

# Cycle of professional discussions on future challenges of education and training

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

PRACTICAL MEASURE/INITIATIVE

 SLOVENIA

## Timeline

2021 Implementation 2022 Completed

ID number 42555

## Background

Since 2020, there has been continued effort to identify and address the key challenges faced by the Slovenian education system, both in the present and for the future. Many initiatives have been undertaken towards achieving this goal. One significant initiative is the preparation of the document Overview of the challenges of the education system in Slovenia, led by the Education Development and Quality Office (URKI) and the Ministry of Education. The efforts yielded first results, which offer guidance towards achieving the goal of modernisation of the education system, including vocational and technical education. In order to support the process further, a cycle of discussions among professionals has also been initiated.

## Objectives

The objective of the professional discussions is to foster dialogue among experts, who will evaluate the findings of the content analysis and their overlapping areas, define the way to address each of the identified challenges, support modernisation and strengthen public discussion.

## Description

At the end of 2020, the Education Development and Quality Office (URKI) with the Ministry of Education, prepared the document Overview of the challenges of the education system in Slovenia. The purpose of the activities during the preparation of the document was to identify the key challenges in the education system. These challenges were identified through content analysis, contributions from the ministry's internal organisational units, and proposals from public institutions and the school inspectorate. Findings from development projects, evaluations and research in education were also considered. A total of 10 overarching challenges of education for the future were identified:

- (a) provide resources for quality education for all as a sustainability goal;
- (b) facilitate and promote a lifelong approach to education;
- (c) increase learner competences;
- (d) increase motivation/commitment to learning;
- (e) ensure education's appropriate response to a technology-rich environment;
- (f) contribute to the cohesiveness of society/full involvement of individuals in society;

- (g) establish school as a community centre that connects with the economy and non-economy, local and global environment;
- (h) contribute to sustainable goals, especially the protection of the environment and natural resources;
- (i) provide conditions for the functioning of a career-proactive and learning professional community of professionals and principals;
- (j) ensure the quality of education at all levels of the education system.

Further analysis showed that the challenges are intertwined and at different levels: curriculum, system and system framework.

Modernisation of education programmes from kindergartens to upper-secondary education became an integral part of the National recovery and resilience plan, confirmed by the Government and the EU Council in 2021.

### 2021 Implementation

The findings of the analysis Overview of the challenges of the education system in Slovenia were first presented in April 2021 at an event organised by URKI, where different stakeholders exchanged their opinions. In addition, URKI prepared a cycle of virtual discussions on the challenges of education:

- (a) overview of the challenges and opportunities of education;
- (b) challenges and opportunities of education in the digital society;
- (c) placement of transversal competences or skills in the process of modernisation of education programmes;
- (d) raising the motivation of learners;
- (e) healthy lifestyle;
- (f) education for sustainable development and education as a sustainable development goal;
- (g) social and emotional learning.

The participants were representatives of the ministries and public institutes, researchers, teachers and head teachers, representatives of the development projects and universities. In the cycle of discussions, the speakers presented scientific findings, practical experiences and findings or results of development projects and activities. There were 34 speakers and 659 participants.

The following challenges connected to vocational education and training (VET) were identified:

- (a) preservation and further development of apprenticeships;
- (b) strengthening social partnership;
- (c) refreshing/updating programmes;
- (d) career orientation of individuals;
- (e) modernisation of VET programmes for successful digital and green transitions as a fundamental building block for balanced social, environmental and economic development.

### 2022 Completed

The cycle of discussions was completed. The findings of the analysis and the conclusions of the discussions will be used in the National recovery and resilience plan project and in preparing the National programme of education.

## Bodies responsible

- Ministry of Education, Science and Sport (MIZŠ) (until 2023)
- Ministry of Education

## Target group

### Learners

Learners in upper secondary, including apprentices

### Education professionals

Teachers

### Entities providing VET

VET providers (all kinds)

## Thematic categories

### Modernising VET offer and delivery

Modernising VET standards, curricula, programmes and training courses

## Subsystem

IVET

## Further reading

[Eurydice Website on the cycle of public discussion in Slovenia \(in Slovenian only\)](#)

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[Overview of the challenges of Slovene education](#)

### “ … ” Cite as

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