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POLICY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE REPORTING PERIOD

During the third quarter of the Twinning Project Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine carried out a number of activities that are closely related to the three components of the Project.

- **Strategy for developing the National Qualification System**

The 2. Quarterly report referred to the strategy paper for developing a National Qualification system, which was launched during the first months of 2013. The strategy is intended to support the development of Lifelong Learning and establish links/interface between the educational system and the labour market and in the context of EU principles for education and skills development.

The strategy paper is currently on the MoES's website for further public discussion and comments.

The overall objective of the National Qualification system will be to support a system, which can establish and promote educational pathways that meet present and future skills and education needs at the labour market.

- **Draft paper "On Higher Education Qualifications (Degrees)"**

MoES put the draft paper "On higher Education Qualifications (Degrees)" on the website. The purpose is to create a public debate and discussion on how the National Qualification Framework shall be implemented within higher education. The paper is close linked to the above mentioned strategy for national qualifications and on the more general level to the whole framework of NQF implementation.

The paper defines, describes and demarcates the qualifications within the higher education area: junior specialist, bachelor, master and Ph.D and the number of ECTS points (European Credit Transfer System) linked to each level.

- **Draft law on the occupational qualifications system**

The draft law "On professional qualifications system" has been prepared by the Federation of Employers of Ukraine. This draft law is also close linked to the initiatives listed above and as a substantial part of the whole NQF implementation action plan.

The law is very important and necessary in order to constitute and set up a coherent

framework for NQF implementation. More specifically the law shall serve the objective to link and “to build bridge” between the world of work (the labour market) and the world of education (certificates and diplomas). According to the above mentioned objective, this can be achieved by defining updated and relevant professions, e.g. labour market responsive descriptions of occupational profiles and by creating mechanisms for recognition of occupational qualifications. Finally the draft law specifies the organisational structures that have to be in place in order to secure an appropriate and efficient implementation of the law. The structure is expected to cover the central level (central executive body) and the sector level (inter-sectoral) level.

TWINNING PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

August, 08, 2013, Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine conducted the second Twinning Project Steering Committee Meeting chaired by Deputy Minister Borys Zhebrowsky (BC Project Leader) and Susanne Gottlieb (MS Project Leader).



During the meeting there were discussed the issues of project implementation and the Action Plan of the Project for the third quarter. Particular emphasis was on the changes that happened in VET field during reporting period. Also there were discussed some issues concerning the coordination of short-term international experts; collecting materials for further work of experts and scheduling coordination meetings with

experts.



EVALUATION OF THE PROJECT

The project was evaluated during the third quarterly period. Mr. Armen Melkumyan was responsible for the evaluation as a member of the Consortium led by IBM Belgium is charged by the European Commission Services with the Results Oriented Monitoring system of the Implementation of Projects and Programmes of external assistance financed by the European Union

PROJECT EXPERT MISSIONS

Mr. Søren Bo Poulsen has made two missions to Ukraine in the reporting period (26/09-05/09 and 23/09-05/10). During his missions the STE was dealing with the following activities:

- Meeting persons who are involved in the process of preparing proposals for changing the current VET law.
- Studying of relevant documents.
- In co-operation with the RTA he prepared an overview of VET development trends in selected EU countries.
- Prepare an inspiration paper as an input to the ongoing drafting of VET laws.
- Preparing inputs to the analysis of the VET law system.

- At his mission during 02-11/09 **Mr. Hans Jørgen Knudsen** finalised the training analysis. In his analysis the following issues/trends in VET were highlighted:
 - More decentralisation;

- more cooperation between schools and local companies, new students' competences (the competitive workforce);
- better (and maybe new) teachers' competence;
- competence-based descriptions of learning outcomes;
- continuous change and adaptation to needs from both society and the world of work;
- and not least more effective and more efficient VET schools.



- During the reporting period on STE mission was carried out by **Dr. Georg Hanf (23-27/09)**. The purpose of the mission were first and foremost to study and analyse key NQF (related) document, to start working on an option/analysis paper and prepare and conduct a workshop for WG II.

- September 26, 2013 at the Kyiv Antona Makarenko Professional Pedagogical College, a workshop on " Implementation of the National Qualifications Framework in the EU : comparison of learning outcomes " was conducted. The seminar was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine , t



he Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine , Institute of Innovative Technology and Educational Content of Ministry of Education, Institute of Vocational Education of NAPS of Ukraine (the

total number of participants - 10). Dr. Georg Hanf presented model of implementation of NQF on the experience of EU countries: Germany and Lithuania , including the stages of implementation , the using of descriptors of qualifications. It was also the experience of Estonia with an emphasis on the possible use of certain approaches in Ukraine .

- During the reporting period one STE mission was carried out by **Dr. Søren Kristensen (08-20/09)**. The purpose of the mission was to:

To finalise the background analysis of the Ukrainian quality assurance framework, to compare and contrast it with European models at EU (EQAVET) and national level (selected countries), to develop conceptual framework and identify key issues for workshop and training and to coordinate with activities undertaken in other components of the Twinning project. The main delivery of this assignment is a 25-page background paper.

The aim of the paper was to give an input to the discussions about the development of new strategies for quality assurance in VET in Ukraine. The main target groups are actors (primarily VET-institutions) and stakeholders (public authorities and social partners) in this process. It is first and foremost written with a practical purpose in mind, and is to be used as a "background paper" (both in full and condensed versions) in connection with workshops for actors and stakeholders organised by the Twinning project.

- During the reporting period STE mission was carried out by **Ellen Jeppesen (26/08 – 06/09)**.

During her mission Ms. Jeppesen together with RTA conducted meetings with representatives from the federation of Employers and from the MoES. The purpose of the meetings was to clarify possible discrepancies in our understanding of key concepts within the area of VET standards, to finalise the discussion on which professions to work with and outline a draft programme for a study visit to follow up on the activities in Ukraine.

The mission led to the following outputs:

-Agreement on the 6 professions for developing educational standards Minutes attached to this report.

-Agreement on preliminary timing for the study visit, mid or late January 2014.

-Agreement on how to link the analysis of the "Methodological Recommendations for Developing and Approving State VET standards in Specific Working Occupations, with the outcome of the study visit and how to actively involve local stakeholders in the analysis.

Within the first and second components it is planned to organize a **study tour** of Ukrainian delegation to Copenhagen, Denmark from **24 to 29 November, 2013**. The purpose of the visit is to study the legal and regulatory framework of vocational education, international education, professional management practices, the industry

funding organization and implementation of national qualifications frameworks. Also, during the visit the issues of lifelong learning, quality assessment of VET will be covered. In addition, it is planned to organise presentation of the Danish experience of cooperation between the Ministry of Education and the social partners.

The participants of the delegation will include 10 Ukrainian stakeholders, including representatives of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, Committee of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on Science and Education, Institute of Vocational Education and Training of NAPS of Ukraine, Institute of Innovative Technology and Educational Content, vocational institutions; Ukrainian analytical Center of Professional Education "National Observatory".

