Twinning Project Steering Committee Meeting
April, 29 2014, Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine conducted the fourth Twinning Project Steering Committee Meeting chaired by Deputy Minister Pavlo Polianskyi (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 half of 2014. Besides, the Report for the 4th reporting period was approved.

During the discussion of the interim results within the first component it was focused on international experts’ documents "Work-based learning - apprenticeship in an European context" and "Reviewing of challenges in VET, legislation and the policy progress". During the next reporting period as part of the second component, together with the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine and the Federation of Employers of Ukraine it is planned to work on the comparison of qualifications to the European Qualifications Framework.

There were marked changes in the field of vocational education during the reporting period. Also it was discussed coordination of short-term international experts, collection of information material for further work of experts and meeting schedule with experts.
Study Tour to Aarhus, Denmark

In the frames of the third Component “Development and implementation of scheme and criteria for VET quality assurance” from the 4th till 9th of May it was conducted study visit of Ukrainian delegation to Aarhus, Denmark.

The visit aimed on studying of the Danish system of national educational standards and presenting vocational training and teachers’ qualification.

When visiting College «AARHUS TECH» participants studied the experience of Danish vocational education on the example of occupation “Constructor for the manufacture of wooden structures”, “Electrician”, “Technologist of industrial production”.

Ukrainian delegation got acquainted with a number of regulations and guidance documents in the training of the workforce; studied the organization and content of education departments in the college and students’ work during practical training at the workplace in the structural units of the state railroad depot and as part of teams of workers in construction and repair of private enterprises. After the presentation the participants had the opportunity to visit and explore the workshops of department of industrial technology, where they saw the educational process and communicated with students. Besides, participants visited the state company – The Workshops of National Railway. There they studied the work of the company from inside and aspects of practical training of students for Aarhus Tech College.

Project experts’ missions

Mr. Søren Bo Poulsen has made one mission to Ukraine in the reporting period (2-7/02). The main aim of his mission was in assisting the MoES in preparation proposals on amending current legislation in the VET area based on best practices of EU MS.

From 23 of January till 2 of February in the frames of the second Component implementation Krassimir Tsekov Detchev has made his mission. During the mission an overview was made up-to-date subjects and instruments related to legislation on the application and integration of the NQF.

During the reporting period Søren Kristensen has made his two missions (02-07 of February and 16-20 of June). The output of the missions has been the development of a model for a two-day course on quality assurance as well as material (texts, presentations) for use when implementing the course.
Rene Nordin Bloch also has made the mission from 16 till 20 of June. The aim of this mission was to conduct themes about social partnership in VET for intermediate organisations, employers and stakeholders. Next to that was to implement meetings and discussions with VET Department and VET Research Institute on the subject “Intermediate organisations and their purpose”.

19 of June, 2014 was conducted the workshop “Apprenticeship in VET”. Among the participants there were representatives of Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, Federation of Employers of Ukraine, Institute of Innovation Technology and Educational Content of MoES, National Academy of Pedagogical Sciences and the managers of VET schools. Rene Nordin Bloch and RTA J.O. Larsen presented the system of VET in Denmark, the structure of educational programmes for youth and structure of training programmes for primary vocational education. Beside that, an expert shared the European practice of Apprenticeship in VET, VET principles in Denmark and boarding councils experiences.

Such workshop was created for experience sharing between Ukraine and EU-member states countries aimed on more involving of social partners in VET sector.

During the reporting period expert Georg Hanf has made his 2 missions – from 02 till 04 of June and from 22 till 27 of June.

03 of June, 2014 was held a meeting of working group members. The purpose of the meeting was discussing the process of referencing of qualifications and development of mechanism of recommendations on qualification referencing in Ukraine. Georg Hanf presented his document “NQF implementation – state of the art and outlook”. And also he shared an experience of qualification referencing in Denmark and Germany. As a result after working group meeting it was decided to develop guidelines for qualification referencing in Ukraine, by involving working groups on development of standards.

June, 06 2014 was held a meeting of working group members on qualification referencing and creating mechanism of development recommendations on qualification referencing in Ukraine. Among participants there were representatives of Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, Federation of Employers of Ukraine, Institute of Innovation Technology and Educational Content, Institute of VET of NAPS of Ukraine and VET school staff.

During his presentation «Qualification referencing to National Qualification Framework» dr. Georg Hanf presented the procedure of qualification referencing and
analyzed the mechanism of referencing based on occupation “Welder”.
During the meeting it was decided to create draft guidelines on qualification referencing by the 15 of July 2014.

16-20 of June was the mission of Geert Allermand. The output of the missions has been the development of a model for a two-day course on quality assurance as well as material (texts, presentations) for use when implementing the course. The mission was implemented together with Søren Kristensen.

Trainings, programmes

February, 17-20 2014 in Kyiv Antona Makarenka Vocational Pedagogical College the training session for VET school teachers was conducted.

