



Quality assurance in VET
The certification of VET providers
in Portugal

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THE PAST

Relevant milestones

1997

The Accreditation System for VET providers was created, “recommended” by the European Commission to regulate the access to public funds for VET projects

2007

A new legal framework for education and training was approved and the National Qualifications System (SNQ) was created. Quality assurance of VET is one of its strategic lines

2010

The accreditation system was reformed and gave place to a new Certification System for VET providers

THE PRESENT



Number of accredited vet providers in August 2011

2055

Estimated transition period: 1 year

CERTIFICATION SYSTEM FOR VET PROVIDERS

Objectives:

- ☺ Increase VET quality and the credibility of SNQ
- ☺ Promote the external recognition of VET providers
- ☺ Guarantee an appropriate use of the european and national public funds for VET

Responsible: Directorate-General for Employment and Industrial Relations (DGERT)
Ministry for Economy and Employment



CERTIFICATION IS...

Quality label for VET providers

**Recognizes the organisation capacity for
developing VET activities in the thematic
areas in which they operate**

BENEFITS FOR VET PROVIDERS

- 😊 Recognition of quality in the market (by their clients)
- 😊 Certified education and training
- 😊 Access to public funding for training
- 😊 Tax benefits
- 😊 Public disclosure by DGERT

CERTIFIED VET PROVIDER LOGO





WHO CAN BE CERTIFIED AS A VET PROVIDER

Private organisations of all sectors

Public services (specific)



Must develop vocational and educational training (initial or continuous)

WHAT IS NEW IN CERTIFICATION

- ✓ **The recognition of capacity in thematic areas of VET**
- ✓ **The standard is more organised, specific and “linked” to the principles of EQAVET**
- ✓ **Certification has no validity term**
- ✓ **DGERT evaluate VET providers by regular audits (maybe annual)**
- ✓ **Evaluation is based on results and not only on processes**

CERTIFICATION STANDARD
(Specific for training activities)



Legal constitution of the organisation and its activities



Human an material resources, pedagogical practices, training management procedures, etc.

QUALITY REQUIREMENTS

Divided in:

A – STRUCTURE AND ORGANIZATION

**B – TRAINING MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES AND PEDAGOGICAL
PRACTICES**

C – EVALUATION, RESULTS AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

d

q

s

a

A – STRUCTURE AND ORGANIZATION**HUMAN RESOURCES WITH
TECHNICAL AND PEDAGOGIC
COMPETENCES**

- ☞ **TRAINING MANAGER**
- ☞ **PEDAGOGICAL RESPONSIBLE**
- ☞ **TRAINERS**
- ☞ **ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT**

A – STRUCTURE AND ORGANIZATION**FACILITIES AND
EQUIPMENT**

- ☞ **SPECIFIC FACILITIES FOR DIFERENT AREAS OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING**
- ☞ **SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS CONCERNING SPACE MEASURES; ENVIROMENT AND SAFETY CONDITIONS ; SPECIFIC EQUIPMENTS FOR PRATICAL TRAINING**

B – TRAINING MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES AND PEDAGOGICAL PRACTICES**STRATEGIC PLANING
AND MANAGEMENT****ANNUAL PLANIFICATION:**

- TRAINING NEEDS DIAGNOSIS
- OPERATIVE GOALS AND INDICATORS
- TRAINING PROJECTS
- PARTNERSHIP
- ...

B – TRAINING MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES AND PEDAGOGICAL PRACTICES**DESIGN AND
DEVELOPING TRAINING
PROGRAMS****GENERAL PHASES:**

- a. PLANNING AND DESIGNING TRAINING PROGRAMS AND PEDAGOGICAL MATERIALS**
- b. ORGANIZATION AND EXECUTION OF TRAINING ACTIVITIES (PARTICIPANTS SELECTION, PEDAGOGIC METHODS, TRAINEES SUPPORT...)**
- c. EVALUATION (TRAINEES RESULTS, PERFORMANCE OF VET PROVIDER....)**

B – TRAINING MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES AND PEDAGOGICAL PRACTICES**RULES**

-  **PARTICIPANTS APPLICATION AND SELECTION**
-  **MATERIAL AND LOGISTIC RULES**
-  **RESPONSABILITIES**
-  **COMPLAINTS**
-  ...

B – TRAINING MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES AND PEDAGOGICAL PRACTICES**TECHNICAL AND
PEDAGOGIC DOCUMENTS**

→ **ALL DOCUMENTATION CONCERNING
EACH COURSE ORGANISED BY THE
VET PROVIDER MUST BE ALWAYS
UPDATED**

**...AND OTHER SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS CONCERNING
THE B DIMENSION**

C – EVALUATION, RESULTS AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT**RESULTS AND
CONTINUOUS
IMPROVEMENT****ANNUAL EVALUATION:**

- **MEASURING TRAINING RESULTS AND IMPACT
(EMPLOYABILITY, PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT,)**
- **MEASURING ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE
(OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS ACHIEVEMENT, ...)**
- **SELF EVALUATION**
- **REVISION, IMPROVEMENT AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS**
- ...



CERTIFICATION PROCESS

INITIAL CERTIFICATION

TO MAINTAIN CERTIFICATION

APPLICATION
Submitted on line @



**TECHNICAL
EVALUATION**
(documentation or
audit)



CERTIFICATION



**PERFORMANCE AND
RESULTS INDICATORS**

REGULAR AUDITS



**TOTAL OR PARTIAL
WITHDRAWAL**

INITIAL CERTIFICATION

Elements of application form:

- ☺ **HUMAN RESOURCES CURRICULA**
- ☺ **PREVIOUS AND FUTURE PROJECTS**
- ☺ **METHODOLOGIES AND INSTRUMENTS**
- ☺ **MONITORING AND EVALUATION METHODS**
- ☺ **ORGANIZATION ELEMENTS**
- ☺ **PEDAGOGIC MATERIALS AND LOGISTIC**
- ☺ **FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENTS**



TO MAINTAIN CERTIFICATION

REGULAR AUDIT OF
VET PROVIDERS

Focused on the compliance
with the quality standard

Opportunity to stimulate results
and continuous improvement

VET provider give self-
evaluation / results
indicators

THE FUTURE

New context

- New government in Portugal
- Huge reform of public administration
- Policies concerning VET are not yet completely defined

?

- ? Will the public sector continue to regulate this activity in order to guarantee the quality...or it will be left for the market to do it?
- ? And the articulation with relevant stakeholders to extend the quality assurances issues to all national qualification system?



Thanks for your attention!



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