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National dissemination event

Erasmus+ "Implementing Mock Accreditation for supporting quality assurance in Armenian VET institutions" (QA4VET) project: objectives, current progress, achieved results and expected contribution to quality assurance in Armenian VET

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Implementing partners:



NATIONAL CENTER FOR
PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION
QUALITY ASSURANCE FOUNDATION



Quality challenges in Armenian VET system

The policy framework is advancing, but VET institutions need practical capacity to translate it into quality culture

Existing QA architecture

licensing • internal QA • state accreditation

Main gap

provider readiness and self-evaluation capacity remain uneven

**Weak capacity to
prepare for
institutional
accreditation**

**Internal QA
procedures are not
yet fully embedded
in daily practice**

**Need to strengthen
evidence-based self-
evaluation and
documentation**

**Green and digital
quality criteria need
practical operational
tools**

Key message

The main challenge is to move from accreditation as an event to quality assurance as a regular institutional practice.

Need for an Erasmus+ project

European know-how

Use EU experience in internal and external quality assurance, accreditation standards and EQAVET-oriented approaches

Mock accreditation

Introduce a new practical tool to simulate accreditation, identify gaps and prepare institutions before formal external review

Institutional ownership

Build internal expert teams able to lead self-evaluation, evidence collection, peer review and improvement planning

Why it is needed

to move from policy ambition to institutional readiness

European added value

access to tested QA models, peer review practices and tools

Sustainable result

a scalable model for quality culture, green and digital transition

Mock accreditation is a simulated accreditation process that helps an institution assess its readiness for formal accreditation, identify strengths and gaps, and improve its quality assurance practices before the official external review.

Wider objective

Strengthen the quality of VET provision in Armenia

through the development and implementation of Mock Accreditation procedures and tools that support quality assurance at VET institutions and reinforce a quality culture in the VET system

From formal accreditation readiness **to** continuous quality enhancement

Green and digital functioning are integrated as quality dimensions, not treated as separate add-ons.

Specific objectives

- 01 Analyse European experience and trends in internal and external VET quality assurance, including accreditation tools linked to green and digital functioning
- 02 Build capacity of Armenian staff on European quality assurance and accreditation practices, including green and digital aspects
- 03 Develop Mock Accreditation procedures and tools adapted to the Armenian VET context and challenges
- 04 Pilot the Mock Accreditation procedures and tools in partner and associated VET institutions
- 05 Formulate recommendations for improving VET quality with specific attention to green and digital functioning

QA4VET project consortium

6 core partners across 3 countries • 7 associated VET institutions in Armenia

Core consortium partners

Country

1. Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Pre-University Education (ARACIP) – project coordinator
2. INVOLAS Institut für berufliche Bildung, Arbeitsmarkt und Sozialpolitik (INVOLAS)
3. Medical-Humanities College of Vardenis (MHCV)
4. Yerevan Regional State College No. 2 after N. Achemyan (YRSC2)
5. National Center for Professional Education Quality Assurance (ANQA)
6. Armenian Center for Education Policy and Management (ACEP)

Romania

Germany

Armenia

Armenia

Armenia

Armenia

Associated Armenian VET institutions

1. Yerevan State Regional College No. 1
2. Artik State College
3. Tavush P. Tevechian Regional State College
4. Kotayk Regional State College
5. Armavir State Regional College
6. Gyumri State Sports College of Olympic Reserve
7. Stepanavan State Agricultural College named after Professor A. Kalantar

Realised activities: preparation and capacity building

Preparation

Fact-finding analysis on VET accreditation; training needs assessment; preparation of a Training Kit on European QA and accreditation experience

Capacity building

Preparation of training materials; capacity-building training in Bucharest and Offenbach on green and digital oriented VET accreditation in Europe; development of draft Mock Accreditation procedures and tools

Support

Dissemination and website activities; Quality Assurance Strategy; monitoring and external evaluation; coordination, reporting and financial management

Implemented foundations

- Project management and governance structures are designed to support collegial decision-making and daily coordination
- The quality assurance approach combines internal monitoring, WP-level reporting and external evaluation
- Early dissemination activities ensure visibility of project goals, outputs and stakeholder engagement.

Realised activities: piloting and consolidation

- Pilot Mock Accreditation in partner and associated VET institutions, covering institutional management, programmes, teaching and learning, resources, labour-market links and internal QA.
- Preparation of Mock Accreditation reports identifying strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats and recommendations.
- National dissemination event to discuss the piloting results and gather stakeholder feedback to support the further refinement of the Mock Accreditation Manual prior to its official adoption.

Quality loop used by the project

analyse needs → build capacity → pilot tools → document evidence → improve and scale up

Results achieved: tools and capacities

Over 18 months of implementation, the QA4VET project has delivered a practical package to support accreditation readiness and continuous institutional improvement

- **Training Kit** on European experience and trends in internal/external VET quality assurance and accreditation.
- **Training materials** and capacity-building events for staff from Armenian institutions.
- Draft **Mock Accreditation Manual** adapted to the Armenian VET system and covering green and digital functioning.
- Strengthened internal expert teams capable of self-evaluation, evidence collection and improvement planning.
- Shared terminology, procedures and practical tools for quality assurance across participating institutions.

Sustainable output

*A reusable **Mock Accreditation Manual** to support future institutional accreditation cycles and system-wide learning.*

Results achieved: institutional and system impact

9 partner and associated VET institutions involved in piloting of Mock Accreditation Manuel

- Reports on piloted Mock Accreditation identifying strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and recommendations.
- Improved readiness of VET institutions for formal institutional accreditation.
- Better alignment between institutional quality systems, state accreditation criteria and labour-market relevance.
- Evidence base for policy dialogue on quality assurance, accreditation and green/digital transition in VET.
- A model with potential to be replicated in other Armenian VET institutions and other partner countries.

Impact pathway: pilot → evidence → recommendations → scale-up

Contribution to quality assurance in Armenian VET

QA4VET provides practical tools to bridge the gap between institutional self-evaluation and formal state accreditation

- Strengthens institutional quality culture through regular self-assessment, peer review and evidence-based improvement.
- Supports ANQA and VET institutions with Mock Accreditation procedures and tools for preparing accreditation and reducing risks before formal review.
- Introduces green and digital functioning as explicit dimensions of VET quality assurance.
- Builds a national pool of trained staff able to use Mock Accreditation methods and support other institutions.
- Provides recommendations for scaling the approach within the wider Armenian VET system.

Result: better readiness for accreditation, stronger institutional effectiveness, and more responsive VET provision.

<https://qa4vet.acep.am/en>