# Quality Assurance –self assessment and external evaluation The Romanian experience

**NCTVETD** 



Centrul National de Dezvoltare a Invatamantului Profesional si Tehnic



### **Presentation outline**

- 1. Context:
- 2. Integrated activities to ensure for QA in VET
  - 2.1. Self assessment
  - 2.2. School monitoring / Inspection
  - 2.3. External evaluation
    - 2.4. Partner networks
- Elements of conformity in IVET
- 4. Lessons learnt and challenges seen
- 5. Future actions



## 1.2. Quality assurance in education and training in Romania

FRAMEWORK: the QA Law (2006) sets common regulations for quality assurance in the Education and training system (preuniversity – initial VET included, continuous VET, Higher education (HE))

### **QUALITY GOVERNANCE: INSTITUTIONAL ROLES:**

- ☐ the National Group for Quality Assurance in Education and Training GNAC), informal structure that functions as a national reference point for quality assurance in education and training, coordinates the harmonization of quality assurance in education and training
- ☐ two National Agencies for QA in education, one for HE (ARACIS) and one for pre-university education (ARACIP), responsible for:
  - external evaluation for authorization and accreditation of all education and training providers
  - external evaluation of the quality of education offered by accredited education providers, on a regular basis (every 5 years)
- the county school inspectorates responsable for external monitoring and validation of self assessment reports



### **GNAC**

GNAC - a national QA coordination structure was set up in 2006 – the Romanian Quality Assurance Reference Point (the National Group for Quality Assurance in Education and Training - GNAC), based on Interinstitutional Agreement between the:

- •Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Labour
- Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Preuniversity Education
- National Authority for Qualifications
- National Centre for TVET Development

and with the participation of social partners



## Integrating CQAF/EQAVET in the national strategy – NQAF gradual implementation

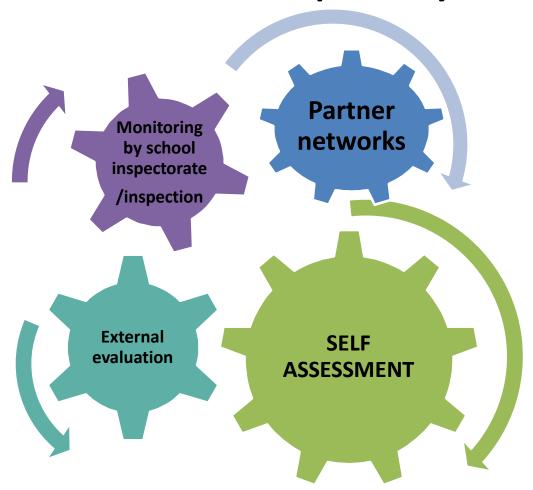
under the coordination of the National Centre for TVET Development (NCTVETD), with the support of the Ministry of education and of the County School Inspectorates, NQAF has been gradually implemented in IVET:

- **PILOT PHASE (2003 2006)** 
  - **□** 2003-2005, in 22 IVET schools;
  - ☐ 2005-2006 school year, in 122 IVET schools

GENERALIZATION (from the 2006-2007 school year), by order of the Ministry of Education, in all (1367) (T) IVET (units) schools



# 2. Integrated activities to assure of quality assurance





## Documents-support for quality assurance



#### **SELF ASSESSMENT**

- The self-assessment manual
- Reference standards/ regulation
- Metodology



#### **SCHOOL MONITORING / INSPECTION**

• INSPECTION MANUAL for external monitoring of the quality of education and training



#### **EXTERNAL EVALUATION**

- Reference standards
- Authorization Standards
- Accreditation standards
- Legal framework



#### **PARTNER NETWORKS**

- Guide to institutional practices
- Strategy for the implementation of the common european framework for quality assurance in professional training, at the system and provider level, using partner networks



## 2.1. Self assessment

## Self assessment at system level Self

- National Strategy at system level
- IVET System self assessment
- Anual Report on QA
- Review of QA mechanism
- assessment at provider level
- School Action Plan
- Selfassessment Report
- Improvment plans



## 2.1. Self assessment at provider level

## All education providers have to establish an internal **Quality Assurance** and **Evaluation Commission**, which:

- □ coordinates the institutional self-assessment and apply QA cycle including planning, implementation, evaluation and review for self assessment □ elaborates, the report, comprising 7 quality areas (each area including a set of
- □ elaborates the report comprising 7 quality areas (each area including a set of performance descriptors) to assess performance at IVET provider's level:
  - 1. Quality Management
  - 2. Management Responsibilities
  - 3. Resources Management
  - 4. Design, Development and Revision of VET programmes
  - 5. Teaching, Training and Learning
  - 6. Assessment and Certification of Learning
  - 7. Analysis and Improvement

Formulates the quality improvement – legal proposals to be approved by the school's management team



### 2.1.Self assessment cycle

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Planing: identifying the problems and defining the school priorities and strategic objectives (School Action Plan, operational plans)



