

**Peer-Learning Event on Learning Outcomes**

proposed by the Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, and by the Accreditation Organisation of The Netherlands and Flanders (NVAO).

Cooperation will be sought with EURASHE, the Flemish Ministry of Education and Sweden. Expressions of interest in cooperation or participation in this peer learning event were also received from representatives of Croatia, France and Spain.

**Place and possible timing**

* The Hague, The Netherlands, hosted by the Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, and the Accreditation Organisation of The Netherlands and Flanders (NVAO).
* Spring 2014 or Autumn 2014

**Topics**

* The achievement of intended learning outcomes
* Guidelines for demonstrating the achievement of intended learning outcomes in HEIs and external QA.

**Bucharest Communiqué priorities addressed**

* “We will strive for more coherence between our policies, especially in completing the transition to the three cycle system, the use of ECTS credits, the issuing of Diploma Supplements, the enhancement of quality assurance and the implementation of qualifications frameworks, including the definition and evaluation of learning outcomes.”
* “To consolidate the EHEA, meaningful implementation of learning outcomes is needed. The development, understanding and practical use of learning outcomes is crucial to the success of ECTS, the Diploma Supplement, recognition, qualifications frameworks and quality assurance – all of which are interdependent. We call on institutions to further link study credits with both learning outcomes and student workload, and to include the attainment of learning outcomes in assessment procedures.”
* “Ensure that qualifications frameworks, ECTS and Diploma Supplement implementation is based on learning outcomes”.

**Target groups**

* HEIs representatives
* QA agencies

**Objectives**

* To disseminate practical examples (in HEIs and QA agencies) related to the achievement of intended learning outcomes
* To discuss opportunities and challenges observed in different national contexts
* To identify good practice with regard to the demonstration that intended learning outcomes have been achieved
* To discuss guidelines that can help to guide HEIs and QA agencies with demonstrating that intended learning outcomes have been achieved

**Possible programme**

One and a half days

*First half day:*

Opening addresses

General introduction to the topics

Practical examples (in HEIs and QA agencies) related to the achievement of intended learning outcomes

* Two case-study presentations from HEIs followed by discussion
* Two case-study presentations from QA agencies followed by discussion
* Structured plenary discussion on opportunities and challenges observed by participants in their specific contexts

*Second half day:*

Identification of good practices in the demonstration of the achievement of intended learning outcomes

* In-depth discussions in break out groups (HEIs/QA agencies), addressing key questions:
  + Could the presented case-studies be used by participants in their own contexts?
  + Are other approaches known that would be useful?
  + Which elements constitute a good practice approach?
* Synthesis of break out group discussions in plenary, formulation of main conclusions regarding good practice

*Third half day:*

Guidelines to assist HEIs and QA agencies in the demonstration of achievement of intended learning outcomes

* Presentation of a possible outline for guidelines
* Plenary discussion and agreement on the outline for the guidelines
* In-depth discussions in break out groups (HEIs/QA agencies), addressing the key question:
  + How can the identified good practices be included in the guidelines?
* Synthesis of break out group discussions in plenary, formulation of main conclusions regarding guidelines

Wrap-up and general conclusions, closing