



Study visit at European level
“Peer Review as a tool for quality assurance”

Rome, 10th of May 2018

**“How to ensure the quality through Peer Review
Methodology, the Italian experience”**

Concetta Fonzo



Cofinanziato dal
programma Erasmus+
dell'Unione europea



The Peer Review Methodology

- **The Peer Review is included among the main tools of the National Plan for Quality Assurance of the Education and Training system.**
- **The educational and training providers indeed are fostered to introduce self-assessment and/or the Peer Review Methodology among their methods of assessment.**

The Peer Review Phases

Peer Review Cycle

New
Peer Review

Phase 1

Preparation (min.1 month)

Start

- Peers invitation
- Self assessment and Self-Report
- Preparation of the peers visit

Phase 4

Implementation of plans (6-12 months)

- Target Identification
- Definition of resources
- Implementation Plan
- Planning of the following Peer Reviews

Phase 2

Peers visit (2-3 days)

- Data collection
- Data analysis
- Verbal feedback

Phase 3

Peers report (by 4 weeks)

- Draft of the report
- Notes on the organization/VET provider
- Final report

Experimentations at national level (1)
Phase I-2010 financed by ESF, Ministry of Labour in collaboration with the Ministry of Education

- **12 school and training providers;**
- **12 Peer Review Visits;**
- **48 Peers;**
- **Review and contextualization of the methodology defined at European level;**
- **Review of the “Peer Review” Manual.**

Experimentations at national level (2)

Phase II- 2012-2013

- **Strengthening and widening the national network between institutions and training providers, through training consolidation actions and increasing of Peer Reviews;**
- **According to a perspective integrated training system, involvement of decision makers of local institutions (Scholastic boards and Training Departments);**
- **Creation and recognition of Peers Register, available for those authorities interested in the adoption of the Peer Review Methodology.**

Final objectives and goals

- **Promote a continuous improvement and quality implementation;**
- **Systematically promote a comparison and a fruitful dialogue on good practices exchange as well as initiatives of partners in the network, also through the website/community of practices;**
- **Contribute to the improvement of the organizational management of educational and training providers;**
- **Promote tools for quality management in education, training and guidance services available to VET providers.**

Creation of the Peers Register

- **A relevant instrument to create effective and fruitful networking among peers, a community of practices of high level of qualification on the theme.**
- **Short list of Italian experts of the methodology.**
- **On the basis of an ad hoc voluntary request and after official approval by Inapp, Peers can be included in the short list.**
- **Link to the short list:**
<http://inapp.org/it/eqavet/Registro%20nazionale%20dei%20pari>.

Prons for Peers

- **Improvement of competences for self and hetero evaluation**
- **Acquisition and enhancement of new instruments and tools**
- **Motivation**
- **Availability**
- **Authentic dialogue**
- **Critical comparison**
- **Mutual learning**
- **Trust**
- **Membership in a “professional community”**

Main results of experimentations

- Strong Points -

- **Appreciation of the methodology and the “Peer Review” Manual**
- **Understanding the aim of the Peer Review as plot of self-evaluation and external evaluation**
- **Acquisition and enhancement of new instruments and tools**
- **Collaboration, cooperation and mutual learning**
- **Exchange of Best Practices**
- **Stronger impact of the Quality System of Educational and Vocational providers**
- **Higher involvement of stakeholders**

Opinion of School Principals

<i>Opinions about the Evaluation Report of Peers:</i>	<i>Average (1 is the minimum and 10 is the maximum)</i>
Relevant to scholastic realities	8,6
Useful for the analysis of schools	8,3
Useful to start improvements of schools	8,7

The 67% of school principals is ready to repeat the experience again, while the 33% at the condition to receive a financial support for the involvement of Human Resources.

Scenarios for further developments

- **Positive results for the application of the methodology and willingness to disseminate it at national and international level;**
- **Establishment of a methodological regime;**
- **Implementation of the Peers National Register;**
- **Adaptation of the methodology in other areas/fields, in particular in Adult Education;**
- **Start of an integrated action foreseen in the IT Project – *Implementation of the EU Agenda for Adult Learning 2016-2017* for the experimental use of the methodology to support the evaluation of the quality of educational services in *CPIA*.**

Challenges for “Quality”

- **Networking: EQAVET**
- **Synergies with other networks and instruments for guidance and transparency**
- **Forecast of training needs and qualifications**
- **Implementation of “on the job learning” within a LLL approach**
- **Investments in teachers’ and trainers’ competences and skills**
- **Mutual learning**

Challenges for “Quality”

- **Dialogue and cooperation with the Higher System of Education**
- **Relevance of the training pathways for the Labour Market**
- **International mobility**
- **Promotional activities**
- **Evaluation of processes and results**
- **Particular attention to the “learning outcomes”**
- **Implementation of self-evaluation**
- **Dissemination and transfer of “best practices”**



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Thank you for your attention!

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MINISTERO del LAVORO
e delle POLITICHE SOCIALI



Agenzia Nazionale Politiche Attive del Lavoro