



# National plan for the quality of education and training

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**Directorate General for Active and Passive  
Labour Policies**



Unione europea  
Fondo sociale europeo





## Why VET Quality Assurance mechanisms?

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Final goal of the European integration:

Free movement of people also in terms of learning and of employment opportunities



Use of tools (EQF, EQAVET, ECVET, ECTS, etc.) as regulatory frameworks to improve education and training systems and people mobility

Key word: mutual trust



# **EQAVET European Recommendation**

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Recommendation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the establishment of a European Quality Assurance Reference framework for Vocational Education and Training – EQAVET (18/6/2009)

Non-binding nature of Recommendation



# **EQAVET European Recommendation**

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Member States commitments:

- 1) European Quality Assurance Reference Framework, quality criteria, indicative descriptors and reference indicators
- 2) definition of a national approach for quality assurance (by 2011)
- 3) European Quality Assurance Reference Framework network
- 4) Quality Assurance National Reference Point
- 5) review of the implementation process (every 4 years)



# European Quality Assurance Reference Framework (EQAVET)

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The Framework, regarded as a *toolbox*, does not prescribe a particular quality assurance system or approach

but

provides common principles, quality criteria, indicative descriptors and indicators that may help in assessing and improving existing system and provision of VET.



## European Quality Assurance Reference Framework (EQAVET)

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- The Framework is applied at VET-systems and VET-provider levels for initial vocational training (IVT) and/or continuous vocational training (CVT)
- The Framework is based on:
  - 1) quality assurance and improvement cycle
  - 2) common quality criteria, indicative descriptors and indicators
  - 3) monitoring process: combination of internal and external evaluation mechanisms
  - 4) tool to measure systems efficiency/effectiveness (set of 10 indicators)



# Continuous VET Quality Assurance and improvement cycle

The continuous cycle:

- 1) *planning*: decision on objectives to be reached and on their planning
- 2) *implementation*: definition of means and activities to achieve planned results
- 3) *evaluation*: programmes monitoring and assessment in terms of efficiency and effectiveness
- 4) *review*: objectives and activities revision based on the internal and external evaluation results



# Italian VET system – Reminder (1)

Stakeholders involved and field of application:

- Ministry of Education  $\Rightarrow$  education
- Ministry of Labour  $\Rightarrow$  vocational training system (definition and assurance of services minimal levels)
- Regions  $\Rightarrow$  VET (programming, management, supply)
- Social partners  $\Rightarrow$  VET (input to policies definition and implementation, in particular continuous training)





## Italian VET system – Reminder (2)

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VET field of application:

- second cycle of education (upper secondary education system and education and vocational training system)
- education and training post-qualification and post-diploma
- apprenticeship
- continuous training



# VET Quality Assurance in Italy

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State of play:

Different initiatives undertaken for quality assurance in terms of use of methodologies both at VET-system and VET-provider level, but a comprehensive VET quality system for all Regions involved is still a work in progress



## Quality Assurance at VET-system level

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- ❑ programming mechanisms of regional training supply based on territorial needs analysis (L. 845/78)
- ❑ regional programming based on training and skill needs analysis
- ❑ VET training standards
- ❑ training structures accreditation system
- ❑ monitoring and evaluation



## Quality Assurance at VET-provider level

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- accredited training structures adopting international quality certifications (ISO 9000, EFQM, etc.)
- different testing on: self-assessment model definition, objective testing on learning, Peer Review model definition



# **Preparation of Quality Assurance National Plan**

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The national Plan, now in its approval phase, is mainly based on existing initiatives that should be further developed and made systematic.

For each phase of the continuous VET quality assurance and improvement cycle (planning, implementation, evaluation, review), the Plan represent an activity platform and specifies actions to be undertaken and their timing



# QA National Plan – Planning and implementation

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- regional programming and activities implementation both at VET-system and VET-provider level
- training and skill needs identification
- up-dating and integration of VET structures accreditation system
- minimum standards for competences recognition and validation



## QA National Plan – Evaluation

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- improvement/development of the training structures accreditation system for evaluation purposes
- reinforcement of regional system quality evaluation tool
- systematic introduction of detection tools outcomes of training/educational processes
- definition of a common set of system indicators
- diversified activities based on specific territorial needs



## QA National Plan – Review

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- main stakeholders (Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Education, Regions) in charge of the follow-up activities with the active contribution of the social partners
- quality assurance establishment venue in charge of reporting to decision-makers on main outcomes and on possible interventions to improve QA system