

Workshop 2

The impact of national qualifications frameworks
and learning outcomes approach

- a) *Teaching, training and facilitating learning*
- b) *The role of quality assurance in implementing the learning outcomes based approach at providers' level*

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1. Dilemmas and challenges

Dilemmas

- Can all learning be defined and described through a learning outcomes approach?
- How to “translate” transversal and generic skills into learning outcomes and competences?
- Since learning outcomes should be assessable - do they promote teaching/learning to tests?

1. Dilemmas and challenges [2]

Successful adaptation of the LO approach for reforming the education on the institutional level needs:

- facilitating teachers to get engaged into and to be skilled for the new tasks
- Involvement of stakeholders into designing, assessing and other aspects of the LO implementation
- awareness of consequences of NQF implementation amongst policy makers – not sufficient till now

The LO approach is increasingly used across Europe but focus on the quality assurance of LO is too weak

2. Necessary conditions and policy recommendations

Shift to learning outcomes needs:

- new competences of teachers, managers of education, decision makers
- ownership and capacity building by all users of Qualification Frameworks
- balanced bottom-up and top-down approach at institutional level
- balanced central and local responsibilities for quality assurance
- systematic quality assurance provided with new methods anticipating change

3. Common issues raised

For what reasons we are using the LO approach? :

- designing NQFs, qualifications, curricula, moduls,
- validation and assessment
- increasing transparency, flexibility and accountability of systems and institutions
- Improvement of the dialogue between the different qualifications stakeholders
- Building bridges – making more coherent the education and training systems

Building mutual trust / sharing experiences

being crucial factors of the E/NQF implementation success

4. European cooperation

What do we need?

Systematic exchange of experiences concerning dilemmas and challenges mentioned above provided in very concrete and practical way

- how to define LO – fitting for purpose?
- How to assess LO?
- How to get involvement of teachers and all user of LO?
- How to develop quality assurance for LO?

And finally: how to organize it?