issue, we will present you some first results of our project meeting in Budapest.

Besides important dates and news on the project and other project related issues, you will also find a description of our two Hungarian partners.

Please have a look at the QualiMoVET website www.qualimovet.eu where the project studies will be uploaded within the next weeks. This means you will have access to the country studies of the six participating countries Germany, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Austria and Spain. Firstly, the preliminary studies give a general overview on VET, programmes for disadvantaged young people and quality standards in this field in the respective countries. In the main studies you can find two or three good practice programmes for each country.

We very much hope that you will enjoy reading our newsletter! The next QualiMoVET newsletter will be published in January 2010. Until then we wish you all the best!

Manfred Schneider, project coordinator of BBJ Servis gGmbH

QualiMoVET project

The full name of the project is QualiMoVET – Quality signet for modular VET for disadvantaged young people. The project has been awarded a grant in the Lifelong Learning Programme 2007-2013, Leonardo da Vinci, Multilateral Projects/Development of Innovation. Nine partner organisations from six EU-countries are taking part in QualiMoVET. The partner organisations represent research institutions, VET providers and consulting companies from Germany, Austria, Poland, Hungary, Romania and Spain.

The project's main objective is to find high-quality ways of improving the integration of socially disadvantaged young people as a target group into educational systems and labour markets. Failure to provide young people with vocational training opportunities means greatly restricting their participation in society and isolating them socially. In the end, recommendations for common quality standards and a standardised method for quality assurance in the field of vocational training of disadvantaged youth will be presented.

PROJECT PROGRESS AND PROJECT NEWS

During the summer break all QualiMoVET partners were preparing national studies using a study matrix elaborated at the kick-off meeting in Berlin in March this year.

The matrix encompassed 10 different dimensions:

- Curricula/competency standards
- Learning support system and infrastructure
- Preconditions of the target group before entering the programme
- Process and support of acquisition of competencies
- Process and support of validation of competencies
- Methods and tools for encouraging learning
- Recognition of partial/full qualifications
- Employability

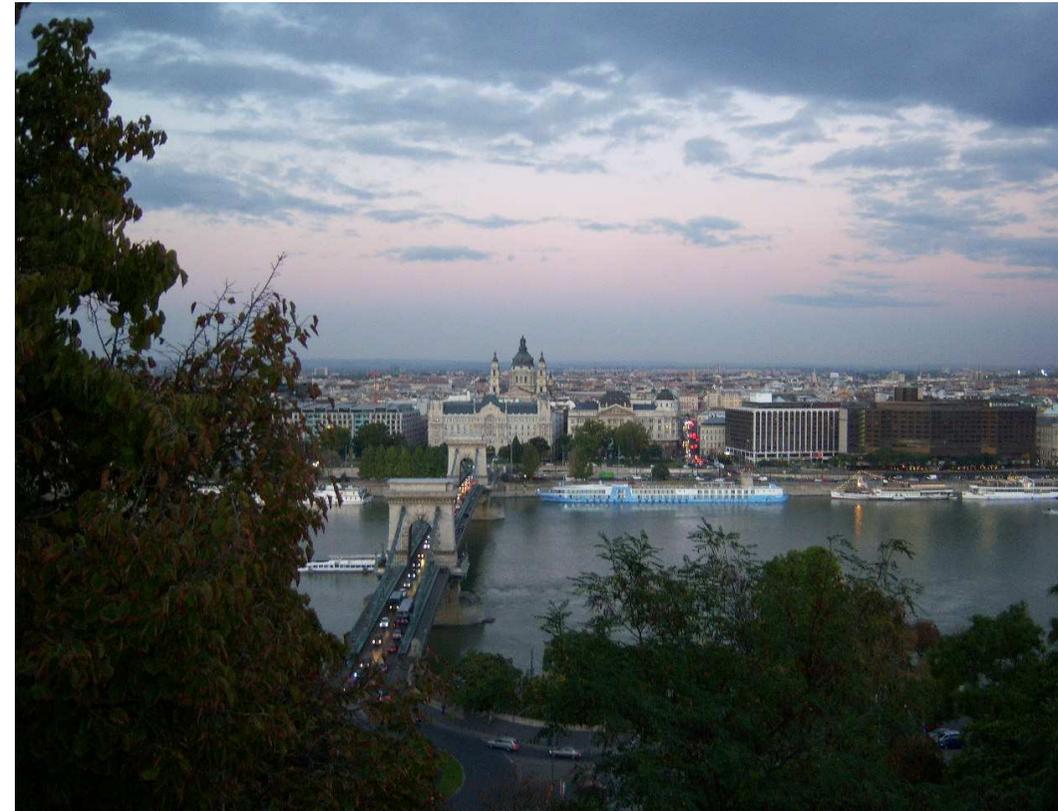
Each partner country carried out an investigation using the questions of the matrix for analysing two or three good practice programmes relevant for the target group in each country.

