# Integrated strategy Initiative for

**Strengthening the supply of**

**APPrenticeships in TEXtile sector TEXAPP**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **TASK** | **5.3. Final External Quality and**  **Evaluation Report** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Prepared by:** | Zsuzsanna MOKRY, External evaluator |
| **Contributor:** | TMTE (P5) |
| **Work Package:** | WP5 |
| **Date:** | 30-09-2018 |

**Final External Quality and Evaluation report**

## External quality assessment at the end of the project funded period

This report covers the second part of the project time by 30/09/2018 and it has been focused to whole project.

The **External evaluation aspects** were given (Sept 29, 2017) and the **Interim External Quality and Evaluation report** with the assessment at the middle of the project funded period were compiled (March 23, 2018) to the project consortium. In the Interim Assessment report after the first year performance the external evaluator gave feedback to the partnerships and identified the strengths and areas for improvements. The recommendations for corrective actions had been serving the development and progress of the project activities to the second year, the best possible results and impacts of the project.

This final evaluation report gives the assess of the performances about the deliverables and the results and impacts of the project.

This final report took into consideration the documents which has been published in the website Texapp.eu and/or put into TEXAPP Dropbox. The base of the Final External Quality and Evaluation report is the "Detailed description of the project" under Support for Policy Reform/Support for small and medium sized enterprises engaging in apprenticeships. The Evaluation report has been focused the Tasks in Work Package 3., 4., 5., and 6., which conclude the outcomes in the frame of project running.

## General aspects

During the project execution the project consortium gave crucial attention and emphasis the comments and recommendations issued by Agency and EU COM (December 2017) in the TEXAPP Progress Report assessment sheet. The next, the third project meeting discussed the analyses of the conclusion of this report and the consortium identified the actual situation of the project progress, the tasks without execution and the deadlines, the delays and the measures for the corrective actions, the urgent measures and methods to accelerate the project-work.

The fourth technical meeting TEXAPP was held on 24 Sept 2018 attending by representatives of the beneficiaries. Near the time of the final deadline of the project accomplishment, the program of the meeting had been focused the actual situation of the project; the tasks and deadlines in the Work Packages. The results and the impacts of the project, the sustainability of the results after closing of the project, the technical, technological changing the digitalisation in the next future were discussed as crucial topics. There was the common intension and common wish even agreement to the next work on national levels and common development and common use, the preparation efforts for the textile and clothing sector, especially the SMEs. The MoU/Memorandum of Understanding was created, and its signature has been prepared.

Some final documents are absent for the evaluation. Their deadlines are 30/09/2018 or 19/10/2018 (4-4-topics/ presented in the minutes-document of fourth technical meeting) There are information about these topics for the evaluator, but the deliverables are in progress in the time of evaluation. The contributions from everybody are in process to the financial and final report made by EURATEX/as project coordinator. The contributions of partners are expected by 19 October 2018. Besides the accomplishment of the tasks the crucial point is; to give clear rules and requests for the partners about the financial report requirements. From the time of first interim report to time of this final report the quality of project progress had been improved suitable to the deliverables-performance expected.

### Relevance of the execution of the project and the implementation

Conformity assessment conclusion; The establishment and execution of the project activities are coherent with the project objectives and -in essentially - the project description written in the work packages (WPs). "The project aims to foster and improve the supply and quality of apprenticeships in the Textile and Clothing sector, supporting SMEs and micro enterprises to actively participate in the improvement and strengthening of the apprenticeships programmes". The main WPs which has been evaluated - linking mainly to the Quality Assessment and Evaluation - are WP3., WP4., WP5., and WP6.

