Improving VET graduate tracking

POLICY DEVELOPMENT   PRACTICAL MEASURE/INITIATIVE   LATVIA

Timeline

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

ID number 39664

Background

The match between VET qualifications and labour market needs is crucial. Lack of information on VET graduate employment does not allow for proper skill needs analysis and targeted planning of the VET offer.

Objectives

To establish the VET graduate tracking system and make the annual data/analysis available online.

Description

The policy development envisages creating a coordinated approach to VET graduate tracking. It involves stakeholders, especially those dealing with statistics and taxation systems, and is based on the experience accumulated by the higher education graduate tracking and international experience.

The concept proposed by the education ministry is based on the analysis of available administrative data regarding the employment and income of VET graduates. The framework for graduate tracking describes the responsibilities and data exchange between the ministry and the Central Statistics Bureau.

2020 Design

In 2020, a taskforce was established within the education ministry to design a concept for the development and implementation of a graduate tracking system in VET. Consultations with VET stakeholders took place. Work on the design of the concept started. The education ministry prepared the report *On the establishment of a graduate tracking system in VET*. The ministry received the 2018 data and started analysing them.

2021 Design

> In January 2021, the education ministry submitted the report *On the establishment of a graduate tracking system in VET* to the government for approval and initiated discussion on the necessary amendments to the legislation.

2022 Implementation

Amendments to the Vocational education law came into force in April 2022, including a delegation for graduate tracking.

In May 2022, the education ministry's report to the government *On Establishing a VET graduates tracking system* was accepted. Amendments to the Cabinet of Ministers Regulation were made in July, defining the scope and coverage of VET graduate tracking and publishing graduate tracking data.

As of 2022, the education ministry has received the data from the Central Statistics Bureau on:

  (a) the 2018 VET graduates in 2019; 2020; 2021 (one, two and three years after graduation);
  (b) the 2019 VET graduates in 2020; 2021 (one and two years after graduation);
  (c) the 2020 VET graduates in 2021 (one year after graduation).

2023 Implementation

In 2023, the education ministry developed digital tool for VET graduate tracking.

The digital tool can be used as an instrument for VET policy planning, development of VET programmes, forecasting demand of labour market, quality assessment, and choosing career. The digital tool covers data on:

  (a) the 2018 VET graduates in 2019; 2020; 2021; 2022 (one, two, three and four years after graduation);
  (b) the 2019 VET graduates in 2020; 2021; 2022 (one, two and three years after graduation);
  (c) the 2020 VET graduates in 2021; 2022 (one and two years after graduation);
  (d) the 2021 VET graduates in 2022 (one year after graduation).

2024 Implementation

In 2024, the VET graduate tracking digital tool was published on the State Education Information System (VIIS) portal for data-based decision-making both at the individual and VET institution level, as well as at the municipal, regional and national levels.

Bodies responsible

- Ministry of Education and Science
- Central Statistics Bureau

Target group

Learners

Learners in upper secondary, including apprentices

Entities providing VET

VET providers (all kinds)

Other stakeholders

Social partners (employer organisations and trade unions)

Thematic categories

Governance of VET and lifelong learning

Establishing and developing skills intelligence systems

European priorities in VET

VET Recommendation

> VET agile in adapting to labour market challenges

Osnabrück Declaration

> Resilience and excellence through quality, inclusive and flexible VET

Subsystem

IVET CVET

Further reading

Report of the Ministry of Education and Science on establishing the VET graduate tracking system [Par absolventu monitoringa sistemas izveidi profesionalaja izglitiba]

State education information system's regulation by Cabinet of Ministers, No 276 of 2019 [Valsts izglitibas informacijas sistemas noteikumi]

State education information system - Monitoring and analysis tools

Related policy developments

2024 **Implementation**

Improving VET quality assurance

The national approach to quality assurance was reviewed in 2016 and the outcomes of the review have been published.

LATVIA

Type of development
Practical measure/Initiative

Subsystem
IVET CVET

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Cedefop, & ReferNet. (2025). Improving VET graduate tracking: Latvia. In Cedefop, & ReferNet. (2025). *Timeline of VET policies in Europe* (2024 update) [Online tool].

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