

Future planned projects

The NANSSI project has demonstrated that there are a huge number of possibilities open to individual providers, membership organisations, nations and across Europe to develop skills at a local level. It has also demonstrated the benefit of working together to learn from each other to find ways to develop opportunities.

When the project was conceived it was imagined that a number of projects (6-8) would emerge from the NANSSI project. It was expected that these could include following up the NANSSI themes in specific industries, working to make the EQF more effective across nations and developing the proposed VET alumni scheme.

However, the changing economic context in Europe with rising levels of unemployment, especially among young people, emphasises the need for even more focus to be placed on social inclusion in any future activity. As a result, plans for the future are two-fold:

1. AOC and MBO-Raad will work together to look for opportunities to pump prime highly focused delivery support based on a pan-European curriculum that engages the socially isolated, especially young people, and enables them to develop the new skills and competencies required for 2021. This would use the EQF and the emerging principles of ECTVET¹ to ensure transferability of national learning into the European context. It was agreed at the end of the project that this more than anything else would support the issue of unemployment among young people across Europe.
2. Related to the above, MBO Raad will lead discussions at a European level on the development of a pre-employability curriculum, effectively as 'Level 0' within the European Qualifications Framework. It will be based on the experiences of the UK in particular in working with learners at 'Entry level' and the benefits this can bring in terms of raising their aspirations and levels of confidence, and at the same time, develop their basic skill of literacy and numeracy.

Parallel to this, the membership organisations will, through their normal channels, talk to politicians about a much more integrated approach that recognises the need to bring a vast number of organisations together within a localism agenda to support the low skilled.

At an individual level (ie by AOC and MBO-Raad within their own nations) each organisation will work with its providers to use the experience of NANSSI to encourage, through partners and stakeholders, the development of local approaches that embrace the reduction of social isolation and promotion of a locally-focused learning agenda among their membership providers;

For MBO Raad, a specific spin-off was the importance of working with UK partners on basic skills – and learning from their experience in embedding literacy and numeracy.

¹ European Credit Transfer system for VET – currently under development

For AOC, the NANSSI project informed providers and the Association of how the current funding arrangements can be used more flexibly.

The two partner organisations will also take every opportunity, through the papers prepared and in particular the DVD produced as the major project output, to promote the findings from NANSSI and encourage policy makers to listen to and act on the messages. The findings have implications for available learning environments, organisational structures, funding priorities and most importantly, teaching and learning, which need to use approaches from the traditional classroom approach, through to highly focused, structured activities when needed, flexible delivery and learning through work.

Both partner organisations are keen to follow up NANSSI more widely across Europe. Plans have been discussed about developing a forum to bring together organisations which are really addressing the issue of social exclusion for young people, and seeking financial support to enable them to work together on solid, sustainable, practical implementation projects. This would be less ambitious in that it would have fewer elements to it than NANSSI, but would be more realistic as it would focus on the main issue facing many European economies at the present time – youth unemployment. It would underpin two key European drivers: New Skills for New Jobs and Youth on the Move.



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