

**(Second working group session)****Working Group 1****Terminological challenges in writing learning outcomes****Work flow**

The working group discussed issues related to terminology used in learning outcomes descriptions. Rena Psifidou moderated the session, introducing the thematic and explaining the session flow. Erzsebet Szlamka (HU) and Sarah Bonte/Hannelore Baeyens (BEFL) shared national experience in writing learning outcomes as a starting point of group discussions. Participants were presented with four alternatives for further exploring the terminological challenges in writing LOs. The alternatives were based on clustering the questions initially proposed by the event organisers (see ppt attached). Participants split in three sub-groups based on their interest to discuss the questions under topics 1, 2 and 4 (1 topic per sub-group). A representative of each sub-group shared the key messages discussed to all participants of WG1.

Key messages**Sub-group 1:**

- Many countries use Bloom's taxonomy. However this cannot be applied in certain sectors and it needs to be complemented by other structures/taxonomies. Adjustment to countries context was also identified as a necessity
- Using a standardised taxonomy as a point of reference is a positive point, and is beneficial especially for learners
- Excessive standardisation hampers flexibility and permeability, especially between VET and HE
- Standardised taxonomy is not sector exhaustive

Sub-group 2:

- Challenge: follow a more holistic approach or a domain-oriented one?
- Differences in understanding the concept of 'competence' between countries, it remains a challenge
- Within sectors usually there is no real difference in terminology used nor in format and structure of LOs. Common terminology should be used
- Differences may be present between different sectors or qualification areas but usually not to a large extent



Sub-group 3:

- Labour market needs are the starting point for defining LOs.
- There is a 'heated' debate at European level on perception/understanding terms in a common way – also a linguistic issue
- Challenges of transferability come as a result
- Within a country, it is questioned if all stakeholders share the same language when discussing or defining LOs
- Learners need to be the center of attention
- Theoretical knowledge and experience should be shared / peer learning should be encouraged