

FLASH REPORT

Event name

Online meeting of ETF Forum for Quality Assurance in VET with representatives of the Eastern Partnership countries, 21 December 2020, Zoom platform

Main objective/s

- To present the ETF Forum for quality assurance in vocational education and training, its tools, working methods and expected outcomes;
- To present the experience and takeaways of Forum members from Western Balkans and Turkey, and Southern & Eastern Mediterranean regions.

Background

The ETF QA Forum is a transnational collaboration initiative between national institutions with mandates for quality assurance in vocational education and training (VET) in ETF's partner countries. The aim of the Forum is to support member countries to modernise and improve quality assurance in vocational education in training.

The Forum was launched in November 2017, initially for the representatives of countries of Western Balkans and Turkey, and Southern & Eastern Mediterranean regions.

As of 2021 the ETF plans to extend the invitation to join the Forum to institutions with mandate for quality assurance in vocational education and training from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine.

SHORT DESCRIPTION OF THE EVENT

The event was attended by 28 representatives of institutions responsible for VET and/or quality assurance in VET from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine, nominated by relevant education and training authorities.

ETF team presented the objectives and membership rationale of the Forum, as well as its core activities: monitoring of developments in QA through the compilation of QA fiches, peer learning through peer visits, and facilitating the improvement of quality assurance mechanisms through mapping of quality indicators. Three current members of the Forum (from Egypt, North Macedonia and Tunisia) presented the value added of these core activities for their countries, as well as practicalities of their implementation.

ETF team outlined the next steps for early 2021: ETF invitations to EaP countries to join the Forum for Quality Assurance in VET.

KEY OUTCOMES/CONCLUSIONS

Representatives of EaP countries have been informed about the ETF Forum for quality assurance in VET concept, objectives and activities, in advance of the ETF invitation to join the Forum. The key message was that the Forum is a transnational community that operates to provide opportunities of exchange and peer learning for the sake of VET improvement. While ETF has an executive role in the Forum, and provides resources, all activities and workplan are jointly decided and implemented with Forum members. The added value of the Forum for the members is therefore proportional to the efforts invested in participation in the Forum activities.

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