#### **Revision:**

Improvement plan Development

Quality
Manual,
procedures,
regulation
etc

#### Implementation:

Teaching and learning process Internal monitoring



#### **Evaluation:**

Measuring the extent to which indicators are met Self assessment Self assessment report





## 2.1. IVET system Self assesment tool - example

Britategic Measures Output Outcome Source Descriptor						Descriptor
Priorities	Objectives	WiedSureS	Output	Outcome	Source	Descriptor
		Support	-% of IVET schools of total rural	-% of IVET certified	Ministry	Addressed to: Ministry of education
		IVET in	IPT IPT units	students coming	of	Descriptor: rural IVET offers real opportunities for
		rural areas	***************************************	from rural areas of	education	education and training
Setting up a	- Ensuring	***************************************	-% of Qualified staff in rural	the total number of	***************************************	_
stable	equitable and		schools of total IVET teachers	certified IVET	National	Level 1: There is a satisfactory IVET offer in rural areas
equitable,	flexible access		***************************************	students	Statistics	Level 2: We are satisfied with the quality of rural IVET
efficent and	to IVET			***************************************	Institute	Level 3: IVET rural development is a priority of public policy
relevant			-Number of scholarships to TVET	-% of drop out from		Level 4: IVET contributes to rural development
IVET system	-Increasing IVET		students coming from rural areas	rural areas of total		
	attractivness			drop aut in IVET		
				-% of rural IVET		
				employed graduates		
				of total IVET		
				employed graduates		
			-% of IVET students of total	-% of IVET certified	Ministry	Addressed to: principals
			number of preuniversity students	students of the total	of	Descriptor: Students enrolled in our IVET school were
		Systematic		number of IVET	education	drawn to the advantages and prospects training
		promotion	-%of IVET students having IVET	students		Level 1: Students accept the school's education and training
		of IVET	as the first option		National	facilities
		pathway		-% of IVET students	Statistics	Level 2: the IVET programmes offered by our school are
				continuing studies in	Institute	consistent with labour market needs
				HE		Level 3: The school takes measures to promote its IVET offer
						Level 4: As a result of the measures taken, the interest of
						students in our school's IVET offer have increased
						Addressed to: Partners, regional consortia, employers
						Descriptor: we are actively inovled in promoting IVET
						Level 1: We are convinced of the importance of IVET
						Level 2: We know the IVET offer in the field
						Level 3: We include IVET in our strategic partnerships
						Level 4: We have a program to promote IVET





## 2.2. School monitoring / Inspection

- set up the teams of 2 Methodist teachers with experience in quality assurance for monitoring self-evaluation in school and validating the selfevaluation report
- methodical inspections

School inspectorates

### Team of **Methodist teacher**

- visit school twice a school year
- monitoring self-assessment process
- develops a monitoring report
- validates the self-evaluation report

- · ensure the visiting of the school by Methodist teachers
- · develops a plan to remediate the unfulfilled targets identified in the monitoring
- provides the selfassessment report to the validation team

School



## 2.2. School monitoring / Inspection

#### **ADVANTAGES**

- identifying and correcting deviations from the proposed objectives
- identify areas of improvement
- facilitates the construction of databases on quality assurance indicators

#### **WEAKNESSES**

- lack of funds for the movement of methodist teachers in schools
- is the extra work for the methodist teachers
- the routine leads to an incorrect evaluation



### 2.3. External evaluation

- ARACIP (Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Pre-university Education) is the institution mandated for external evaluation / authorization / accreditation of school units
- ARACIP has a body of external collaborators
   (teachers with experience in evaluation and quality assurance) trained for this activity
- There are three types of external evaluations:
  - for authorization
  - for accreditation
  - for periodic evaluation (once every 5 years)



# The new approach to external evaluation (probably 2019/2020 school year)

results

 focusing professional training providers activities on developing and improving results

progres

 focusing on ensuring and evaluating the quality of educational services on progress

Student/ teacher/ comunity  focusing on relationships: teacher-student, school – teacher/ comunity, school – company

simple language • approaching a simple, easy to understand language for everyone

descriptors

• decreasing the number of descriptors in the evaluation standards



## 2.4. Inter assistance networks

NCDTVET and the County School Inspectorates supported the development of IVET schools inter institutional assistance networks, so that schools can cooperate in monitoring, evidence collecting, experience exchange and staff training activities:

- **□** 2004: 122 Phare IVET schools were connected in inter institutional assistance networks, to benefit from the 22 resource centers expertise in QA;
- **□** 2005: the networks were extended to 150 more Phare IVET schools, from rural areas;
- **□** 2006: all (1367) IVET schools were associated in regional inter institutional assistance networks, by order of the Ministry of education
- □ Starting with 2011: 16 IVET school networks (96 schools) were set up on a sectoral base peer learning and peer review activities are organised, a website and online platforms are developed to facilitate online communication (http://parteneriatpentrucalitate.tvet.ro)



