

## CONFERENCE

### QUALITY ASSURANCE IN VET: PLACING PEOPLE FIRST

**2nd June 2021**

#### CONTEXT

Quality and quality assurance play a central role in education, training and skills, being an essential issue for a resilient, social, green, digital and global Europe.

In the context of Europe's recovery, the *Council Recommendation on VET for sustainable competitiveness, social fairness and resilience*, published in November 2020, which integrates the *European Quality Assurance Reference Framework for Vocational Education and Training (EQAVET)*, reinforces the idea that VET is underpinned by a culture of quality assurance.

Also the *Osnabrück Declaration (2021-2025)* establishes a commitment on resilience and excellence through quality, inclusive and flexible VET and the *Council Resolution on a strategic framework for European cooperation in education and training towards the European Education Area and beyond (2021-2030)* sets as a strategic priority the improvement of quality, equity, inclusion and success for all in education and training.

Considering that tracking graduates can also be a core component of quality assurance systems as it provides a mechanism for gathering intelligence on skills utilisation in the labour market, placement rates and the career paths of graduates, in November 2017, the European Council adopted a *Recommendation on tracking graduates*. Thus, Member States, with the support of the European Commission, committed to collect graduate tracking information in higher education and VET that is comparable at European level.

This is also in line with the European Pillar of Social Rights which, amongst other principles, calls for the right to quality and inclusive education, training and lifelong learning and to active support to employment.

The Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the European Union highlights the European Pillar of Social Rights adding a social dimension to the economic recovery, placing people first. This entails an investment in skills, employability and in a robust, inclusive, high quality and future-oriented VET system.

This event intends to bring about discussion on quality assurance in several dimensions of VET systems in a lifelong learning perspective.

The first panel will focus on the implementation in Portugal of the EQAVET model, including reflexions from different stakeholders engaged.

The second panel will bring an approach about quality assurance in adult education and training taking into account two projects: *European Agenda for Adult Learning in Portugal* and *Strengthening Quality Assurance in Adult Education and Training in Portugal* (a joint project between the European Commission, OECD and the Portuguese government).

VET monitoring and tracking practices both in Portugal and other countries will be discussed in the last panel of this conference.

AGENDA

<b>Wednesday, 2nd June 2021</b>	
14:30 - 14:40 (CET)	<p><b>Opening session</b></p> <p><b>Filipa de Jesus</b> - Director of the National Agency for Qualification and VET (ANQEP)  <b>João Costa</b> - Portuguese Deputy Minister for Education</p>
14:40 - 15:20	<p><b>1- EQAVET National Model</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Francisca Simões</b>, ANQEP - <i>Putting EQAVET in place: innovating practices, raising standards (providers survey)</i></li> <li>• Round Table: Key stakeholders insights               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Nilza Jardim</b>, Escola Profissional CIOR (VET provider)</li> <li>- <b>José Gomes</b>, Grupo PRIMOR (Company)</li> <li>- <b>João Nogueira da Costa</b> (I-VET Graduate)</li> <li>- <b>Célia Novais</b>, Instituto Superior de Ciências Educativas do Douro (Higher education institution)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Moderator: António Correia, ANQEP</p>
15:20 - 15:25	<p><b>Questions and Answers</b></p>
15:25 - 15:45	<p><b>2- Quality assurance in adult education and training</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Alexandra Teixeira</b>, ANQEP - <i>Implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning in Portugal: Presenting a Quality Charter for Qualifica Centres</i></li> <li>• <b>Ricardo Espinoza</b>, OECD - <i>Strengthening Quality Assurance in Adult Education and Training in Portugal: key findings</i></li> </ul> <p>Moderator: Maria João Alves, ANQEP</p>
15:45 - 15:50	<p><b>Questions and Answers</b></p>
15:50 - 16:00	<p><b>Comfort Break</b></p>
16:00 - 16:40	<p><b>3- Quality assurance - VET monitoring and tracking</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ricardo Bernardes</b>, Directorate-General for Employment and Industrial Relations - <i>Monitoring and auditing of VET providers</i></li> <li>• <b>Pedro Abrantes</b>, Directorate-General for Education and Science Statistics - <i>Graduate tracking: national perspective</i></li> <li>• <b>Nino Buić</b>, EQAVET NRP Croatia - <i>VET Graduate Tracking practices at providers' level</i></li> <li>• <b>Kinga Szebeni</b>, European Commission - <i>Expert group on graduate tracking (VET)</i></li> </ul> <p>Moderator: Joaquim Bernardo, POCH</p>
16:40 - 16:45	<p><b>Questions and Answers</b></p>
16:45 - 17:00	<p><b>Closing session</b></p>

**Filipa de Jesus** - Director of the National Agency for Qualification and VET  
(ANQEP)

**Miguel Cabrita** - Portuguese Deputy Minister of Labour and Vocational Training  
(video message)