The first results of the studies were presented in national workshops that the partners carried out between June and September. At these workshops the QualiMoVET project was introduced to relevant stakeholders (practitioners and researchers in VET, social partners, politicians). The results of these discussions were integrated into the studies.

At the project meeting in Budapest from 30th September until 2nd of October the project partners discussed their experiences with the matrix and the studies. In different group work sessions the matrix was revised. Currently, the shortened version of the matrix, that will be integrated part of the recommendations for action next year, is in a discussion process. Via regular Skype conferences and an additional project meeting that will take place in Vienna in May next year the following steps are prepared.

These steps will be:

- Formulate the recommendations for action
- Preparing a testing phase (further national workshops)
- Carrying out the testing phase
- Revise recommendations for action
- Involve further important stakeholders



View from Budapest Castle

PRESENTATION of partner organisations

In this section, we are presenting each of the partner organisations in the different six countries. In this issue, the Hungarian organisations are presented.

Department of Technical Education, APPI Budapest University of Technology and Economics (BME)

Although the Department of Technical Education was established in 1961, institutional engineer-teacher training has been offered more or less continuously for nearly 125 years at Budapest University of Technology (BME), and the history of the Department reflects major events in the structural organization of the University.

Training programs of the Department of Technical Education

Three engineer-teacher training programs (technical instructor, certified engineer-teacher, engineer-teacher) were offered by the Department subsequent to the changes in the educational system and mainly in higher education over the past few years. In accordance with the so called Bologna process, they have been merged and restructured into two unified master programs: Engineer-Teacher Training Master Program (MA), and Economist-Teacher Training Master Program (MA), and a bachelor program: Technical Instructor Bachelor Program. Students can enter the programs in the possession of either a technical BSc degree, or a MSc degree, or the traditional college or university degree.

The Department also offered a PhD training programme in the field of vocational education and training between 1995 and 2004. Since the end of the PhD programme the Department has been cooperating with the Doctoral School of Pedagogy and the Doctoral School of Psychology of ELTE to provide the possibility of participating in doctoral studies.

Continuing the traditions of several decades, the Department provides postgraduate training and further training programs in numerous fields among others for teachers, public education managers, adult educator-experts, etc.

Fields of research

The Department of Technical Education carries out research work in the following fields: theory of teaching (primarily theory of curriculum), educational methodology, instructional technology.

The applied research work of the Department covers the following fields: content- and methodology development of technical teacher training, content, educational methodology and instructional technology development of postsecondary vocational education and training, the development of adult vocational education and training, development and application of multimedia systems in technical vocational education and training and teacher training, theory of school direction/ management, competence-oriented modular training for technical teachers, modularisation and accreditation possibilities of VET courses for disadvantaged young people in Hungary and Germany, QM in modular VET for disadvantaged young people (Leonardo Project), indirect financing techniques in adult education, up-to-date methods in adult education, lifelong learning environments and habits, training the trainers, formation of a network vocational teacher trainers, visual learning (Visual Learning Lab).

Department of Technical Education, APPI
Budapest University of Technology and Economics (BME)
Head of department: Dr. András Benedek
Address: H-1111. Egry J. u. 1. Budapest, Hungary
Tel: (36-1) 463-2655 e-mail: mpt@eik.bme.hu Website: <http://mpt.bme.hu/>

**The Department of Technical Education at Budapest University of Technology
Regional Training Centre of Székesfehérvár**



The Regional Training Centre of Székesfehérvár (SZRKK) - a member of the Network of Training Centres in the country - is one of the most modern adult training institutions in the Mid Transdanubian Region, providing training service in 3 counties: Fejér, Komárom-Esztergom and Veszprém.

The training structure, which assesses and respects the previous knowledge level, matches the challenges facing the present era on the one hand, and the adult training principles of career-based lifelong learning training on the other hand.