The survey of the actual situation; The project activities executed are in the project description and are suitable to reach the purposes expected of the project. All of the activities and the documents completed in this discussed period serve the original aims and according to the project description; to improve the supply and the quality of apprenticeships in the SMEs and micro enterprises interested in the Textile and Clothing sector and industry. In this context there is an analysis - state of the art - to determine the specific requests in/for the Textile and Clothing sector. The national surveys give the actual and next probable situation in the countries. The national surveys present data and information to the partners according to the special requirements which gave input to the next activities. These national situation reports demonstrate the differences of the textile and clothing enterprises, especially the SMEs in the partner countries supporting the determination of the EU level. It has been seen that the different national situations wait for the special taking into consideration. The project activities took account these differences and selected the good methods to manage it, and focused "to learn from each other" (e.g. the Portuguese institutional structure and system is developed and is good quality in the operation, or the national training program in Hungary gave more value added or new aspects for the project approach). The project partners decided (see in the minutes of meetings) that - according to the ideas, intentions and wishes - the tasks had to tailor for the national characteristics and situations (trainings, events, structures and focuses, etc...) At the same time the consortium identified and developed the fruitful common solutions for Europe, for all of the European SMEs and micro enterprises of the textile and clothing sectors. The main purpose is to establish the conditions and content of the apprenticeships.

### Quality of the project design and implementation at the evaluation-time of the project

The design and the implementation of the project with the activities expected in the Work Packages are basically conform with the expectations. The tasks are partly executed. Beside this there were more tasks delayed (these were the areas for improvements in the interim Quality and Evaluation report.). After the Interim report the decision among the partners and the coordinator of the project ensured the execution of corrective actions and the acceleration of the project activities. After that the planning of the further implementation has been realistic. The activities in the WPs are conform with the expectation of implementation requirements. The evaluator proposes the presentation how the national partners in the consortium collected the data and compiled the databases. Although there are national and synthesis reports given and presented but the presentation can be in the final versions by 19 of October. Some documents are not finished and not given to the project performance. These are lacks for evaluation.

**The acceleration of the project implementation and the execution of the improvements as corrective actions given by interim evaluation has been managed.** The consortium gave emphasis the absent tasks and expected from the partners to keep the further deadlines. The final expectation of the project that all of the actions or activities written in the WPs -will be implemented. At this time of final evaluation it seems that the project consortium has the capability to finalise all of the deliverables; materials or documents planned and expected. In the final documents the consortium has to present how the results and the impacts are and will be measured. There are materials elaborated (data stores, questionnaires, samples, templates, feedback of the questionnaire about the meetings etc.) which are information to the further development. It has to give attention to the results of actions one by one, to assure the integration of the knowledge obtained.

The interim evaluation made by Agency found incoherence concerning costs and cost effectiveness. At the second period of project time the consortium and the coordinator gave crucial attention to this remark and they have been dealt with the establishment of the correct methods to manage the costs. Concerning these remark the evaluator has not enough information and so these aspects are not evaluated by the external evaluator. The final internal reports made by partners and the coordinator have to include the financial management issues.

### Project consortium and cooperation arrangement during the implementation of the project

The consortium organised and held four meetings with the representatives of the partners and organised the final conference with strong relevant programmes and presentations given by key-persons. The internal evaluation of this conference evaluated as high quality level conference and the partners-satisfactory is on high level too. The filled questionnaires verifies and we can see the evaluation of these meetings; - according to the questionnaire filled by the participants - the satisfactory is on high level. Besides this during the meetings (mainly the

second and third meeting) and in the minutes there are more and crucial concrete measures decided to accelerate the project progress and to identify the methods to reach it. Some partners are very active and perform the tasks to the deadlines even support the others. Generally the national performances are individuals, at the same time it seems evidences of active involvement of the external partners. There has been strong approach to learn from each others. The wish to solute the corrective actions is realized by more partners and by the coordinator.

**Improvements and corrective actions executed;** The individuals and common work on the level of consortium has been realized in the second part of the execution of the project. The partners in the consortium have got knowledge about the improvement of project tasks and the concrete measures for the realisation in the next period of the project progress. There is not presented and is not seem the activities or involvement of "key staff in the project" written in the LOT2 II.5.3. on the project-coordination level. It is needed in the final internal reports. The performance-documents give information for the evaluator about the coordination activity and the commitment of the partners but not enough verification about the efficient mechanism. It is proposed that it will be presented in the final internal reports.

