THE NORWEGIAN COUNCIL FOR HIGHER VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

• Advisory body appointed by the Ministry of Education and Research
• Representatives from private and public Higher Vocational Colleges, Business and Employer Associations, Trade Unions and Students
TIMEFRAME TO DEVELOP A EDUCATIONAL REFORM

• 2013: The government set down a commission to write a green paper vocational education on a tertiary level
• 2014: The green paper is published
• 2016/17: The white paper is published and approved in the Parliament
• 2018: New law on Higher Vocational Education
• 2019: New regulations
MAJOR PARTS OF THE REFORM

- Structure - level(s), length, credits and degrees
- Enhancing quality development
STRUCTURE – STATUS MARCH 2019

• New law passed in Parliament in June
• Upgraded to Higher Vocational Education
• Exemption - open up for studies of up to three years
• Degrees approved by the Ministry of Education in Dec
  – Professional degree (one year)
  – Higher professional degree (two years)
• Same credit system as universities and university colleges
  – National - OK
  – International: Need to revise according to Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the EHEA
• Revision of the National Qualification Framework
  – Committee from the National Council for Higher Vocational Education is looking into possible 2-year studies that are in the borderline between level 5 and 6.
  – Basis for a binary system in the future?
QUALITY DEVELOPMENT I – STATUS MARCH 2019

• €4 million in quality development in 2018 – 30 projects approved. To be continued in 2019 and further on
• Mapping competence needs of higher vocational colleges as a basis for assessing the competency requirements for the teaching staff
  – Completed – higher level than expected – nearly all at bachelor or masters level
• Improve the educational and pedagogical competence of higher vocational college teachers
  – Developed 15 + 15 credit courses to improve pedagogical qualifications
QUALITY DEVELOPMENT II – STATUS MARCH 2019

- Quality award for higher vocational education
  - Annually
- Study barometer for higher vocational education (impression of quality from a student perspective)
  - Published on yearly basis
- Regular candidate surveys for all students that have completed their studies
  - Every second year
- Employer survey to obtain new knowledge about higher vocational colleges education concerning relevance and quality
  - First will be published this week
FOR MORE INFORMATION

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