POLICY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE REPORTING PERIOD

In the reporting period a number of important papers on education have been published and several key activities linked to the VET system have taken place. These are closely related to the three components in this Twinning Project.

- New draft law “On Vocational Education and Training”. For this purpose working group was set up. This law will regulate social relations, aimed at ensuring the rights of citizens to equal access to vocational education and training to meet the needs of the labor market for skilled workers and mid-level professionals in the market economy and contribute to the integration of Ukraine into international economic and educational environment. It is expected that the new law will not only reflect the needs of Ukrainian labor market, but also take into account the experience of the European systems of vocational education. RTA and the project short-terms experts are involved in this important process.

- Provision “On the Internship of Workshop Trainers of VET Institutions”. Resident Advisor directly participated in the meetings of the working group on drafting provisions and provided comments and suggestions thereto.

- Typical rules of admission to VET Institutions were adopted.

- Adoption of several documents:
  - Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on Amendments to Resolution “On the Approval of the procedure for the provision of workplaces for the industrial training and industrial internship of students and trainees of VET Institutions”.
  - Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on Amendments to Resolution “On VET Institution”
  - Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on Amendments to Resolution “On graded vocational education and training”.

- There was prepared a draft resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on amendments to:
- Procedure of Employment of VET Institution Graduates Trained According to the State Order.

In accordance with the National Action Plan for 2013 and during the realization of the “Program of economical reforms for 2010-2014” it is necessary to approve 46 state VET standards in specific occupations until November. In the last three months working group meetings on developing these standards have been held.

During the reporting period there was prepared and adopted the Methodology for developing of state VET standards in specific occupations.

TWINNING PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

April, 11, 2013, Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine conducted the Twinning Project Steering Committee Meeting.

During the meeting there were discussed the issues of project implementation and the Action Plan of the Project for the second quarter. Particular emphasis was on the importance of teamwork, determining the frequency of meetings of the Steering Committee, outlining an action plan and approval of the Steering Committee Terms of Reference. Also there were discussed some issues concerning the coordination of short-term international experts; collecting materials for further work of experts and scheduling coordination meetings with experts.

PROJECT EXPERT MISSIONS

Mr. Søren Bo Poulsen from AARHUS TECH has made two missions to Ukraine in the reporting period (13-25 of May and 17-29 of June).

These missions will of course play an important role for the outcome and content of the activities and papers presented as part of the implementation of Activity 1.1

In his two missions the STE was working with the following activities:
- Meeting persons who are involved in the process of preparing proposals for changing the current VET law.
- Studying of relevant documents.
- Preparing presentations on two key areas within VET management and policy implementation 1) Decentralisation in VET and 2) Financing of VET.
- Preparing the analysis of the VET law system. The analysis shall be seen in a context, where a draft law has been published. This will obviously have some implications on the content and structure of this analysis.

May, 22, 2013, workshop on VET
governance in Denmark was conducted in Kyiv professional and pedagogical Antona Makarenko college. This workshop was organised within Component 1 “Review of Ukrainian legislation & Development of Recommendations for its improvement Based on EU Policy and Experience in Lifelong Learning”.

There were more than 20 participants from the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine, Joint Representative Body of Employers on the National Level, Institute of Innovative Technology and Educational Content, Institute of VET of National Academy of Pedagogical Science of Ukraine, directors of VET Institutions.

During the workshop STE Søren Bo Poulsen presented his paper on Decentralization of VET system. Mr. Poulsen is a senior consultant of AARHUS TECH and is responsible for implementation of the first Component of the Project. During his Presentation Mr. Poulsen told the participants about experience of Danish VET system and shared the model of decentralisation in Ukrainian legislative context.

On the 26th of June, 2013, workshop on VET Financing in Denmark was held within the Component 1 “Review of Ukrainian legislation & Development of Recommendations for its improvement Based on EU Policy and Experience in Lifelong Learning”. Among the participants there were representatives of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine, Institute of Innovative Technology and Educational Content, VET Institute of the National Academy of Pedagogical Sciences of Ukraine, Ptukha Institute of Demography and Social Researches. STE Søren Bo Poulsen presented the Danish model of financing of VET with a strong emphasis on sources of financing, its planning, economy and distribution. Besides, Mr. Poulsen told about different approaches on criteria of education quality assessment; formula for the calculation of finance for VET Institutions and government policy of Denmark in the process.

Mr. Hans Jørgen Knudsen had one mission during the reporting period (23th of June - 05th of July). The specific objective for sub-component 1.2 is to write a concept note on a workshop for school leaders. This task was approached in two ways:
- From interviews with a number of relevant persons (directors of VET Institutions – L. Krysheminska, V. Petrovych, O. Shcherbak and G. Rusanov – local coordinator of Ukrainian-Canadian Project “Skills for Employment”);
- From reading selected papers about the project and the Ukrainian challenges and ambitions within VET

The STE managed to meet relevant persons who together with selected documents constituted the necessary and conducive fundament for completing the task at his next mission.

During the reporting period two STE missions in Component 2 were carried out (14th of April – 20th of April and 4th of June – 7th of June). In the first one both experts, Dr. Georg Hanf and Dr. Christiane Eberhardt, participated. In the second mission only Mr. Hanf took part. The missions were follow-ups on the one conducted in the first reporting period. The purpose of the missions were first and foremost to study and analyse key NQF related documents/papers, conduct interviews with the main stakeholders involved in the NQF implementation and prepare preliminary
inputs/proposals for the analysis to be made and propose activities to support NQF performance in Ukraine. The STE’s and the RTA participated in two round table discussions for working groups set up by the MoES. One has been working with the drafting of a strategy plan for a National Qualification System. The STE’s were providing comments and inputs to the paper and in the round table meeting.

During the reporting period (from 19th of May till 1st of June) one STE mission was carried out by Dr. Søren Kristensen. The mission was a follow up on the one conducted in the first reporting period. The purpose of the mission was to deepen the understanding of the Ukrainian systems for quality assurance of VET by meeting actors and stakeholders and identifying and studying relevant documentation. A draft template for a combined analysis/option paper was produced as part of the mission activities.

On 23rd of April 2013 a successful workshop on presentation of the Danish system for Educational Standards was conducted. The presentation focused on presenting the system on all levels and showing the coherence between the overall goals for VET on the state level to competence goals on the level of each occupation, to the educational goals and their implementation on school level. The presentation included practical examples from the occupation cook/chef and also included examples on quality assurance and assessment on school level.

Within the first and second components it is planned to organize a study tour of Ukrainian delegation to Copenhagen, Denmark from 23 to 28 September, 2013. The purpose of the visit is to study the legal and regulatory framework of vocational education, international education, professional management practices, the industry funding organization and implementation of national qualifications frameworks. Also, during the visit the issues of lifelong learning, quality assessment of VET will be covered. In addition, it is planned to organise presentation of the Danish experience of cooperation between the Ministry of Education and the social partners.

The participants of the delegation will include 10 Ukrainian stakeholders, including representatives of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, Committee of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on Science and Education, Institute of Vocational Education and Training of NAPS of Ukraine, Institute of Innovative Technology and Educational Content, vocational institutions; Ukrainian analytical Center of Professional Education “National Observatory”.

During the reporting period two STE missions was carried out by Ellen Jeppesen. The missions were follow ups on the one conducted in the first reporting period (from 15th till 25th of April and from 14th till 25th of May).