### Impact, Dissemination and Sustainability the project, results and impacts coming from the project

Concerning the **"Internal Quality Assurance and Evaluation Report"** the evaluator has been taking into consideration the performance of the first phase of the project-tasks. In this previous period the external evaluation found values in the internal report. "The structure of the interim QA internal Report meets the requirements of the Quality Assurance Plan; Overall quality assurance results and reflections, Process Quality, Product Quality, Impact and Sustainability. The Quality Plan was developed and updates following the project implementation from the kick off meeting. According to the developed Quality assurance approach (discussed at the second project meeting) the proposals are considered in the new version of Quality Assurance report. At the actual period of the implementation we have clear approach and set of indicators has been formulated." **The final version of the internal Quality Assurance and Evaluation Report is not completed yet and not reached for the evaluator by 30/09/2018 but there is** the justification in the minutes of the fourth partners-meeting; that the responsible partner has been prepared it to submit. There is some information about the cooperation and collaboration--agreement among the partners of consortium. The evaluator has been found some evidences that the Project Implementation Processes meet the Quality Plan and have been documented. The tools applied are suitable for the statistical analysis of collected data and for the compilation of the EU level Synthesis Report. The partners involved in the Quality Plan implementation; they developed and completed the National Reports. Four Technical Meetings and the final conference were organised and held. The satisfaction of the meetings were evaluated by the partners; generally good/agreed. All partner reported that the finishing or completing the absent documents (presented at the fourth meeting and in the minutes) and they are going to present them in the final internal reports.

The evaluator can see the evidence about the partner cooperation and collaboration; the MoU developed version is under continuous improvement and is near before the signatures (only one signature is absent). This is an important value added to the project-results and the important impact would be expected.

The documents issued, the meetings and the relevant activities gives arguments about the mentality of the project partners; they have been appropriated the thinking of the sustainability and they have wishes to keep it after the project time.

### Comments for the final internal reports

The quality and feasibility of the methodology proposed; The evaluator has been looking the verification of understanding and learning about the application of the project monitoring, the good practises and good relevant quality management methods at the action-activities, meetings, workshops, conferences, etc. (e.g. the PDCA method supports the efficiency of the project to reach the goals or Pareto or others) It is proposed these would be presented in the final internal reports.

The effective mechanism used for the coordination and communication between/among project partners and others; stakeholders and target groups has been developed during the project progress, especially during the second phase of the project development (meetings, national conferences, newsletters, web information and others) The responsibilities of the individual project-partners, the coordination and the transnational approach has been strengthened and verified in the documents of the project progress. The visibility of the project, the visibility of the Erasmus+, the visibility of the participation opportunity has been strengthened.

### Main conclusions of the project-assessment in the actual statement

The external evaluator has been surveyed and assessed the facts about the performance, about the project progress and the actual situation of the execution. Crucial aspect is the implementation of tasks, the deliverables, the results and impact. Although it take into consideration the experience of Erasmus quality assessment at this time - there is not available every final document or final internal report -, the evaluation gives the general opinion without points about the project;

The project performance is Good or Fair that is depend on the relevant tasks or criterion. For the final overall comments and establishment it has to take account all of the final documents issued by the consortium.

Besides the picked up strengths it has to see that the project progress and results has been given some innovation and special value added as important results. These are the important further outcomes coming from the project and have been given the opportunity or possibility to extend the results and impact to other fields (e.g. education, trainings for adults, etc.) or other industries, other SMEs business fields in the next future. Crucial question; how it must

be or can be to strengthen the interest of young people in the textile and clothing sector and/or SME organisation. On the basis of the results and impacts of the TEXAPP project the further researches would have to examine and consider the changing of the next life of industries, the changing of the conditions especially in the SMEs (technological explosion, new materials, digitalisation, modern tools for production etc.). We have to see that there are strong demands on the new mentality and the organisational changing in the business company. The evaluator proposes the application of the thinking and the system of EFQM model to reach the successful enterprises in the countries and to reach the European Quality Award level.

Zsuzsanna Mokry

External evaluator of TEXAPP project