Validation of the IITD Accredited COMPROCOM Framework Training Programme: Profession Competence and Competency Modelling – 5 Days Modular

Quality is central to the operation of IITD Programme validation procedures. IITD works within well-established internal QI/QA procedures and adherence to the quality requirements for the award of qualifications by the professional body.[1]

In line with best practice the components of IITD QI/QA methodology are:
- A Self-Assessment
- Evaluation of the report by a Review Group who visit IITD and discuss the report
- A final report incorporating recommendations for quality improvement.
- On-going quality improvement.

Specifically related to the National framework for Qualifications, IITD programmes meet with national criteria related to specific learning outcomes at each level of the Framework (see http://www.nfq.ie). The level applicable to the COMPROCOM Training Programme is as outlined below:

- **Level 6:** Learning outcomes at this level include a comprehensive range of skills which may be vocationally specific and/or of a general supervisory nature, and require detailed theoretical understanding. The outcomes also provide for a particular focus on learning skills. The outcomes relate to working in a generally autonomous way to assume design and/or management and/or administrative responsibilities. Occupations at this level would include higher craft, junior technician and supervisor.

- **Level 7:** Learning outcomes at this level relate to knowledge and critical understanding of the well-established principles in a field of study and the applications of those principles in different contexts. This level includes knowledge of methods of enquiry and the ability to critically evaluate the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems. The outcomes include an understanding of the limits of the knowledge acquired and how this influences analyses and the interpretations in a work context. Outcomes at this level would be appropriate to the upper end of many technical occupations and would include higher technicians, some restricted professionals and junior management.

---

1. IITD partners with national awarding bodies including Higher Education Institutions all of whom operate QA/QI procedures.

Relevant Quality Assurance Procedures in IITD

In delivering its responsibilities for quality assurance, IITD operates a number of specific quality assurance mechanisms for its programmes, in tandem with the general QA/QI measures QI/QA procedures of the professional body:
1. Programme Approval Panels for new programmes
2. Programme Committees
3. Part-time Lecturer Approval Process
4. Examination Board Process

Programme Approval Panels for New Programmes & Application to the COMPROCOM Training Programme.

IITD delivers programme design and quality through its formal Programme Approval process for new programmes which are being accredited by the professional body. Proposed new programmes must pass through set development stages before they can be fully approved for accreditation by IITD. This can take between 6-10 weeks. Initially the programme is submitted in outline format, discussed with a team of subject matter experts, revised and detailed in final format. The COMPROCOM Project team acted as the SME group who reviewed and proposed improvement to the training programme. The programme was first presented at the COMPROCOM Project Team meeting in Clane, Dublin, Ireland and via electronic exchange up to a final formal format prior to the Athens event.

The programme proposal was approved by IITD Board who has approval authority for the accreditation of new IITD programmes. IITD is the authority for the approval of outline proposals for any new development programme as the body with responsibility for the management and oversight of the professional bodies' educational portfolio.

The Accreditation Board (IITD) reviewed the COMPROCOM Training Programme Proposal to ensure:
   a. It was designed in accordance with the IITD's Policies and Procedures and in particular that the articulated aims and learning outcomes are clear and coherent and the proposed NFQ level of the award is in accordance with national standards.
   b. Curricula, teaching, learning and assessment methods enable students to reach the appropriate standard to achieve the award.
   c. Programmes take appropriate account of relevant external discipline benchmarks and Professional Statutory and Regulatory Body requirements.
   d. Identification of an External Assessor/ Examiner for the Programme. The primary role of the external assessor/ Examiner is to act as independent discipline expert.

In the assessment of the COMPROCOM Training Programme the Assessor assessed the suitability of programme content against the aims and objectives of the programme; the appropriateness of assessment methods as well as its overall academic quality and standard against programmes on offer by IITD in the accreditation range. Following the process the COMPROCOM Training Programme Profession Competence and Competency Modelling – 5 Days Modular was approved Autumn 2017.

Quality Assurance System attached to the IITD – COMPROCOM Training Programme:

For Quality Assurance in the provision of the COMPROCOM Training Programme, and in line with all IITD accredited programmes IITD will operate:

1. Part-time lecturer approval process
2. Collection and collation of student feedback
3. Annual programme report
4. Annual external examiner report