

# Short Cycle Higher Education in the Netherlands and Flanders

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# Results – Impressions on quality

- The civil need was not always well proved; the professional field should be involved more
- Most convincing are programmes
  - that consult the professional field at least on two levels: e.g. a national and a regional level
  - that implement results of this consultation

# Results – Impressions on quality - 2

- Not every sector in the professional field can accommodate a short programme. It does not always fit (e.g. in Primary Education)
- Proving level 5 of EQF (Short Cycle), distinguishing from level 4 and 6, is sometimes weak
- Most short programmes are based on the first two years of the bachelor programme; the own identity of short programmes needs improvement

# Results – Impressions on quality - 3

- Vocational higher education versus skills based training
- Target group mainly graduates from vocational programmes and employees

# Some results of the pilot HBO5

- A shift in orientation and an upgrade to level 5 must be discussed better with the stakeholders
- A part of the programmes of CAE's have the potential quality to develop to level 5
- Not all should have that ambition. Their current position can be adequate for students (and professional field)

# Some results of the pilot HBO5 - 2

- The assessment of learning in the professional field is a very important issue, but needs a lot of improvement
- A lot of students participate in a programme related to their job

# Concluding (the Netherlands)

- The recently published evaluation of the pilots Associate degree programmes in the Netherlands is positive.
- The enrolment of students in Associate degree programmes is still growing
- Enrolment of graduates from vocational education and working students

# Concluding (Flanders)

- HBO5 will be integrated in Flemish higher education in the next years
- The proposed cooperation between Universities of Applied Sciences and Centres of Adult Education will be challenging
- A stand alone option of Short Cycle programmes in higher education in Flanders are much realistic than in the Netherlands