

VET provider development strategies 2021-27

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

REGULATION/LEGISLATION

 LATVIA

Timeline

2020 Implementation **2021 Implementation** **2022 Implementation**
2023 Implementation **2024 Implementation**

ID number 43569

Background

The recent vocational education and training (VET) reform was completed with amendments to the VET law in 2022. Five VET institution types have been defined. In addition, each VET provider has been assigned a specialisation.

VET providers need to strengthen their capacity for improved performance and increased competitiveness nationally and internationally, according to the Education development guidelines 2021-27 (EDG). The existing approach for the development of VET provider strategies needs to be improved, based on lessons learned from the former 2014-20 strategies.

Objectives

To implement a systemic approach of developing VET provider investment and development strategies in line with the national education strategy 2021-27 and in compliance with the education ministry's manual.

To follow a uniform structure approach for these strategies and include clear goals in line with VET priorities at national level.

To encourage VET providers to set ambitious development goals allowing for growth and competitiveness at national and international levels.

Description

Future development of every VET provider is to be stated in its development strategy, shaped in consultation with the sectoral expert councils and local municipalities. The strategies are aligned with the sectoral and regional development plans.

2020 Implementation

A manual (guidelines) has been prepared by the education ministry to assist the schools in drafting the strategies. A three-month training programme for VET

institutions on the development of strategies was offered by the ministry and the National Centre for Education (VISC) in December 2020-February 2021.

2021 Implementation

In 2021, VET providers developed their draft strategies. The Evaluation Commission, represented by the education ministry, its agencies, social partners and other relevant stakeholders, reviewed the drafts. The feedback was sent to VET institutions for improving their draft strategies. After introducing improvements to the strategies, VET institutions presented them to the Evaluation Commission.

2022 Implementation

In 2022, the Ministry of Education and Science endorsed the Investment and development strategies for 2021-27 for all State VET providers.

The ministry also assigned a technical school status to 15 VET providers; a competence centre of art education status - to one VET provider, and a professional school status - to two VET providers.

2023 Implementation

Investment planning was underway considering the needs identified in the investment and development strategies for 2021-27 for vocational education institutions.

2024 Implementation

In August 2024, the Committee for Evaluation of Development and Investment Strategies of Vocational Education Institutions and Evaluation of Investment Applications of the Ministry of Education and Science decided on the allocation of funding to vocational education institutions, considering their investment needs identified in the Development and investment strategies 2021-27. The investments were earmarked for the modernisation of vocational education programmes, improvement of infrastructure and digitisation.

In September 2024, the government approved a measure and funding for climate neutral solutions in VET (regulation no. 611), promoting energy efficiency and sustainability of investments, rational use of energy, reduction of consumption of environmental resources and moving towards a neutral environmental impact.

Bodies responsible

- Ministry of Education and Science
- National Centre for Education (VISC)
- Sectoral expert councils
- VET providers

Target group

Entities providing VET

VET providers (all kinds)

Other stakeholders

Social partners (employer organisations and trade unions)
National, regional and local authorities

Thematic categories

Governance of VET and lifelong learning

Engaging VET stakeholders and strengthening partnerships in VET
Further developing national quality assurance systems

Supporting lifelong learning culture and increasing participation

Promotion strategies and campaigns for VET and lifelong learning

European priorities in VET

VET Recommendation

VET underpinned by a culture of quality assurance

Osnabrück Declaration

Resilience and excellence through quality, inclusive and flexible VET

Subsystem

IVET CVET

Further reading

[Vocational education law](#)

[Order of the Cabinet of Ministers of 13 December 2022 No 898 on the determination of the status of vocational education institutions subordinate to the Ministry of Education and Science and their names](#)

[Education development guidelines 2021-27](#)

[Implementation regulations 611 for Measure 2.1.1.5 'Climate-neutral solutions in educational programmes, environment and infrastructure of vocational education institutions and colleges' of the Specific Support Objective 2.1.1](#)

Related policy developments

2024 Implementation

Making VET financing model flexible and performance-based

In 2019, a focus group was established to revise the basic funding for VET programmes in line with actual costs.

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Type of development

Regulation/Legislation

Subsystem

IVET CVET

2024 Implementation

VET sectoral qualifications

Since 2016 the National Centre for Education (VISC) has been developing sectoral qualifications frameworks as part of vocational education reform supported by a 2016-21 ESF project.

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Type of development

Practical
measure/Initiative

Subsystem

IVET CVET

2024 Implementation

Strengthening the role of sectoral expert councils

Social partners (employer and employee organisations) have been actively involved in the design of the implementing regulations of apprenticeship through participation in the sectoral expert councils.

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Type of development

Practical
measure/Initiative

Subsystem

IVET

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