Policy developments in the reporting period

At nowadays the work on the new draft Law “On Vocational Education” continues. This Law regulates social relations aimed at ensuring the rights of citizens to equal access to vocational education with the needs of the labor market for skilled workers and professionals in a market economy and the integration of Ukraine into the international economic and educational environment. A draft resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine “On Amendments to the Order of VET graduates’ employment, training of which was held for public order” was prepared.

Draft Regulation on training and internship of teaching staff in VET schools developed.

Ministry formed the forecasted volume of orders for training of skilled workers and junior specialists in VET sector until 2017.

Systematic cooperation with employers organizations concerning implementation of National Qualification Framework and those modernized changes that take place at nowadays in the national education system – all of that demand changes in the list of VET occupations that are taught in the VET schools. Therefore, Ministry is working on the new draft Resolution of Cabinet of Ministry of Ukraine on September 11, 2007 #1117 “On Approval of State list of occupations with skilled workers in the VET Institutions”.

47 national VET standards with specific occupations were approved and agreed with Federation of Employers of Ukraine and Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine. Among them: for production – 14, agriculture and processing industry – 2, transport – 5, trade and service sphere – 13, construction – 5, communication – 1, mining industry – 2, energy sector – 3, law enforcement sector – 2.

In total there were approved 306 national VET standards with specific working occupations by orders of Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine.
Twinning Project Steering Committee Meeting
November 14, 2013, Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine conducted the third Twinning Project Steering Committee Meeting chaired by Deputy Minister Borys Zhebrovsky (BC Project Leader) and Susanne Gottlieb (MS Project Leader).

During the meeting there were discussed the issues of project implementation and the Action Plan of the Project for the first quarter of 2014. During the next reporting period as part of the second component is planned to organize productive work by comparing qualifications to the European Qualifications Framework, together with the Ministry of Social Policy and the Federation of Employers of Ukraine.

Particular emphasis was on the changes that happened in VET field during reporting period. 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.

National Meeting on Development of Vocational Education and Training

December 3-4, 2013 during the National meeting on Development of Vocational Education and Training it was presented Twinning Project “Modernization of legislative standards and principles of Education and Training in line with the EU-Policy in Lifelong Learning”. More than 60 participants took part in the event, among them: representatives of state region (city) departments of education and science and directors of methodological centres of vocational education and training. Participants were informed about 3 Project Components, main purpose and workplan, aimed on implementation of the Project. Besides, Project’s experts presented the state of VET system and trends in development in EU-counties – such as Germany, Denmark, Switzerland and others. Danish and German experts informed the audience about VET management decentralization and VET financing principles based on the example of Danish developing model; they presented European experience of National Qualification Framework implementation and the principles of quality assurance in VET system based on the Danish evaluation model.
Project experts’ missions

- **Mr. Søren Bo Poulsen** has made three missions to Ukraine in the reporting period (23/09-05/10, 04-07/11 and 01-05/12). During his missions expert held a series of meetings with government officials, teaching staff, employers, academics involved in the preparation of proposals for changes in the existing legislation in the field of vocational education. Also - is the study of relevant documents and preparing the publication “Work-based learning – Apprenticeship in a European context”.

- From the 3rd till 6th of November 2013 in the frames of the Component 1 implementation experts from Germany – Christiane Eberhardt and Isabelle Le Mouillour have made their mission. The result of the mission was the development of a roadmap for the implementation of the components, detailed work plan for each of the events and meeting with representatives of the Institute of VET of NAPS of Ukraine.

- During the reporting period **Dr. Georg Hanf** has made 2 missions to Ukraine (10-16 of November and 2-11 of December). The aim of the missions was to present the work on the implementation of the NQF in the National meeting of 3-4 December.

- **November 13, 2013** at the Kyiv A. Makarenka professional pedagogical college a seminar was conducted under the second component of the project "Support to NQF implementation strategy" on "Comparison of national qualifications to the NQF of Ukraine". The seminar was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine, Institute of Innovative Technology and Educational Content of Ministry of Education, Institute of Vocational Education of NAPS of Ukraine, the State Employment Center (total number of participants - 12). The seminar covered the issues of developing principles, criteria and methodologies for the implementation of NQF qualifications. International expert presented a model for implementation of NQF on the experience of the EU countries - Germany and Lithuania. Were identified different approaches to the implementation stages of the NQF, with special attention to the "closest matching principle" and the establishment of coordination groups and committees.

- **Søren Kristensen** has made his mission from the 1st till the 6th of December.
The aim of the mission was – to participate in the National meeting (3-4 of December) to present “Quality assurance” paper.

- During the reporting period Ellen Jeppesen has made 1 mission to Ukraine—from 21st of October till 1st of November. During the mission she met representatives of vocational schools for their involvement in the work to develop educational standards for selected occupations.

**October 30, 2013** the Institute of Vocational Education and Training of NAPS of Ukraine hosted a seminar on standardization in the professional education of Denmark in Component 3 "Development and implementation of schemes and criteria for VET quality assurance." The seminar was attended by over 20 participants, including representatives of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine, Institute of Innovative Technology and Educational content, the Institute of Vocational Education and Training of the National Academy of Pedagogical Sciences of Ukraine. The workshop presented the experience of the Danish vocational education, such as qualification standards (professional, educational, and evaluation standards), their role in the EU context. Experts provided examples of Danish professional committees. The experience of the workshop was a success, because all participants were interested in information materials concerning international practice that is actual for Ukrainian professional education as well.

Within the third component it is planned to organize a study tour of Ukrainian delegation to Aarhus, Denmark from **16 to 21 March, 2014.** The purpose of the visit is to study the Danish system of national education standards and presentation of training and development of teachers. Also during the visit there will be a presentation of lifelong learning, assessing the quality of education, etc..