

Montenegro – Approach to graduate tracking

Summary

In 2023-2024, the Centre for Vocational Education plans to pilot a model for monitoring students in vocational education after graduation. The model will be based on the following initial principles, and it will include three vocational schools.

The holders (organisers and implementers) of the monitoring will be institutions for vocational education. Monitoring refers to participants in the regular vocational education system. All participants included in the monitoring are from the selected schools, covering all educational programmes, who completed their education that year. Monitoring will be carried out in a period of 6 to 12 months after the end of the participants' education. An online questionnaire will be prepared and shared with the vocational schools involved in the pilot phase. This will be followed by the training of school staff who will be involved in monitoring the students, i.e., sending a questionnaire to students, after graduation. The data will be collected using an online survey method, and an invitation letter and periodic reminders will also be sent. The survey questionnaire is common to all schools. The questionnaire collects data on the course, results of the completed education, and data related to the destination of graduates. Reporting on the results from monitoring will be carried out at the level of the vocational education institution, in accordance with the level of data collection.

Date of implementation

November 2023 until March 2024.

Scope and partners involved

Three vocational schools in the fields of tourism and hospitality, construction, chemical and food technology.

Funding sources

Ministry budget - Centre of Vocational education and training.

Aim of the implementation

The implementation will help to evaluate the relevance and effectiveness of vocational programmes. This will help to look at the employability of graduates in the labour market, required competencies in the labour market that are not sufficiently acquired through vocational education, and data used for the professional guidance of future and current participants of education programmes.

Targeted EQAVET indicative descriptors at system / provider level

The pilot model addresses different aspects of the indicative descriptors of the [EQAVET Framework](#), more specifically:

- ❖ The relevant stakeholders participate in the process of analysing local needs.
- ❖ VET providers have an explicit and transparent quality assurance system in place.
- ❖ VET providers use valid, accurate and reliable methods to assess individuals' learning outcomes.
- ❖ Evaluation and review include the collection and use of data, and adequate and effective mechanisms to involve internal and external stakeholders.
- ❖ Results/outcomes of the evaluation process are discussed with relevant stakeholders and appropriate action plans are put in place.

Activities

The pilot project will include the following activities:

- ❖ Creation of questionnaires for monitoring students after graduation.
- ❖ Presentation of the questionnaire to the pilot phase participating schools.
- ❖ Training of approximately 20 school employees from 3 VET schools (in person) to monitor students after graduation. Training will be in person.
- ❖ Setting up and testing online questionnaires.
- ❖ Conducting a survey among students, it is expected that roughly 300 students will be involved.
- ❖ Data processing, analysis and report writing.
- ❖ Presentation of the research results.

Main outputs and outcomes

The following outputs and outcomes will be achieved:

- ❖ Assessment of the relevance and effectiveness of professional programmes.
- ❖ Determine the employability of graduates in the labour market.
- ❖ Determine the required competencies in the market that are not sufficiently acquired through vocational education.
- ❖ Obtain data that will be used for professional guidance of future and current participants of education programmes.

Indicators of the EQAVET framework to measure and evaluate the quality improvements

Indicator 1: Relevance of quality assurance for VET providers.

On the basis of the pilot programme, the quality assurance process is being improved through receiving feedback from students who have graduated, as well as employers' satisfaction with acquired competencies.

Indicator 5: Placement rate of graduates from VET programmes.

Based on the pilot programme, information will be received on how many students were employed within the same field of work; how many were outside the field of work; how many were not employed; and how many of them are studying

Indicator 6: Utilisation of acquired skills at the workplace.

The pilot programme will collect data on the extent to which the acquired skills can be utilised at the workplace and based on this, improve the quality in the further process of vocational education.

Added value of EQAVET

The pilot project has benefited from the expertise from the EQAVET Network and the experiences of other countries, including examples of questionnaires and approaches from other countries that implemented the same process.

Website

<https://www.gov.me/cso>