

A new non-formal qualification in the Netherlands

Good practice...
LEIDO

Subject for a follow-up of the CEDEFOP
study in level 5 (2013)

Aspects

- o The situation in the Netherlands
- o Why a new type of qualification
- o Inspiration...
- o What are the characteristics of this Higher Business Diploma
- o Recognition, control and quality assurance
- o A success?

Situation in the Netherlands

- Level 5 of the NLQF
- Just one type: formal qualification
- Associate degree, Short Cycle – in higher professional education – based in the Dublin Descriptor
- Non-formal qualifications can be linked to level 5 – by the NCP of the NLQF
- Just one – no interest by the employers...
- Costs? Status?

Why a new type at level 5

- o SCHE (Associate degree)
- o Control: Government, Accreditation Body, Inspectorate... formal approach...
- o Only:
 - offered by a HEI
 - within a Bachelor's programme
 - not 'stand-alone'
 - NO TAILOR MADE PROGRAMME
(no focus on businesses only: not allowed)
- o But: need for more flexibility in adult education...

Inspiration...

- o Not imitation...
- o The UK inspired us
- o Formal: Foundation Degree
- o Also: Higher National Diploma (HND)
(and Higher National Certificate)

Higher Business Diploma (HBd)

- Initiative by Leido Academy (private...)
- Start of the discussion in 2012
- In the beginning: sceptism
- At the moment... more and more support

Characteristics

- o 1,5 till 2 years study (part-time)
(90 till 120 ects)
- o Put on L5 by the NCP (NLQF)
- o Spin-off of a:
 - Associate degree programme
 - Bachelor programme
- o At least 80 ects of that programme
- o Based on short programmes, recognised by
'lines of businesses' (employers' organisations
– 'branches')

And... important...

- o Associate degree:
Accreditation every 6 years
- o Qualification linked by NCP to level 5
Recognition every 5 years
- o HBd
 - Sectoral Group: providers and employers
 - Meetings twice a year about new competences and using them for programmes
 - Recognition as HBd every year

Interesting...

- o HBd is interesting for VET institutions (not having HVET here)
- o And for HEIs, next to the Associate degree programmes (no control by the Accreditation Body)
- o More use of RPL / VNFIL...
- o Associate degree & Higher Business Diploma = both on level 5, for different stakeholders

Future...

- o HBd register – handled by Leido Academy
- o Having Sectoral Groups for the HBd
- o Recognised as type of qualification
- o Interesting for young adults due to the new loan-system in the Netherlands

Discussion

- o Similar actions in other countries...?
- o Issue for an international survey...
 - formal SCHE (part of EHEA)
 - other qualifications
 - linked to SCHE ?
- o Accreditation / control / target groups ?
- o Suggestions how to do this survey ?

Crowd Research

- o Using our members
- o And their partners, everywhere
- o Using a questionnaire, to be send
- o Collect the answers
- o Send them to Leido
- o Writing a report...