

Level 5 in Flanders

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Program

- Level 5
- What's now?
- What's next?
- Challenges!



Level 5

Level 5

- Secondary education (12 – 18 years)
- Level 4
 - General secondary education
 - Technical secondary education
 - Art secondary education
 - Vocational secondary education
- Higher education (18+ years)
 - Level 5: associate's degree
 - Level 6: bachelor's degree
 - Level 7: master's degree



Level 5

- Difference in
 - knowledge and skills
 - autonomy and responsibility



Level 5: knowledge

Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
Factual and theoretical knowledge in broad contexts within a field of work or study	Comprehensive, specialized, factual and theoretical knowledge within a field of work or study and an awareness of the boundaries of that knowledge	Advanced knowledge of a field of work or study, involving a critical understanding of theories and principles



Level 5: skills

Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
A range of cognitive and practical skills required to generate solutions to specific problems in a field of work or study	A comprehensive range of cognitive and practical skills required to develop creative solutions to abstract problems	Advanced skills, demonstrating mastery and innovation, required to solve complex and unpredictable problems in a specialised field of work or study



Level 5: responsibility and autonomy

Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
Exercise self-management within the guidelines of work or study contexts that are usually predictable, but are subject to change; supervise the routine work of others, taking some responsibility for the evaluation and improvement of work or study activities	Exercise management and supervision in contexts of work or study activities where there is unpredictable change; review and develop performance of self and others	Manage complex technical or professional activities or projects, taking responsibility for decision-making in unpredictable work or study contexts; take responsibility for managing professional development of individuals and groups

What's now?



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What's now in Flanders?

- [before 2014-2015] Level 5 < Centers for Adult Education
- [since 2014-2015] Level 5 < Centers for Adult Education in cooperation with university colleges
- 14 consortiums in Flanders



What's now in Flanders?

- Level 5
 - 54 programs in 5 study areas
 - Approximately 14.000 students
 - Mainly part-time students
 - Mainly employees and job seekers
 - Few students straight from secondary schools
 - Level ≠ well-known
 - Important differences vis-a-vis level 6 or 7 (e.g. no study allowance)



What's now in AP?

- Consortium
 - AP + 5 Centers for Adult Education
 - 3 locations: Antwerp, Malines and Turnhout
 - 19 active programs + 5 sleeping programs in 5 study areas
 - 3097 students (2016-2017)



What's next?



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What's next in Flanders?

- 1 September 2019: integration level 5 in university colleges
- Democratization of higher education
- Strong and distinct profile with clear brand awareness
- Dual objectives:
 - Qualified outflow to labor market
 - Progress to level 6
- Dual target group:
 - “Current” target group of nontraditional higher education students
 - “New” target group of traditional higher education students



What's next in Flanders?

- Before 1 September 2019
 - Conversion of the existing level 5-programs:
 - Based on the needs of the labor market (vocational qualifications)
 - 90 or 120 ECTS-credits
 - Work-based learning (1/3)



Conversion



Conversion

- Vocational qualification(s) (VQ) < sector + AHOVOKS
 - Description of activities employees (with reference to knowledge and skills, context, autonomy and responsibility)
- Validation, classification and ratification VQ
- VQ = level 5? > development educational qualification (EQ) level 5 < AHOVOKS
- Development learning outcomes (LO) < consortiums



Conversion

- Assessment < consortium
 - Description of the quality of the program on the basis of 4 standards:
 - Intended learning outcomes
 - Learning environment (curriculum, staff, infrastructure, ...)
 - Attained learning outcomes
 - Internal quality assurance
- Judgement < Accreditation Organisation of the Netherlands and Flanders (NVAO)
- Start program in September 2019



Questions?



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Challenges!



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Challenges: change management!

- Process of change management
 - New organisation culture
 - New employment agreement
 - New locations
 - New programs (learning outcomes, work-based learning, etc.)
 - New target groups
 - ...



Challenge: recognition!

- Recognition of level 5
 - Full-fledged level of higher education
 - Strong and distinct profile (\neq level 6)
 - Associate's degree in competency dictionaries/models, vacancies, ...
 - Adapted wage scales for associate's degree



Challenge: adaptation to the labor market!

- Via vocational qualification(s)
 - Ongoing dialogue with regard to the update of the learning outcomes and the programs
 - Active participation in (the building of) the programs



Challenge: work-based learning!

- For all students
- For all target groups
- Early in the program, in a combination of learning and working
- Supported by experienced mentors
 - Create job trainings / workplaces
 - Develop a vision on learning and working
 - Facilitate nontraditional students
 - Train mentors



Any more questions?

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Thanks!

NP