The Training Centre possesses the most up-to-date technological background to conduct excellent trainings which suit the demands of the economy.

In order to meet the requirements of the labour market, the offered trainings prepare students for the whole range of professions listed in the National Training Registry (Országos Képzési Jegyzék, OKJ).

In the field of industry and mechanical engineering, special and modern classes give space to trainings on NC and CNC technology, CIM - robot technology and CAD applications, as well as agriculture, building and light industry. In the field of computer science and information technology, trainings are provided on three levels (basic, mid-level and advanced), however we also organize courses with special content, according to the needs of different firms and companies. We are a national ECDL (European Driving Licence) examination centre.



On business trainings we familiarize the students with the knowledge needed for enterprises, tourism, finance, trade and catering. The knowledge acquired is in accordance with European Union requirements.

Our social service mid-, and high-level trainings offer education for people working in the fields of health-, and childcare as well as social work. The trainings are accompanied by language courses.

The so called Rehabilitation Model Centre provides special trainings for registered job-seekers with changed abilities and re-trains physically handicapped employees, however it is also engaged in organizing work-aptitude tests.

Our Service-office provides information to principals and future students on cooperation possibilities, training programs,

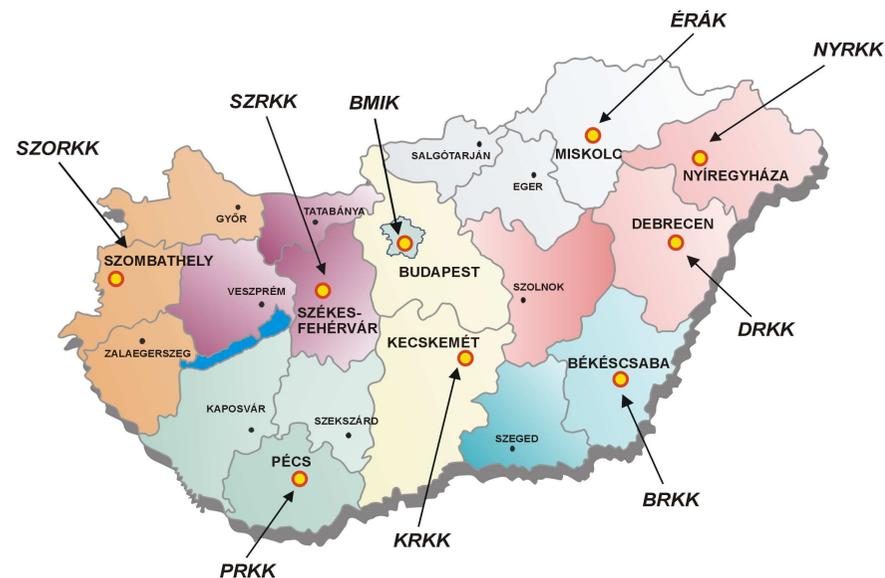
furthermore they can attend career-orientation and career-aptitude consultations.

Our Centre is working mostly with socially disadvantaged young people, and help the integration into the educational system and labour market. We would like to give more importance for quality education. It is the reason, why we joined to the QualiMoVET project. We hope that we can meet the requirements of the EU.

Visit us and see for yourself that

QUALITY ADULT EDUCATION WITH STATE GUARANTEE = REGIONAL TRAINING CENTRE!

www.szrmkk.hu



ENQA-VET (European Network for Quality Assurance in Vocational Education and Training)

In November 2002, the European Ministers of Vocational Education and Training meeting in Copenhagen agreed “to increase voluntary cooperation in vocational education and training, in order to promote mutual trust, transparency and recognition of competences and qualifications, and thereby establishing a basis for increasing mobility and facilitating access to lifelong learning”. In the Copenhagen Declaration, “promoting cooperation in quality assurance with particular focus on exchange of models and methods, as well as common criteria and principles for quality in vocational education and training” was seen as a key priority.

ENQA-VET comprises representatives from 23 member states, candidate countries and EFTA-EEA countries as well as the social partners. It was established by the European Commission in October 2005 to implement the goals mentioned above by supporting a common concept for quality assurance in VET within the EU. Scientific advice is provided by CEDEFOP and ETF.

