

# Qual4

QUALITY CULTURE THROUGH EFFECTIVE INSTRUMENTS FOR TEACHERS AND TRAINERS

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## Improving Quality Culture in Vocational Education

### Your Goal ...

#### You want to

- Improve the Quality Culture in your Institution
- Familiarise and involve all the departments, teams and staff in the Quality Endeavour
- Encourage Quality and Continuous Improvement at all levels
- Involve and empower teachers to create and contribute to quality initiatives
- Give QUALITY a better press - Inspire a bottom up Quality Culture
- Encourage Innovation in Quality (on a daily basis)
- Form an ever more professional staff body
- Improve your educational services and results

### Why?

#### QUAL4T INTERNATIONAL NEEDS ANALYSIS ...

The QUAL4T Project produced a report in 2014 confirming that most EU countries have promoted and established Quality Management Strategies for VET (with EQARF alignment - the European Quality Assurance Reference Framework - in progress if not almost complete). Research carried out in **Germany, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain and the UK** confirm the EU, national and regional drive to improve the Quality in VET Education with approved quality standard management systems in place in those countries. However Quality is still not fully owned or appreciated by teachers and other grass roots staff, working in the classroom on a daily basis. In a questionnaire carried out for the report, there was consistent evidence that teachers and teams:

- Do not fully understand what is meant by Quality Culture in their Institution (especially among younger or new staff); are unaware of the Quality Cycle Plan, Do, Check, Act (PDCA) approach
- Often feel that Quality is top-down and not their domain
- Feel that Quality is bureaucratic, threatening and time consuming
- Are unaware how they presently contribute to Quality (although they probably do)



*The National and International Needs Analysis Reports can be accessed via the website: [www.qual4t-project.org](http://www.qual4t-project.org)*

## QUAL4T ...

QUAL4T offers practical and inspiring tools especially for teachers and trainers to empower and involve them in grass roots QUALITY actions and innovations. A QUAL4T Quality Toolkit and Quality Guide are available to help teachers understand and contribute to Quality Culture, improving their service as educators, their teaching, and results for students.

### QALLL RECOMMENDATIONS

The QUAL4T Toolkit follows the QALLL RECOMMENDATIONS (Quality Assurance in Life Long Learning) established by 15 National Agencies and the EACEA in 2012. The main recommendations which QUAL4T follows are:

- Nurture Quality Culture in the Organisation
- Promote the whole Quality Cycle (PDCA)
- Promote Work Based Learning
- Professionalise staff working in VET
- Support and Enhance Innovation in Quality Assurance

The QALLL recommendations can be downloaded at

[http://www.qalll.net/fileadmin/qalll/Downloads/QALLL\\_Recommendations\\_web.pdf](http://www.qalll.net/fileadmin/qalll/Downloads/QALLL_Recommendations_web.pdf)

### The QUAL4T Toolkit

The Toolkit gathers a broad sweep of practical best practice quality initiatives presently implemented in VET centres all over Europe. They have been chosen to cover the recognised QALLL Recommendations for Quality Assurance in VET and the Quality Plan-Do-Check-Act (PDCA) Cycle:

- Raise awareness and engagement in Quality
- Aid planning and establishment of goals and priorities (P)
- Improve teaching practice (D)
- Focus on Evaluation (C)
- Focus on Reflection and Action for improvement (A)
- Improve quality in the institution

### THE QUAL4T Quality Guide

The Quality Guide offers practical support to users /facilitators of the Toolkit on how to implement the Toolkit. It explains Quality Assurance and Management *in everyday language* and how these are of relevance to VET. It also includes information on the Quality (PDCA) Cycle, the importance of Work Based Learning, professionalisation of VET staff and Innovation in Quality Actions.

The QUAL4T Toolkit and Quality Guide can be used directly by teachers or teams or by Quality staff who wish to promote the tools in training courses.

## More Information ...

For more information about the QUAL4T Toolkit and Quality Guide, please contact one of the QUAL4T partners below:

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