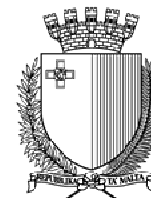


SICI

The Standing International
Conference of **Inspectorates**
Better Inspection, Better Learning



Quality Assurance Department

Directorate for Quality and Standards in Education
Ministry for Education and Employment, Malta

Evaluation for Improvement and Accountability: striking the right balance

Alternative School Inspection and Evaluation Models

SICI MALTA WORKSHOP 2014. MARCH 27TH & 28TH

Dear SICI colleague,

It is our honour and pleasure to invite you to the first SICI Workshop for 2014, entitled *Evaluation for Improvement and Accountability: striking the right balance*. The event is being hosted by the Quality Assurance Department (QAD - Directorate for Quality and Standards in Education, Malta) in St Julian's, Malta on the 27th and 28th March 2014.

Through a mix of presentations from Keynote Speakers, school visits and group discussions, the workshop will guide participants to reflect about ways in which different educational systems are trying to resolve the possible tension that may be created between evaluation for accountability and evaluation for school improvement. Central to this theme will be the seminal publication by OECD, *Synergies for Better Learning* (2013), which explores the experiences of 28 countries and recognises that *evaluation and assessment arrangements are key to both improvement and accountability in school systems*. International Keynote Speakers will include Paulo Santiago - part of the OECD team responsible for such publication, Harold Hislop – Chief Inspector at the Department of Education and Skills in Ireland, Rautopuro Juhani – from the Finnish Institute of Educational Research, and Kari Kivinen – Secretary General of the European Schools.

Please find attached a promotional leaflet, containing the draft programme, registration form and additional information about the event, including recommended accommodation and transport at special rates. The QAD has made extensive efforts to make this a productive, value-for-money and enjoyable experience in one of Malta's prime locations. Participants are strongly encouraged to complete and return the registration form (being sent also separately in Word Format for ease of use) to Pauline Caruana on pauline.caruana@ilearn.edu.mt to secure a place by Friday 7th February 2014. The SICI Workshop will be held in English.

We look forward to welcoming you to Malta.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Mifsud

Director Quality Assurance Department
Directorate for Quality and Standards in Education, Malta