

A questionnaire supports better feedback on schools' needs

In October and November 2018, a questionnaire survey will be conducted among all upper secondary VET schools and tertiary professional schools (i.e. more than 1300 schools altogether), within a P-KAP project (2016-2021) that supports regional strategic planning of education. The goal is to map current situation of schools and their needs, especially in the framework of centrally defined priorities.

First round of the survey was realized in 2015/2016 and with a response rate of 98% represented reliable and unique source of information. It mapped especially the so called obligatory support areas which included: initiative, creativity and entrepreneurship competences development, polytechnic education, inclusion, VET and cooperation with employers, career guidance development and development of schools as lifelong-learning centres). Those priority areas were defined by the Operational Programme Research, Development and Education co-funded from the ESF.

The planned follow-up survey examines newly also several non-obligatory support areas: ICT competences, foreign languages, reading and mathematical literacy. They were included based on identified high schools' interest.

The results of the survey will be used especially for the following purposes:

- The filled-in questionnaire will serve for schools themselves as a key input to their own action or activity plans and their updates.
- In an aggregated form the results will be used as one of background materials for revision and evaluation of regional action plans for education.
- Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports will use the results for evaluation of schools project activities that have been funded through Ministry grant scheme in 2017 dedicated to support schools' projects in the defined priority areas. For the next call, the evaluations of the obligatory support areas will be attached to the schools grant applications.

The P-KAP project and the survey are realized by the National Institute of Education. The overall goal of the project is to enhance quality of strategic management of education by providing methodical support to stakeholders at the level of regions and individual schools. Project aims to implement long-term strategic planning to the regular schools' practice as a tool for quality management and to better coordinate education policy at school, regional and national levels. P-KAP project fulfils the Riga medium-term deliverable aimed at developing quality assurance mechanisms and establishing information and feedback loops in VET. By May 2018 more than a half of upper secondary VET schools and tertiary professional schools in Czech Republic have drafted their action or activity plans.