

Report of the workshop's outcomes

The workshop intended to collect different situations and realities about the provision of European Qualification at level 5 within the Vocational Education and Training.

Participants that the workshop gathered were from different countries such as: Sweden, France, Italy, Czech Republic, Cyprus, the Netherlands, Spain or Hong Kong.

The situation is quite different among them, with Sweden, Italy or France, where apprenticeships can be a solution for reaching level 5 within VET; or Spain, where EQF Level 5 is provided by every HVET course, as there are in Spain (and other countries) two different levels of VET.

Cyprus offered a new perspective, where we counted with an example of a VET College offering VET programmes up to level 6, in which the success of this qualification depends on legal requirement and demand. They have 2-year level 5 programme that can turn into level 6 through learning different skills needed for supervising a work or own a business. It is under the same assessment body than universities, and students are requested to do the same than people at university.

It was also interesting what is happening in The Netherlands, where it is being not so easy, and there are initiatives asking for Level 5 in VET such as CHAIN5. This non-formal Network is collecting the voice and supporting organizations willing to get level 5, who has spread his activity reaching 280 members in 31 different countries. This organization aims to offer practical solutions and not involve politics.

Once participants presented their situation in their countries, a discussion was launched. Different ideas that came up were:

- To plan a 3-5 years strategy to reach level 5.
- To find a better definition for level 5 before doing anything.
- To find a more appropriate term. Is HVET the best one?
- Necessity of counting with HE institutions for this? Or should VET institutions design their roadmap counting on their starting point and objectives?
- Should all this be done work-based learning?

CONCLUSIONS

- HVET Level 5 EQF is needed, and feasible. But it is needed to make it possible for students, to provide them with an opportunity to go from level 4 to level 5 without getting into university studies.
- It should be structured on Work based learning. But it would be appropriate a discussion about the name, the term used. "industry experience"? there must be a common term that is not differently interpreted in each different country.
- Explore individual experiences across Europe and set your appropriate roadmap. It should be reached differently in each country and not at EU level, as a discussion at the highest level would never end, and we already have individual experiences with very interesting results.



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