A competences approach to education Estonian situation Vilja Saluveer Estonian Ministry of Education and Research MALTA 23.03.2011



Developments

- New competence based national curriculum for general education
 - General competences 2002, 2010
 - Subject field and subject-specific competences 2010
- Teacher competences 2003

- Professional standard for general education teachers 2005
- Professional standard for VET teachers 2006
- Learning outcomes of studies at higher education level 2009
- Competence model for educators working in higher education institutions 2010

Competences in general education

- Core values of basic education
 - Basic education provides equal support to pupils' mental, physical, moral, social and emotional development.
 - Basic school shall shape the system of values that serve as the basis for the successful interaction of happiness in personal life and society.



General competence

- value competence
- social competence
- self-management competence
- Iearning to learn competence
- communication competence
- mathematics competence
- entrepreneurship competence



General competences

- General competences are shaped through all subjects
- Are described in national curriculum for all school stages of study
 - First stage (grades 1-3)
 - Second stage (grades 4–6)
 - Third stage (grades 7-9)

- For development of a person into a human and citizen
- Their development is monitored and directed by teachers

A competences approach in higher education

Higher Education Standard (2009) sets:

general learning outcomes of studies at higher education level: Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral study

- All HE stady progammes have learning outcomes 2009
- general principles of recognition of prior learning and professional experience

If on the professional field is confirmed professional standard, higher education curricula should follow it. During accreditation of curricula the accreditation team takes it into consideration.

Teacher competences



ATTITUDES AND VALUES

The teacher:

- Follows universal ethical principles;
- Follows democratic principles;
- > respects learner's dignity;
- > values sustainable development;
- > values national culture and respects other cultures;
- is ready to act in a changing educational environment, including to promote educational life inside and outside the school;
- accepts responsibility as an educator, guide and supporter of learners' development;
- has a critical, investigative and creative attitude towards own work;

> values cooperation;

> values self-improvement and professional growth



Teacher Education Strategy

- The professional standards for teachers provide one level of skills and do not contain simple evaluation criteria
- Renewing teachers' professional standard at 2011
- Discussions about evaluation tools and scope of lifelong learning



Main challenge: assessment

- Assessment for learning (formative assessment)
- Teaching teachers
- Counselling parents
- Assessment in TEI

