

Individual learning account system

POLICY DEVELOPMENT**PRACTICAL MEASURE/INITIATIVE****LITHUANIA**

Timeline

**ID number 42008**

Background

According to Eurostat data, participation rates in lifelong learning remains low in Lithuania, reaching 7.2% against 10.8% in the EU27+ countries. 40% of Lithuanian residents claim that their skills do not directly meet the needs of the professional activity they are involved in. In order to increase attractiveness of lifelong learning it is necessary to create an easily accessible and simple, in terms of navigation, website dedicated to all the information on lifelong learning providers, training programmes, courses and other opportunities to participate in education and training for adults.

Objectives

The measure is part of the Equal start initiative: development of the lifelong learning support system (2021-24) and has the following objectives:

- (a) Develop a digital platform that would make it easier for learners to find training programmes in one place, including the creation of an individual learning account system;
- (b) help to change the culture of lifelong learning in Lithuania by offering more flexible learning opportunities;
- (c) invest more purposefully in strengthening the most relevant competences for professional and social development.

Description

The platform development project is carried out by three ministries: Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, Ministry of Economy and Innovation, and Ministry of Social Security and Labour. It is expected that the unified system will be operational by the end of 2022. It is funded by the Lithuanian economic recovery and resilience plan.

The unified adult education support system will be convenient for all users: learners, training providers, individuals seeking learning opportunities. Higher education institutions, vocational training institutions, non-governmental organisations and private providers will register and list their training programmes on the platform, including quality assurance

standards and criteria for the training and education programmes offered. A digital platform will reduce the administrative burden for both the public sector and business.

The platform would host an Individual learning account (ILA) system. The measure is expected to help to change the culture of lifelong learning in the country by creating more flexible learning opportunities and supporting the acquisition of professional and social skills by the adult population. It will become much easier to find various training courses and programmes in a one-stop shop. The platform will also offer training courses on general competences, including digital skills, language skills, and literacy.

2021 Design

The Ministry of Education, Science and Sport organised the online conference '*Lifelong learning and career guidance in focus*' in September 2021, during which participants from Denmark, Estonia, France and the Netherlands shared their good experience of development of ILA schemes.

The ministries, with the help of other interested authorities and experts, are preparing the concept for the development of an ILA, IT solutions and quality assurance mechanisms.

2022 Implementation

During year 2022, main preparatory technical works have been carried out. It is planned that the unified adult education support system is integrated into other electronic systems such as the electronic Employment Platform. It is intended that an one-stop shop for lifelong learning is fully operational by March 31, 2023.

2023 Implementation

In 2023, several legal acts were adopted to support the implementation of the Individual Learning Accounts (ILAs) system:

- Order No. V-599 of the Minister of Education, Science and Sport (27 April 2023) - approving the descriptor of the ILA model;
- Resolution No. 819 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania (25 October 2023) - approving the list of non-formal adult education and continuing education funding instruments to be included in the ILAs System, the list of priority areas for publicly funded training programmes through the ILAs, and the list of priority target groups eligible for participation in the ILAs system;
- Order No. V-1218 of the Minister of Education, Science and Sport (18. September 2023) - approving the quality assurance description for non-formal adult education and continuing training programmes published on ILAs system;
- Order No. V-1515 of the Minister of Education, Science and Sport (29 November 2023) approving the administration and funding procedures for the ILAs system.

In 2023, the project Learn all your life! (*Mokykis visa gyvenimą!*) started. As part of the initiative, the individual learning accounts platform *Kursuok* was developed in the same year as a one-stop shop, offering a centralised system for information on education providers and quality-assured training opportunities.

To benefit from the *kursuok* platform, learners must meet specific eligibility criteria. Training opportunities are available to adults aged 18-65 who are employed or self-employed, hold a higher education or VET diploma, and are either citizens of Lithuania or foreign residents with a valid residence permit.

State funding is allocated to training in key competence areas, including digital competences, mathematical, science, technology, and engineering competences, entrepreneurship, multilingualism, personal, social, and learning-to-learn competence, literacy, citizenship skills, and cultural awareness and expression.

Training providers wishing to offer courses on the *kursuok* platform must meet specific

criteria. They must be registered in the Register of Education and Science Institutions, submit training programmes for registration in the Register of Non-formal Education Programmes, and obtain a positive quality assessment from the Qualifications and VET Development Centre (KPMPC). Once assessed, training programmes are published on the *kursuok* platform enabling providers to register learners. Each learner has an individual learning account on the platform.

2024 Implementation

The individual learning accounts platform (*kursuok* platform) was launched on 19 January, and by the end of September 2024, more than 8 000 people had completed training across nearly 190 programmes. The most popular areas for learners so far are personal development, social skills, learning to learn, foreign languages, entrepreneurship, and digital competences.

Bodies responsible

- Ministry of Education, Science and Sport
- Ministry of Economy and Innovation
- Ministry of Social Security and Labour
- Qualifications and VET Development Centre (KPMPC)

Target group

Learners

Adult learners

Education professionals

Adult educators

Entities providing VET

Companies

VET providers (all kinds)

Thematic categories

Supporting lifelong learning culture and increasing participation

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

Providing for individuals' re- and upskilling needs

Lifelong guidance

Subsystem

CVET

Further reading

[2021-24 agenda for Lifelong learning Equal start \(only in Lithuanian\)](#)

[Equal start for all \(Agenda 2021-2024\)](#)

[The national lifelong learning platform for Individual learning accounts: *www.KURSUOK.lt*](#)

Related policy developments

2024 Completed

The Equal start initiative: development of the lifelong learning support system

Under the Equal start initiative, the following developments are foreseen:

 LITHUANIA

Type of development

Strategy/Action
plan

Subsystem

IVET CVET

“ ... ” Cite as

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