

AGENDA

ETF WEBINAR : ENSURING SUSTAINABILITY OF THE ETF BRIDGING SUPPORT TO UKRAINE PROVIDED IN 2016-2019

TIME: 9:00- 12:15 (TURIN)/ 10:00 -13:15 (KYIV), 15 APRIL 2020

SUMMARY

ETF has been supporting the reforms of vocational education and training system and qualifications systems in Ukraine since 1996.

In 2014 Ukraine signed the Association Agreement with the European Union. Article 432 of the agreement states "The Parties shall endeavour to increase the exchange of information and expertise, in order to encourage closer cooperation in the field of vocational education and training with a view, in particular, to: (a) developing systems of vocational education and training, and further professional training throughout the working life, in response to the needs of the changing labour market; (b) establishing a national framework to improve the transparency and recognition of qualifications and skills drawing, where possible, on the EU experience".

In 2016 Ukraine entered into an intensive period of reforms towards a competency-based decentralised education and training system, that was a real break with the previous traditions. A new law on education was adopted that underlines a competency-based approach to education and emphasises lifelong learning, a new concept for pre-university education the New Ukrainian School, revised the whole approach to pre-university education including initial VET, giving more importance to competences and key competences. A concept for the modernisation of VET in a decentralised system was elaborated.

These developments happened largely without donor support. Ukraine was the only country without a substantial VET reform project in the Eastern Neighbourhood.

ETF therefore decided early on to provide bridging support until an EU programme would be in place. These activities came in addition to the Torino Process, the SBA Assessment, and our work on Work-based Learning and Skills Anticipation in the Make it Match project.

During the last three years 2016-2019 the ETF support has been concentrated around the following main areas:

- NQF implementation plan and development and establishment of the National Qualifications Agency;
- Development of occupational standards, professional qualifications and independent assessment including qualification centres;
- Development of education standards, education programmes and modular competence-based training programmes;
- Support to decentralisation of VET: optimisation of the VET schools network and the role of regional VET Councils;
- Public Private Partnerships and VET schools autonomy and accountability.

We have been working with national experts and institutions building as much as possible on existing capacities while sharing experience from EU member states and our work with other partner countries. The approach has been process oriented working with national stakeholders, rather than result oriented, taking the time to clarify and agree common concepts. This has resulted in strategic, policy and methodological documents and tools that have been elaborated by Ukrainian stakeholders and experts. In all the years that we cooperated with Ukraine, we have tried to be inclusive working with stakeholders from employers, ministries, the Verkhovna Rada, education providers, experts, trade unions and non-governmental organisations and international partners.

In cooperation with the EU Delegation and the European Commission, ETF contributed to the preparation, identification and formulation of the EU4Skills Project which since July 2019 has been implemented in Ukraine. The webinar is much more focused than what we planned originally in a seminar, and we aim to introduce the results of the ETF work to the team of the EU4Skills Project and discuss it with experts and key beneficiaries present at the seminar in view of sustaining and further developing these results. For practical reasons we will only be conducting the seminar in English, which limits the participants to English-language speakers. The participants of the workshop includes the team of the EU4Skills Project, including German, Estonian, and Finnish representatives, and some beneficiaries of the Ministry of Education and Science and the National Qualifications Agency.

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9:00 – 9:10	Welcome Introduction and technical instructions <i>Outi Kärkkäinen, Deputy Head of Country Intelligence Unit, ETF</i>
9:10 – 9:40	NQF implementation and the development and the role of the National Agency of Qualifications Presentation – 10 min Questions and answers – 20 min <i>Arjen Deij, Senior Specialist in Qualifications Systems, ETF</i>
9:40 – 10:10	VET Decentralisation, the role of regional VET Councils and Optimizing VET schools network: the role of Centre's of Vocational Excellence and Innovation (CoVEs) Presentation – 10 min Questions and answers – 20 min

	<i>Jose Manuel Galvin Arribas, Senior Specialist in Governance and Life Long Learning</i>
10:10-10:30	Break
10:30-11:00	VET Decentralisation, Public Private Partnerships and VET schools autonomy and accountability Presentation – 10 min Questions and answers – 20 min <i>Jose Manuel Galvin Arribas, Senior Specialist in Governance and Life Long Learning</i>
11:00- 11:30	Development of occupational standards, professional qualifications and independent assessment including qualification centres Presentation – 10 min Questions and answers – 20 min <i>Arjen Deij, Senior Specialist in Qualifications Systems, ETF</i>
11:30- 12:00	Development of education standards, education programmes and modular curricula and the changing role of teachers Presentation – 10 min Questions and answers – 20 min <i>Arjen Deij, Senior Specialist in Qualifications Systems, ETF</i>
12:00- 12:15	Closure of the webinar <i>Outi Kärkkäinen, Deputy Head of Country Intelligence Unit, ETF</i>