

# The National platform for progress in VET

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

PRACTICAL MEASURE/INITIATIVE

 LITHUANIA

## Timeline

2022 Implementation

2023 Implementation

2024 Implementation

2025 Implementation

ID number 43482

## Background

Cooperation between education institutions and employers in Lithuania is often ad hoc. The challenge for the country is to increase and provide incentives to boost cooperation between education institutions and employers, helping vocational education and training (VET) graduates acquire the right skills to meet current and future labour market needs (OECD, 2020). 2018 amendments to the Law on VET, which provide for greater involvement of employers in the management of vocational education and training institutions, have not yet produced the desired result, despite the creation of systemic preconditions for employers to participate in the stakeholder and sectoral professional committees, and to engage in the admission planning process. Convincing employers to become more actively involved in the social partner role is important in improving the quality and continuity of cooperation.

## Objectives

The purpose of the National platform for progress in VET is to encourage dialogue between various interested parties in order to advance the vocational education system. The platform functions as a consulting group of experts providing suggestions for issues related to VET system development: identify the need for updating /developing VET curricula, which will allow a greater number of stakeholders to be directly involved in the quality of VET processes.

## Description

The National platform for the progress in VET, as a team of experts, is established as a response to the European Commission's encouragement to its member states to strengthen vocational training and adapt more flexibly to the needs of the labour market. The European Commission emphasises the necessary fundamental changes in the area of skills development, as a means for recovery from the social and economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The platform focuses on the further development of vocational training and strengthening of vocational training institutions. It provides proposals for vocational training programmes,

training and improved qualification of vocational teachers, assessment of competences, and popularisation of apprenticeships. It initiates joint activities among business, industry, the education community and government authorities in vocational training.

The platform expert group represents vocational training institutions, trade unions, business associations, employers and ministries, for closer cooperation between business, industry, education community and authorities in order to reach solutions for the effective operation of the vocational training system.

### **2022 Implementation**

The National platform for progress in VET expert group was established by the order of the Minister for education, science and sport No 442 of 24 March 2022. The Regulation of the working group was approved by the protocol of the first meeting of the platform on 5 April 2022.

### **2023 Implementation**

Throughout 2023, the National platform for progress in VET was actively involved in shaping decisions on the modernisation of the VET curriculum in response to the Green and Digital transition in VET. Comprising 32 experts representing VET institutions, trade unions, business associations, employers, and ministries from various economic sectors, the platform engaged in discussions to align VET programmes with evolving labour market needs. During an online meeting in December 2023, members reviewed and approved a proposed list of new or updated VET programmes, ensuring that training aligns with future skills demands.

### **2024 Implementation**

In June 2024, the National Platform for Progress in VET convened for an online meeting to discuss findings from a longitudinal study examining the correlation between students' academic achievements in general education and their decision to pursue VET.

Members emphasised the urgent need to enhance the attractiveness of VET to encourage high-achieving students to consider VET pathways. Discussions also focused on improving flexible access to higher education for VET graduates.

Members of the National Platform discussed how recommendations from the study could be implemented into practice.

### **2025 Implementation**

In April 2025, the National Platform for Progress in VET supported the initiative to prepare a VET programme for training vocational teachers and to award a vocational teacher qualification at LTQF level 5.

## **Bodies responsible**

- Ministry of Education, Science and Sport

## **Target group**

### **Entities providing VET**

VET providers (all kinds)

## **Thematic categories**

## Governance of VET and lifelong learning

Engaging VET stakeholders and strengthening partnerships in VET

## Supporting lifelong learning culture and increasing participation

Financial and non-financial incentives to learners, providers and companies

## European priorities in VET

### VET Recommendation

VET agile in adapting to labour market challenges

VET as an attractive choice based on modern and digitalised provision of training and skills

### Osnabrück Declaration

Resilience and excellence through quality, inclusive and flexible VET

Establishing a new lifelong learning culture - relevance of continuing VET and digitalisation

## Subsystem

IVET CVET

## Further reading

[Legal background and the activities of The National platform for progress in VET \(only in Lithuanian\)](#)

[Minutes of the Meetings of The National platform for progress in VET \(only in Lithuanian\):](#)

## Related policy developments

### 2025 Implementation

### Modernising VET legal framework

A new VET Law was adopted on 14 December 2017, with some of its articles coming into force on 1 February 2018 and others on 1 January 2019. The law emphasised the importance of workplace learning and apprenticeship, clarifying the regulation on apprenticeships.

 LITHUANIA

#### Type of development

Regulation/Legislation

#### Subsystem

IVET CVET

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