## Coherence EU instruments for life-long learning and mobility, Nov. 2012

<table>
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<tr>
<th>INSTRUMENT</th>
<th>Similarities/differences</th>
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<tr>
<td>NCP ECVET</td>
<td>EU agreement: implementation ECVET by the member states. Ministry participates in European consultation.</td>
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<td>NCP NLQF</td>
<td>EU agreement: member states develop national qualification framework in relation to the EQF. Ministry participates in European consultation.</td>
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<td>NCP EQAVET</td>
<td>EU agreement: implementation EQAVET, in the form of indicators and descriptors for education quality assurance. Ministry participates in European consultation.</td>
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### POLICY CONTEXT

**EU agreements**
- Role Ministry [Ministry of Education, Culture and Science]
- Ministry participates in European consultation.

**Objective**
- The objective of ECVET is to encourage cross-border mobility and the opportunities for lifelong learning. ECVET is a tool to allow people to obtain their qualification more easily.
- The objective of NLQF is to stimulate worker and student mobility. The NLQF bridges the gap between the education and labour market by making qualifications more clearly and easily comparable.
- The objective of VPL is making individual competences visible, valuing them, recognising them. The recognition of acquired competences has a value in itself, and contributes towards sustainable participation.
- The objective of EQAVET is the stimulation of/working on quality improvement of European vocational education and training.

**Organisational placing**
- Implementation via International Agency.
- Implementation via KC VPL.
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- All implementing organisations form part of the CNIP holding company.

**Phase of development.**
- Transition from experimental to implementation.
- Introduction phase.
- Anchoring: policy rule, Quality Code, anchoring in systems and processes, VPL covenant as an instrument for sustainable participation.
- In the Netherlands it is already moving towards a mature phase.
- From experimentation to anchoring.

**Scope**
- Vocational Education and Training private/public.
- Secondary Education up to Masters Degree from university, both public and private.
- VET, Higher Education (university of applied science) and industry qualifications.
- Mbo.
- ECVET and EQAVET are aimed at mbo, NLQF and VPL are wider.

### Organisation

**Mission**
- Supporting of projects which experiment with ECVET, mapping approaches and building up a community of practice of VET [regional training centres] and knowledge centres.
- Implementation of NLQF.
- Collecting and distribution knowledge about VPL, supporting activities aimed at the quality of VPL and strengthening VPL in the market.
- Stimulating attention for quality assurance and working on improvement in accordance with PDCA cycle.
- Developing and implementing NCP NLQF and KC VPL: stimulating and supporting NCP, ECVET and EQAVET.

**Most important duties**
- Providing information to VET field.
- Informating and advising towards Ministry.
- Knowledge sharing in the Community of Practice.
- Scaling in an NLQF level of qualifications of private providers, which is followed by an inclusion in the register.
- Knowledge development and research.
- Professionalising/Developing instruments.
- Register.
- Information and communication about the NLQF.
- Knowledge development and research.
- Professionalising/Developing instruments.
- Register.
- Information and communication.
- Improving quality assurance at a system/regional/institutional level (bve).
- Dissemination.
- Coordination of studies/conferences.
- Representation in formal networks.
- All: informing, knowledge development and knowledge sharing.
- EQAVET mainly stimulating.
- NLQF and VPL also implementation and registers.
- NLQF grades.
- ECVET: research into possibilities for implementation.

**Stakeholders**
- Ministry, MBO Raad, AOC Council, SBB, KC Handel (Knowledge Centre Trade), number of regional training centres.
- Ministry, non-formal education. VET and Higher Education (paid for and non-paid for), secondary education and academic education. Employers and employees (organisations).
- Stichting van de Arbeid [Labour Foundation]. Ministry, VPL providers, assessing organisations, branches, education (VET and Higher Education, paid for and non-paid for).
- Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, only NLQF, co-financing EC. Dominant education, not SZW or EZ (in relation to LLL).
- Particularly Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, only NLQF, co-financing EC. Dominant education, not SZW or EZ (in relation to LLL).
- All have an advice group or programme council with national stakeholders except for ECVET.

**Financing**
- Ministry of Education, Culture and Science.
- Ministry of Education, Culture and Science + EC + rates for private providers.
- Ministry of Education, Culture and Science + participants' contributions.
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**Capacity**
- Boosting function (part time).
- Light organisational structure (agency + staffing).
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- Boosting function (part time).
- ECVET and EQAVET: no organisation/agency set up: a booster function. NLQF and VPL have light organisational structure.

**Running time**
- Start: 1 February 2012 Until 1 October 2013.
- Start: 01 April 2010 Running time until at least 31 December 2013.
- All developments are project-specific and temporary. Government plays a crucial role in decision making and follow-up.

**Knowledge sharing**
- National Team of Experts (separate project with European funding).
- Knowledge sharing nationally and internationally.
- Knowledge sharing nationally via networks and platforms and via website (toolbox).
- Knowledge sharing nationally (MBO15 and MBO Raad network) and internationally.
- KC VPL participates in knowledge sharing within the Netherlands. The NCPs have stronger links with other countries.