In the training participated Claus Dahl Christensen, Jens Gunnar Andersson (Aarhus Tech College) and more than 40 representatives from VET schools. The main aim of the training was to acquaint the teaching staff with competence-based training methodology. During such training a lot of additional issues were discussed: evaluation of level of training of masters; determination of type of learning for VET schools’ students. Besides, experts have provided a number of practical (group and individual) assignments, tests and exercises.

Chernigiv Vocational Lyceum of Railway Transport organized the training programme for VET school teachers from 31 of March till 03 of April 2014. Trainer Jens G. Andersson informed the participants about the competence-based approach. That is an innovative methodology of modern education that orients all participants of educational process on reaching certain training results. The purpose of introducing competence-based approach in vocational education is to develop a viable competent high-level professional. The result of the introduction of competence-based approach is demand and competitiveness in today's graduate job market; its commitment for effective professional activity; ability to act decisively in different situations and effectively solve production problems. In addition, Mr. Andersson presented different styles of learning and stressed on importance of understanding your own individual style.

From 22 till 24 of April in Cherkasy vocational Construction Lyceum was held a training programme for VET school managers. The main purpose of the training was the development of leadership competences of the manager of VET school via popularization of the best EU-countries VET experience and practice. During the workshops, discussions, independent work managers learned about the European approach to reduce costs in the learning process while preserving and even improving, the quality of education, possible and effective education reform strategies in the field of VET individual countries. International expert Hans Jørgen Knudsen presented the current management model and teaching activities in vocational schools of
Denmark. Working in groups, participants had the opportunity to determine priority areas of immediate changes in their management activities and to choose marketing efforts in balancing the supply and demand for educational services, programs; competence of director as a manager of an educational institution.

May, 14-16 there was conducted training workshop for VET school managers at Lviv Higher Vocational School of Trade and Lviv Higher Vocational School of Food Technologies. The main goal of the training was to develop managerial competencies of managers of educational institutions by promoting best European practices in the organization of vocational training. The workshop was held with representatives of the Danish Centre for training - University College Metropolitan - Hans Jørgen Knudsen and Claus Bo Jørgensen. Overall, more than 30 representatives of VET from Lviv region took part in this event. Duration - 3 days. During group assignments and self-studying the leaders learned about the European approach of improvement the quality of education, opportunities and effectiveness of educational reform, the existing models of management and teaching in vocational schools of Denmark. Participants shared their observations and comments on the developed program that demonstrated how the different EU countries solve difficulties arising from decentralization and cooperation between education and work.

June, 4-5 2014 in the frames of the third Component a seminar in Antona Makarenka Kyiv Vocational and Pedagogical College was conducted. The theme of the workshop was “Quality Assurance in VET and the role of NQF in Ukraine”.

The seminar was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine, Federation of Employers of Ukraine, Institute of Innovative Technology and Educational Content of Ministry of Education and Science, Institute of Vocational Education of NAPS, Ptukha Institute for Demography and Social Studies, as well as leaders and representatives of vocational schools in Kyiv (the total number of participants - 27). The purpose of the workshop was to familiarize with the European model of quality assurance in vocational education and possible changes in Ukrainian models and approaches to quality assurance. In addition, participants learned about the European Qualifications Framework.

The workshop was conducted by international experts Jørgen Theibel and Rasmus Frimodt (University College Metropolitan). The workshop was set up as the analysis of the survey among vocational education representatives and stakeholders, which took place in April 2014. During the event, the teachers presented the material in four modules, involving participants in group assignments and discussions. Particular attention was paid to the quality of education cycle, including phases of planning, analysis and implementation. Their points of view expressed representatives of employers, VET managers and researchers. In addition to the presentation of theoretical material, all participants were involved in practical tasks, in which agreed on the approach and criteria
for assessing the quality of education in vocational education.

**June 17, 2014** the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine and Ptukha Institute for Demography and Social Studies held a round table on "Vocational Education in Ukraine: current status and areas for further development." The purpose of the roundtable was to discuss the development of vocational education and training in Ukraine, cooperation of employers and educational institutions, enhancing the prestige of vocational education and educational policy in the context of European integration. Participants included representatives of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine for Science and Education, Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine, Ukrainian Center for Educational Quality Assessment, Institute of Innovative Technology and Educational Content of Ministry of Education and Science, joint representative body of employers at the national level, the National Academy of Pedagogical Sciences of Ukraine, the Ukrainian Association of staff of vocational education, interdisciplinary training and Paton Certification Center of the Institute of Electric Welding, international and local experts, directors of schools and institutions of vocational education, representatives of NGOs and the media.

As a part of a programme an international experience of the vocational education and training was presented. International expert of Twinning Project "Modernization of legislative standards and principles of education and training in line with the EU policy in Lifelong Learning" Nordin René Bloch (Denmark) and RTA Jørgen Ole Larsen presented a system of professional education of Denmark, the structure of educational programs for young people and structure programs of initial vocational education.