

Quality Assurance in VET: Italy

This document provides an overview of quality assurance in VET in the respective country. It covers information on VET systems and how quality assurance takes place, which organisations are responsible for VET policy and any recent developments in VET policy.

VET system and quality assurance



Overview of the VET system and how quality assurance takes place

The Italian initial VET (IVET) system is divided at upper secondary level in vocational schools, under the competence of the Ministry of Education, and vocational education and training centres, under the competence of the Regions.

At post-secondary level, the VET pathways include:

- Higher technical education (non-academic VET, ITS), under the competence of the Ministry of Education; and
- Higher technical education and training (IFTS), under the competence of the Regions.

There are some apprenticeship programmes for young people from the ages of 15 to 29. Thanks to these apprenticeship programmes, young people are awarded a vocational qualification.

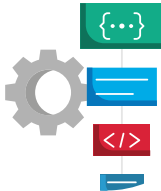


For adults, employed or unemployed, there is a CVET system that is publicly funded, together with a large range of courses in almost all sectors provided by private providers; these are not considered in the following overview.

The CVET system is articulated in two main pathways:


- A CVET offer provided by the sectoral training funds (Fondi Paritetici Interprofessionali per la Formazione Continua),¹ promoted by the social partners and established under the Ministry of Labour. These bilateral funds were established by law in 2000 and became operational in 2004. They are promoted at national level by the central employer organisations along with the trade unions, but they can be articulated at the local level as well.
- A CVET offer provided by the Regions and the Autonomous Provinces for all adults, employed or unemployed. This offer is implemented along the same regional regulations as for IVET training offer. So, the quality framework is almost the same for IVET and CVET.

The national quality assurance approach is aligned in terms of the EQAVET quality cycle, indicative descriptors, and indicators.

¹ https://unevoc.unesco.org/countryprofiles/docs/UNESCO_Funding-of-Training_Italy.pdf

	<p>More information about the VET system in Italy can be found on Cedefop's VET in Europe database: https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/tools/vet-in-europe/systems/italy.</p>
 <p>System-level QA arrangements</p>	<p>IVET schools are required to prepare a self-assessment report consisting of five areas: Context, output, processes, self-evaluation process and priorities identification. Each area is completed with data based on specific indicators (49 in total) and is supplemented by additional information requested of the schools.</p> <p>External evaluation is implemented through audit visits made by inspectors from the Ministry of Education. In IVET, the service is performed by inspectors, operating at national, regional, and provincial level. The inspection service produces an annual report on the state of the schools' activities and education and training provision.</p> <p>In regional systems, the accreditation model has been conceived as a quality assurance mechanism <i>ex ante</i>, with requirements agreed beforehand.²</p>
 <p>Provider-level QA arrangements</p>	<p>In IVET, schools must comply with the national requirements of the national evaluation system, which includes measuring performance against national indicators and undertaking self-assessments.</p> <p>In CVET, vocational training agencies, on a voluntary basis, undertake quality certification processes and undertake self-assessment. Interprofessional Funds for continuing training are managed by social partners and controlled by ANPAL (National Agency for Active Labour Policies) which is responsible for the decisions about funding rules. In April 2018, ANPAL approved guidelines for funding interprofessional funds that also define quality minimum standards.³</p>
 <p>Which organisation(s) are responsible for VET policy?</p>	<p>As far as quality assurance in vocational education is concerned, the Ministry of Education is the competent body defining strategies, policies, framework and learning and teaching programmes and ensuring staff recruitment and management of training activities. While, for vocational training, at national level, the competent body is the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies.</p> <p>At regional level, the competent authorities for quality assurance in IVET are the Regions and the Autonomous Provinces. The quality assurance measures in place at regional level usually refer to a comprehensive regional act establishing the role of the social partners in VET provision. The social partners are usually involved</p>

² <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/205aa0ac-460d-11e9-a8ed-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>
³ <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/205aa0ac-460d-11e9-a8ed-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>

	<p>through committees or boards, which are consultative bodies for all VET and active labour market policies.⁴</p>
 <p>Priority areas for QA in your country</p>	<p>Among the different national priorities related to QA in Italy, the following three aspects can be considered particularly relevant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investment in training of teachers and trainers. • Completion rate in VET programmes. • Provide guidance and support to VET learners and invest in VET supply (with particular attention to the dual model). <p>In relation to training of teachers and trainers, attention is paid to both initial and continuing training as well as professional development.</p> <p>With regards to early leavers from education and training, policies aim to support the reduction of drop-out rates and the successful completion of VET programmes as one of the main objectives for quality in VET.⁵</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With reference to VET supply and learners, policies are focused on flexibility and personalisation of the learning pathways, the implementation of IVC services, the experimentation and dissemination of digital credentials as well as the improvement, extension and strengthening of VET supply in both IVET and CVET.⁶

Use of EQAVET labels

<p>Do you use an EQAVET label or seal to certify VET providers in your country?</p>	<p>No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <hr/> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p>
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⁴ <https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/tools/vet-in-europe/systems/italy-u2>

⁵ <https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/tools/vet-in-europe/systems/italy-u2>

⁶ <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1603&langId=en>