ENQA-VET’s mission is to develop, disseminate and promote best European practice and governance in the field of Quality Assurance in VET at systems and provider’s level and to build a shared understanding of quality assurance and development among member countries, social partners as well as further regulatory and national authorities and providers. Another objective is to foster cooperation among relevant stakeholders at different levels and establish a common platform, common guidelines and criteria for Quality Assurance on which mutual trust can be solidly built. Furthermore, ENQA-VET aims to involve relevant stakeholders in developing and promoting common instruments and indicators and to work with general and higher education authorities to further develop and support education and training systems within and across Europe.

The primary decision making forum is the General Assembly. It is composed of two representatives per member state, nominated by their national authorities and meets on two occasions each year, in early spring and autumn. The General Assembly’s role is to agree on a work programme, elect the members of the Board from among its members, agree governance and management questions, follow-up, monitor and assess the work programme’s implementation, liaise with stakeholders as appropriate and agree strategies to maximise outputs and results as well as providing information on significant policy developments at the national level.

According to the current work programme, by the end of 2009 quality guidelines, criteria, instruments and tools for systems and providers will be prepared, three research studies will be completed, eight peer learning visits conducted and reports on these visits published. The establishment of a peer review framework and the organisation of two international conferences are also on the list of deliverables in the work programme. The second of these conferences will take place in Stockholm in December (for further information see the section “events” in this newsletter).

The ENQA-VET Secretariat was established in February 2008 and is comprised of five full time staff members. It has a varied and wide reaching remit. It works closely with the Quality Assurance National Reference Points (QANRPs) in order to ensure the effective dissemination of information on European Quality Assurance initiatives within the member States. Its primary role is to coordinate and manage the day to day activities of the network. The Secretariat

is responsible for ensuring the effective implementation of the work programme and for facilitating a process of intensive cooperation between member states.

ENQA-VET is funded by a European Commission grant and member state contributions. The Secretariat is responsible for management of this funding and all aspects of agreements with funders. The network plays a key role in supporting a culture of quality assurance which will ensure the successful implementation of the EQARF. At a national level, the quality assurance national reference points (QANRPs) are of importance for engaging stakeholders and providers in the process of developing and refining their quality assurance procedures and in ensuring the dissemination of best European practices. Further information can be found on <http://www.enqavet.eu/> .

The Austrian Reference Point for Quality Assurance in Vocational Education and Training (ARQA-VET) was established in 2007 to promote quality culture in the Austrian vocational education and training landscape and to cross-link the actors involved. ARQA-VET is located at the Austrian Agency for International Co-operation in Education and Research (OeAD-GmbH). The staff members combine knowledge from vocational education and training research with application-oriented know-how from the field of quality management. For more information, please go to http://www.arqa-vet.at/arqa_vet/what_we_do/EN/ .

The German Reference Point DEQA-VET is located at the Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB). DEQA-VET aims to raise awareness for the advantages of principles, methods and tools of quality assurance and development. The staff members will enhance communication within relevant circles in Germany to support the implementation of the EQARF. They intend to highlight the growing importance of quality assurance and quality development in the vocational education and training field, present its principles, methods and tools, explain the advantages their use offers - for instance in measuring success - and identify new fields in which quality improvements should be targeted. For more information, please visit <http://www.bibb.de/en/wlk31100.htm> .

The Hungarian Reference Point is established at the National Institute for Vocational Education and Training (NIVE). The Institute is responsible for all activities with regard to national and supranational regulation of Vocational Education and Training. More detailed information can be found on https://www.nive.hu/english_version/index.php .

In Romania, the National Centre for Technical and Vocational Education and Training Development (NCTVETD) is the initiator of the National Reference Point (NRP), structured as an inter-institutional coordination structure whose role is to apply national and European QA strategies and measures in VET. The NRP includes experts of national institutions which have certain attributions regarding QA for Initial and Continuing VET: the Ministry of Education, Research and Youth, the Ministry of Labour, Family and Equal Chances, the Romanian Agency for QA in Pre-university Education, the National Adult Training Board, the National Centre for Vocational Education and Training Development. More information can be obtained on www.tvet.ro .

In Spain, the process for establishing a national reference point for quality assurance seems to be in progress. The Ministry of Education and Science is so far named on the homepage of ENQA-VET.

According to the ENQA-VET homepage, Poland does not have a national reference point for quality assurance yet.

OTHER NEWS

The European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion

The European Parliament and the European Council have decided on October 22nd 2008 that 2010 will be the “**European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion**”.