## 2.4. Partnership for quality

#### 16 partner networks for 16 domains of activity:

mechanical, electrical, electronics, construction, agriculture, services, economic, etc

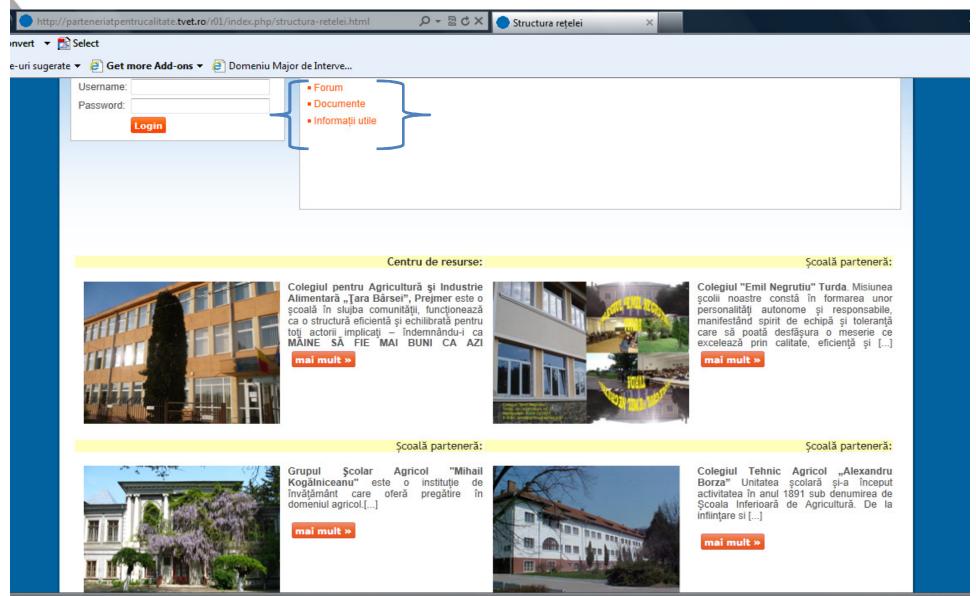
• **network interactivity**: - helps school to compare results with the results of other similar schools

- exchange of best practices /parteneriatpentrucalitate.tvet.ro nbunătătirea calității educ... Select rate 🔻 🙆 Get more Add-ons 🔻 🤌 Domeniu Major de Interve... Fondul Social Europea STERUL MUNCII, FAMILIEI SI PROTECTE SOCIALE POSDRU 2007-2013 Invätamäntului Profesional și tehnic POSDRU 2007-2013 Investește în oameni! Îmbunătățirea calității educației și formării profesionale prin retele parteneriale Prima pagină **Descriere Proiect Parteneri** Rezultate Indicatori **Evenimente** Rețele parteneriale Anunt Selectie Expert pe termen scurt achizitii mai mult » Rezultate selecție experți Anunt selectie experti Anunt selecție Expert termen scurt Anunt Selectie Expert termen scurt Username: Anunt selecție ETS ACHIZIŢII Password: mai mult » Login





### 2.4. Inter assistance networks





## 3. Elements of conformity in IVET

### **Curricular standards**

■ National Curriculum based on Training Standards which are based on Occupational Standards validated by Sectoral Committees

■ Local Developed Curriculum: allows adaptation and adjustment to the local Labour market needs and employers demand

Accreditation of school's study programmes

Semi-External national exams: participation of employers in the certification exams



## 4. Lessons learnt and challenges seen - 1

	☐ Quality assurance and improvement is a tranversal process and should be holistically approached
	□ Coherency of quality assurance approaches for the whole education and training system (including general preuniversitary education, IVET, CVETHE) is important
	☐ Legal framework and instruments are needed but not enough for securing the success
۱	□ Empowerment of main actors is crucial
	☐ Quality improvement is a long term construction and is giving long term return
>	☐ Allocation of clear responsabilities and involvement of all parties (national authorities, local communities, school inspectorates, VET providers) is necessary



## 4. Lessons learnt and challenges seen - 2

- □ Ownership among all relevant actors is of crucial importance
- Moving from quality asurance to quality improvement and to quality culture is a long term process; there are incentives but it can not be imposed or set up only by law
- Quality assurance and improvement should be primarly secured in the teaching, learning and training process; commitment of teachers and trainers to quality is a prerequisiste of every successful approach
- ☐ European developments serve of particular inspiration, but sustainability is achievable through national solutions



### 5. Future actions

- Developing a mechanism to evaluate and monitor the quality assurance of work based learning (WBL)
- Developing a mechanism for systematic monitoring, evaluation and review of the quality of vocational training at VET system level
- Develop a mechanism for recognizing excellence in provision initial vocational training programs
- Preparing 200 teachers to apply the quality assurance mechanism at work based learning (WBL)
  - Developing a quality barometer in VET



## THANK YOU

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