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## The EQAVET Framework for Work Based Learning

The EQAVET Framework is designed to promote better VET by providing authorities and VET providers with common tools for the management of quality in VET.

Given the diversity and complexity of approaches to VET quality within and across Member States, the Framework offers a common point of reference to ensure transparency, consistency and portability between the many streams of policy and practice across Europe, in order to increase mutual trust and mobility of learners and workers.

The Framework was developed by Member States in cooperation with the European Commission and adopted by the European Parliament and the Council in 2009.

It is a key element in the follow up to the Copenhagen Declaration, which calls for closer cooperation in the field of VET, and in the ongoing work to renew Europe's education and training systems.

Six interdependent building blocks have been identified as useful and appropriate for the three main models of Work Based Learning (WBL) in the EU.

- **1. Apprenticeship schemes** which combine training in companies and VET schools or other education/training institutions;
- On-the-job training in companies which typically cover internships, work placements or traineeships which are a compulsory or optional element of VET programmes leading to formal qualifications;
- **3. Integration into a school-based programme** through on-site laboratories, workshops, kitchens, restaurants, junior or practice firms, simulations or real business/industry projects and assignments.

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The building blocks provide guidance and set out activities that help VET providers to develop and support a quality assurance approach for WBL in line with the EQAVET Framework. They are as follows:

- **1. Design work-based learning** Work with partner organisations to ensure the relevance of learners' training during periods of work-based learning.
- 2. Improve the quality Agree with partner organisations when the quality of training will be monitored and how improvements will be made.
- 3. Respond to learners' needs Continue to be aware of the specific needs of learners throughout their work-based learning.
- 4. Communicate Ensure learners and partner organisations are kept well informed and receive frequent updates on all aspects of training.
- 5. Train the staff Ensure staff are well prepared for their training role, which includes quality assurance.
- 6. Assess the learners Work with partner organisations to review the work-based training programme and to assess and certify individual learner achievements where appropriate.

The building blocks are part of the EQAVET Online Guidance on quality assurance for workbased learning (WBL). This is a web-based tool designed to support implementation processes and actions aligned to the EQAVET Framework for WBL at national and provider levels.

The tool is available, free of charge, on the EQAVET network website at www.egavet.eu

For more information on Eduwork.Net see www.eduwork.net or contact info@cdetb.ie

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