Whereas the EU is one of the richest areas in the world still 17% of EU citizens have such limited resources that they cannot afford the basics. Poverty is often associated with developing countries, where a lack of food and clean water can often be a daily challenge, but Europe is also affected by poverty and social exclusion. It may not be as severe, but is nonetheless unacceptable. The full text of the decision can be downloaded here:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2008:298:0020:0029:EN:PDF>

The Lifelong Learning Programme – How to participate?

The European Commission has announced a call for proposals for participation in the lifelong learning programme in 2010 and published a guide to the programme as well as a document on strategic priorities. Organisations interested in submitting a proposal or which would like to participate in other ways are recommended to read the documents listed on this website:

http://ec.europa.eu/education/lip/doc848_en.htm

(For more information on dates for LLL Infodays, please see section events.)

Report on the Development of National Qualifications Frameworks in Europe

CEDFOP, the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training, has published a report on the development of national qualifications frameworks in Europe in September 2009. The report can be downloaded here:

http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/etv/Upload/Information_resources/Bookshop/562/6104_en.pdf

EVENTS

Official Launch of EQARF and ECVET, Brussels, 17-18 November 2009.

In partnership with Cedefop, the European Commission will be holding the launch conference of the two new European tools EQARF and ECVET. The conference will focus on examining the most efficient ways – both for learners and for the European economy – to closely involve all stakeholders in implementing these new tools and to ensure all measures in this field operate in tandem. Please find the agenda here:

http://ecvet-egarf.teamwork.fr/docs/programme_en.pdf

Peer Learning Activity (PLA) on "Training of trainers as a part of the quality assurance procedure" in Pamplona, Spain, 18-20 November 2009.

This Peer Learning Activity is part of the ENQA-VET activities and provides an opportunity for participants to engage in a process of learning from others working within systems which have demonstrated particular strengths in the delivery of a specific subject related to QA in VET. The activities provide a forum for discussion and the exchange of experience and are aimed at sharing best practice and engaging in a process of reflection on the implication on policy making in participating countries.

<http://www.engavet.eu/events.html>

“Learning by Leaving” - A Joint Conference for European Mobility Networks, in Uppsala, Sweden, 19-20 November 2009.

The conference aims at networking and cooperation between representatives of the Europass, Euroguidance, Eurodesk and EURES networks. The focus of the conference will be on mobility in Europe today and how the mobility networks can cooperate in order to reach better results within three main themes “Mobility for young people with fewer opportunities”, “How to reach young audiences” and “Making use of international experiences”.

http://www.se2009.eu/en/meetings_news/2009/11/19/learning_by_leaving_a_joint_conference_for_european_mobility_networks

ENQA-VET Conference “Quality VET in the Recession: luxury or necessity for survival?”, Stockholm, 3- 4 December 2009.

The ENQA-VET Conference 2009 will be hosted jointly by SKOLVERKET and the SECRETARIAT and is an associated activity of the Swedish EU Presidency Programme. It will focus on different areas of VET and will also be a platform for disseminating the results of the various activities undertaken during the ENQA-VET Work Programme 2008-2009. <http://www.engavet.eu/conference-making-vet-more-attractive.html>

Lifelong Learning Infodays 2010, Helsinki/Brussels, 23 November and 7 December

The Executive Agency will organise two Infodays on the centralised actions of the Lifelong Learning Programme, for which it is responsible under the 2010 General Call for Proposals.

The programme for LLL days in Helsinki (23 November) and in Brussels (7 December) can be found on:

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/lp/infoday10/infoday_2010_en.htm

Workshop on “Methods and Instruments for the evaluation and monitoring of VET Systems” in Königswinter, Germany from 10-11 December 2009.

The German Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB) invites VET experts to participate actively in a two-day workshop on “Methods and instruments for the evaluation and monitoring of VET systems“. The aim of this workshop is to take stock of methods and instruments that aid VET experts to analyse and evaluate systems, to recognise strengths and weaknesses as well as to identify possible areas for system development and to observe improvement. Another objective is to provide an opportunity for mutual exchange of experience and in-depth discussion.

The QualiMoVET newsletter presents news on the project and informs on developments in the field of VET. Any comments or suggestion on the newsletter should be submitted to the following address: info@qualimovet.eu.

QualiMoVET website: www.qualimovet.eu



Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme

"This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication [communication] reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein."