Poland – how to quality assure the development and design of qualifications in the national system

This case study describes the quality assurance processes used to design the market-led qualifications which are included in the Polish Qualification System (the Integrated Qualifications System – IQS). Market qualifications are described using learning outcomes and can be obtained by non-formal training and informal learning outside the formal education system.

The IQS has been in operation since December 2015. These market qualifications are outside the general, vocational and higher education systems. Market qualifications can be prepared by many representative bodies e.g., business sectors, professional groups, training organisations, sectoral associations, crafts chambers and other social entities which are interested in entering a qualification in the IQS. Market qualifications should meet labour market and society needs and be described in terms of learning outcomes.

The quality assurance of the design of these qualifications focuses mainly on the inputs which are described in the legislation and accompanying guidelines. The output dimensions of quality assurance are not defined in detail, although some relevant measures like the review of the IQS are mentioned in law. Since the IQS is at an early stage of operation there are many challenges to resolve in relation to the quality assurance of the design and description of qualifications.

More information is available from the National Reference Point or the <u>Educational Research Institute</u> in Warsaw, Poland or contact: <u>Polish Agency for Enterprise Development</u> which hosts the Integrated Qualification Register, Warsaw, Poland. Note that in the IQS the 'description of a qualification' is understood to mean all information about a qualification which is required by legislation on the IQS.

More information is available from the National Reference Point.

The information was gathered in 2008 and updated in 2022. For more detailed information on this case study, please visit the national website.