

THE BOARD

It identifies the priorities and plans the activities of the Reference Point. The Board is coordinated by ISFOL-NRP under the auspices of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, and members include the main stakeholders and representatives of the national institutions involved in the issue of quality assurance such as:

- Ministry of Labour and Social Policy
- Ministry of Education, University and Research
- Regions
- Social partners
- Training providers
- Educational institutions

EQAVET EUROPEAN NETWORK

The European Quality Assurance in Vocational Education and Training Network is a community of practice bringing together Member States, Social Partners and the European Commission to promote European collaboration in developing and improving quality assurance in VET by using the European Quality Assurance Reference Framework. In particular it:

- supports Member States in the implementation of the EQAVET framework
- develops a culture of quality at national and regional level, with the support of the National Reference Points and other network participants
- cooperates with Member States and the European Commission in monitoring and implementing the Reference Framework in the context of the Education and Training 2020 Strategy
- promotes a quality assurance dimension within EQF and ECVET.

EQAVET INDICATORS

- Indicator 1**
Relevance of quality assurance systems for VET providers
- Indicator 2**
Investment in training of teachers and trainers
- Indicator 3**
Participation rate in VET programmes
- Indicator 4**
Completion rate in VET programmes
- Indicator 5**
Placement rate in VET programmes
- Indicator 6**
Utilization of acquired skills in the workplace
- Indicator 7**
Unemployment rate
- Indicator 8**
Prevalence of vulnerable groups
- Indicator 9**
Mechanisms to identify training needs in the labour market
- Indicator 10**
Schemes used to improve access to VET

THE ITALIAN REFERENCE POINT

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EQAVET

European Quality Assurance
in Vocational Education and Training

**The National Reference Point
for quality
assurance in VET**



It can be considered a virtual forum for information sharing and dialogue on the topic of Quality Assurance in Vocational Education and Training (VET) through the dissemination of national and regional best practices and the link between national and European level. Appointed by the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, the Ministry of Education, University and Research and the Regions, the Italian National Reference Point (NRP) has been set up at ISFOL.

The Reference Point supports the implementation of the European Recommendation on Quality of Vocational Education and Training and the national process for the development of an approach to quality, disseminating scientific and technical knowledge and those practices and tools for continuous improvement, self-evaluation and quality assurance; it also supports VET providers in the implementation of self-assessment and peer review.

THE EQAVET RECOMMENDATION AND ITS REFERENCE FRAMEWORK

The EQAVET Recommendation is a European guideline for the implementation of education and training systems based on quality and continuous improvement.

The Recommendation, approved on 18 June 2009, provides Member States with the necessary operational perspective needed to strengthen the VET systems, through the use of a framework and a list of indicators proposed as operational tools designed to monitor and assess the development of the system in its most significant aspects.

The framework is a tool aimed at supporting Member States in promoting and monitoring the continuous improvement of education and training systems on the basis of common criteria and indicators.

The EQAVET Reference Framework is essentially represented by a cycle for quality improvement divided into four phases:

- planning
- implementation
- evaluation/ assessment
- VET review on the basis of qualitative criteria, indicative descriptors and common indicators.

The evaluation of training results is fundamental for this model. The evaluation phase concerns, in particular, processes and training results, including the satisfaction of stakeholders, as well as performance and employee satisfaction.

Regarding quality monitoring and improvement, such a model 'combines' internal and external assessment on the basis of quantitative and qualitative analysis. Quality indicators can be used to evaluate training systems and VET providers.

Each Member State is therefore asked to define a quality national approach. In Italy, the national plan for quality assurance has been developed by the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, the Ministry of Education, University and Research, the Regions and ISFOL, with the involvement of the social partners. The first version of the Plan was approved in 2012 by all institutional stakeholders, and is now being reviewed in light of changes to national legislation and practices in training assessment and quality.

NRP ACTIVITIES

The National Reference Point is responsible for the following activities:

- information of the main national stakeholders on EQAVET initiatives
- comparative analysis of national and international models and devices
- comparison and exchange of best practices
- support to the implementation of innovative quality assurance methodologies, such as self-assessment and peer review
- dissemination of best practices on quality assurance

According to the Work Plan 2016 - 2017 funded by the European Commission and co-funded by the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, the main activities are:

- implementation of the application of indicators, criteria and parameters for quality assurance defined by the EQAVET Recommendation at national level
- review and update of the Quality Assurance National Plan
- increase of the evaluation and revision of the quality assurance and continuous improvement cycle
- participation, at European level, in the definition of the "EQAVET +" model in order to supplement the current framework and complete the device with new criteria relating to quality assurance
- strengthening the cooperation between National Reference Points
- realization of two transnational Peer Reviews
- participation in two European Peer Learning meetings (Romania and Germany)

