

## FLASH REPORT

### EVENT NAME

#### **ETF FORUM FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE IN VET**

Peer Visit training and a pilot Peer Visit hosted by the ETF Forum member institution for Tunisia, the Ministry of Vocational Training and Employment, in association with the Tunisian National Centre for the Training of Trainers and the Development of Curricula. The Peer Visit focussed on *quality assurance measures related to the certification process of the pedagogical training of VET trainers in Tunisia*.

**Tunis, Tunisia, April 10 - 12, 2019**

### MAIN OBJECTIVES

To strengthen the capabilities of the ETF Forum members to peer assess and give peer feedback on VET quality assurance policy and practice in member countries.

The Tunisian host institutions' objectives were as follows:

- To receive peer feedback on the strengths/weaknesses of the quality assurance measures related to the certification of the pedagogical training of trainers in Tunisia.
- To learn more from peers about quality assurance measures in their countries and discuss the advantages and shortcomings of different measures.
- To promote the ETF Forum for Quality Assurance in VET in Tunisia and involve national stakeholders in an international debate on this topic.

### BACKGROUND

The ETF Forum for Quality Assurance in VET, established in 2017, is a multi-national collaborative scientific network of national-level institutions with a VET quality assurance mandate in sixteen partner countries in the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean and South-Eastern Europe regions and Turkey. Forum members collaborate to improve quality assurance in VET by pooling knowledge and know-how, monitoring and reporting on national developments in quality assurance, engaging in joint projects, including Peer Visits and disseminating good examples of policy and practice.

### SHORT DESCRIPTION OF THE EVENT

The meeting included formal training sessions and a guided 'learning by doing' process in the context of a pilot Peer Visit. The formal and non-formal training activities were in line with the *ETF Forum's Peer Visit Guidance and Training Manual*. Thirteen member countries of the ETF Forum participated in the event representing government ministries and national authorities.

### KEY OUTCOMES/CONCLUSIONS

Formal Peer Visit training sessions focused on effective listening and observation and supportive and critical feedback-giving skills and participants demonstrated these skills in the subsequent pilot Peer Visit context. In the evaluation session participants contributed suggestions for the improvement of the process, including: better matching of the thematic focus with the members expertise, enabling access to more national information in advance, building in more time for joint peer reflection and the preparation of the joint peer feedback. Overall, the Forum members considered the learning experience of great value, if highly demanding, and very rewarding.

The host institutions were reassured that they were 'on the right track' by the peer feedback that concluded the Tunisian approach had great strengths: clear goals, strong political will, trust in the lead institution and engagement/commitment of key decision-makers, well-researched strategy plan aligned with international practice and good support documentation. Ideas for reflection, were presented, including considerations related to: legislative underpinning, broadening consultation /engagement of different partners (trainers of trainers and trainers, directors of establishments) financing and human resources, accessibility, monitoring and measuring impact and sustainability.

### ETF QUALITY ASSURANCE THEMATIC EXPERT AND ETF FORUM MANAGER

Elizabeth Watters, ETF Senior Specialist in VET Policies and Systems.