



Inspecting the Future

State School Inspectorate, Slovak Republic

SICI Bratislava 2013



Most important innovation in the Slovak Educational System

1. System of lifelong learning based on national strategy of LLL in Slovakia.
2. Innovation of school curricula defined in the national curricula.
3. Focus on providing quality education for socially disadvantaged students.
4. Implementation of dual educational system and support of secondary vocational schools. Setting up of norms, teaching materials and equipment.

How are innovations being introduced.

What are the change strategies being used to promote the changes?

1. Maintain and develop professional competences through continual professional formal and informal education and training.
2. Revising national curricula for all levels and grades with active participation of chambers of commerce' and employers' representatives.
3. Accepting special educational needs of disadvantaged students, talented students or students from socially disadvantaged setting. Inclusion of students with special educational needs and students from marginalised Roma communities.
4. Involvement of employers and chamber of commerce representatives into the dual educational system; amendment of secondary vocational act.
5. Encouragement of students' interest in vocational education along with current market needs. Working out of binding proposals and regulations for conditions, equipment and training material of vocational schools.

The role of State School Inspectorate (SSI) in relation to the changes

1. SSI evaluates requirements of schools for continual professional development of teachers.
2. SSI evaluates compliance of school curricula with national curricula, quality of the education provided, process of instruction, management, conditions for providing education and specific partial tasks, e.g. security of school environment, financial competence development, environmental education , etc.).
3. Checks and evaluates adaptation and adjusting of conditions, content, form, methods and school environment as well as approaches to disadvantaged, talented students and students from socially disadvantaged setting and marginalised Roma communities.
4. SSI offers feedback on the quality of education and admission of students to vocational schools, carrying out internal and external final exam (Maturita), to keeping to standards, norms of conditions and school equipment.

Impact of Innovations on changes of inspecting procedures

- School inspectors' professional education (key competences development, actual legislation amendments, preparation for specific tasks of inspectorate, etc.).
- Innovation of inspecting instruments adjusted to new legal norms and national curricula.
- Publishing of school evaluation criteria on SSI website.
- Upgrading the advisory role of school inspectorate in the scope of SSI mission.
- Participation of SSI in national EU project: „ External evaluation of school quality supporting self-evaluation and school development“.
- Cooperation with pedagogical faculties and universities preparing teachers, with Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport, educational and research institutions in the process of legal acts amendments.
- Publishing examples of good practice.