

FLASH REPORT

Event name

ETF Quality Assurance Forum webinar on self assessment of schools, 25 Jun 2020

Main objective/s

- To present experiences of self-assessment of schools in Estonia and Montenegro.
- To spark an exchange and a discussion among participants and speakers

Background

The webinar was organised in the framework of the ETF Forum for Quality Assurance in Vocational Education and Training (QA Forum). The Forum is a transnational collaboration initiative between national institutions with VET quality assurance mandates in ETF's partner countries. The aim of the Forum is to support member countries to modernise and improve quality assurance in VET.

Schools' evaluation is one of the fundamental quality assurance measures at the level of education and training provider. It allows the provider to evaluate its performance in both the internal dimension (such as staff, beneficiaries) and external dimension (such as relations with local labour market).

SHORT DESCRIPTION OF THE EVENT

The webinar was joined by approx. 40 participants from ETF partner countries and the EU, representing policy makers, schools, donor organisations and individual experts in the field. Several forum members representatives joined the event as well.

Mr Ivan Marković from the Centre for Vocational Education in Montenegro and Reet Taimsoo, from the Estonian Quality Agency for Higher and Vocational Education outlined the aims of the national self-assessment systems. In both countries self-assessment is a legal requirement. It results in a formal report prepared by each VET school. The speakers described a self-assessment systems which were based on indicators, were aligned to an external quality assurance process; and were organised and managed by each VET school's management team. Each country uses all four stages of the quality assurance cycle even though it was sometimes difficult to use the data and information from the evaluation stage to make improvements.

KEY OUTCOMES/CONCLUSIONS

Thanks to the discussion and issues raised by the speakers, the following quality assurance questions that VET schools are facing in relation to self assessment have been identified:

- how can the quality of teaching be measured - can observation, the use of standards and descriptors provide a reliable way to judge the quality of classroom provision;
- how to ensure the criteria, indicators and targets used in self assessment match those used in any external quality assurance process;
- how to ensure the views from employers and learners are included in the self-assessment.

ETF contact person/s

Mounir Baati, mba@etf.europa.eu