

National strategy for the inclusion of people with disabilities

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

STRATEGY/ACTION PLAN

 PORTUGAL

Timeline



ID number 41437

Background

The National strategy for the inclusion of people with disabilities 2021-25 (*Estratégia Nacional para a Inclusão das Pessoas com Deficiência, ENIPD*) results from the proposal presented by the working group created by Despach (Despacho) No 15/MTSSS/2019, of 29 July 2019, of the Labour Ministry. It is guided by the fundamental principles of respect and guarantee of the human dignity of the person with disabilities, of their autonomy, independence and self-determination, of participation in all areas of life, of the promotion of equality, equity and non-discrimination in its various dimensions, including multiple discrimination, and of respect for difference and diversity. Convinced that only an inclusive vocational education and training (VET) system will provide equitable access to quality education and lifelong learning, essential for greater participation in society and better quality of life of people with disabilities, the ENIPD has as its priority objective the deepening and consolidating the principles advocated by inclusive VET.

Objectives

The ENIPD 2021-25 intends:

- (a) to consolidate the progress achieved;
- (b) to look to the future, reinforcing the inclusion of people with disabilities;
- (c) more cohesion and solidarity and that respects diversity.

Description

The ENIPD 2021-25 is based on eight strategic priorities: citizenship, equality and non-discrimination; promoting an inclusive environment; education and qualification; work, employment and vocational training; promotion of autonomy and independent living; measures, services and social supports; culture, sport, tourism and leisure; and knowledge, research, innovation and development.

The implementation of the education and training related priorities includes:

- (a) definition of a framework of pedagogical training for inclusion;

- (b) creation of a pedagogical training of trainers for inclusion;
- (c) adapting the general training offer of the Institute for Employment and Vocational Training (IEFP) and protocol centres, so that they can welcome people with disabilities in all their training offer;
- (d) deepening the inclusive education model in terms of access to quality educational and training opportunities and the transition to post-school life.

2021 Approved/Agreed

The strategy has been adopted and each government area with responsibilities in education, training, employment and social security has drawn up an annual action plan aimed at the fulfilment of the measures and goals identified in the ENIPD 2021-25, identifying the planning and monitoring of the measures to be implemented.

2022 Implementation

Five public sessions across the country took place on the national strategy for the inclusion of people with disabilities (ENIPD), which aim to disseminate strategic aspects, measures in execution and entities, targeting leaders and technicians from public administration, civil society, leaders and technicians from NGO of people with disabilities, namely those that directly or indirectly have responsibility or provide education and training.

Eight webinars addressed to decision makers took place with the aim to consolidate the progress achieved so far and to look ahead to the future, always with a view to strengthening the commitment ENIPD.

2023 Implementation

A framework for continuing pedagogical training – deficiencies and disabilities: managing diversity in a learning context was published by the National Centre for the Qualification of Trainers (CNQF) and the Centre for Professional Rehabilitation (CRPG). It is aimed at trainers and/or other professionals who carry out activities related to training issues, such as implementation, organisation and coordination of training activities (pedagogical leaders, training managers, mediators, among others).

Regarding the priority of 'adapting the general training offer of the Institute for Employment and Vocational Training (IEFP), so that they can welcome people with disabilities in all their training offers', 22 IEFP buildings were fully compliant with technical accessibility standards by the end of the year.

2024 Implementation

The measure was operational and ran as regular practice.

2025 Implementation

No progress or developments on this policy were reported by October 2025.

Bodies responsible

- National Institute for Rehabilitation (INR)

Target group

Learners

Learners with disabilities

Thematic categories

Governance of VET and lifelong learning

Coordinating VET and other policies

Supporting lifelong learning culture and increasing participation

Ensuring equal opportunities and inclusiveness in education and training

Subsystem

IVET CVET

Further reading

[Resolution of the Council of Ministries \(Resolucao do Conselho de Ministros\) No 119/2021 of 31 August 2021](#)

[Public consultation report](#)

[Continuing pedagogical training framework](#)

Related policy developments

2025 Implementation

Training opportunities for people with disabilities

The number of hours of initial training courses can range from 1 200 to 2 900 hours (corresponding to a period from one to two and a half years). The certification depends on the training course attended.

 PORTUGAL

Type of development

Practical
measure/Initiative

Subsystem

IVET CVET

“ ... ” Cite as

Cedefop, & ReferNet. (2026). National strategy for the inclusion of people with disabilities: Portugal. In Cedefop, & ReferNet. (2026). *Timeline of VET policies in Europe* (2025 update) [Online tool].

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