

# PATHWAY FROM EQAVET TO NQAVET

**İbrahim Çetinkaya**  
Ankara, Turkey

**Ali Rashidi**  
Uppsala, Sweden

**Roger Van de Winkel**  
Noord-Brabant, Netherlands

## Abstract

**Introduction:** *This project has been carried out within the context of European Union, Lifelong Learning Programme Leonardo da Vinci, under the coordination of Folkuniversitetet from Sweden with the participation of other partners consisting of Beypazarı District Directorate for National Education (Turkey), General Directorate for Friuli Venezia Giulia School Inspection Service (Italy), Revalento (Netherlands), the University of Malta and the National Commission for Further and Higher Education (NCFHE) (Malta), FACO International (Denmark), N.P. Pastuhov's State Academy of Industrial Management (Russia) and Tomsk State University (Russia). The aim of the project is to increase transparency in European VET by enhancing development of National Quality Guidelines/recommendations and approaches for VET (NQAVET) for provider level based on EQAVET (European Quality Assurance in Vocational Education and Training).*

**Methods:** *This project has been conducted with the help of all partner countries above and the project methodology has been built around principles relating to EQAVET and necessary soft skills needed to engage national agencies for VET and VET-provider organisations motivated and engaged in quality initiatives. The guidelines which are the main goal of our project has been created with the data obtained through the questionnaires, face-to-face interviews and national seminars that were carried out among VET managers, teachers and stakeholders in all partner countries.*

**Results:** *After the interviews, questionnaires and the national seminar for VET providers, it has been understood that the national bodies and VET providers are not so familiar with the EQAVET principles and there is a lack of relationship between the national quality assurance implementation and the EQAVET system. Therefore, there should be a common and comprehensive manual of Guidelines for national authorities and providers of VET which is fit for purpose and tailored to national needs and requirements, promoting the development of a culture of quality improvement. This manual of guidelines in the end will guide all countries of Europe in their effort for development of their own national Quality system for VET based on EQAVET.*

**Conclusion:** *As a conclusion, one of the most important problems that quality assurance in VET institutions encounter is that the national bodies and VET providers are not so familiar with the EQAVET principles and there is a lack of relationship between the national quality assurance implementation and the EQAVET system. Therefore, the national authorities and providers need to take EQAVET into account and refer to it in their quality practices. In this respect, our final manual of the Guidelines provides solutions and recommendations to these obstacles and to strengthen the link between EQAVET and NQAVET.*

**Keywords:** quality; quality assurance; Vocational Education and Teaching , EQAVET, NQAVET