

Enhancing VET teachers' digital competences

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

PRACTICAL MEASURE/INITIATIVE

 CYPRUS

Timeline

2020 Pilot 2021 Implementation 2022 Implementation 2023 Implementation
2024 Implementation

ID number 39014

Background

Enhancement of teachers digital competences is considered critical for Cyprus.

Objectives

The Digital competences development for educators (DCDE) programme aims to strengthen and further develop teachers' digital competences in order to promote the effective use and integration of digital technologies in the teaching and learning process. The intended outcomes of the programme are:

- teachers should use online learning environments, electronic learning tools, open digital educational content and learning communities, in order to enhance their professional development and lifelong learning skills;
- teachers should develop the necessary digital skills to become effective in providing innovative learning environments in the Cypriot education system, in order to support their learners in acquiring knowledge, while cultivating values and attitudes, and also developing the necessary horizontal skills essential for the 21st century.

Description

The Cyprus Pedagogical Institute (CPI) of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sport and Youth has introduced Digital competences development for educators (DCDE). The programme is offered through a distance-learning approach and methodology, utilising CPI's e-learning environment. It consists of an introductory module and 10 learning modules with content on thematic areas that have been defined through a process of diagnosing the needs of teachers but also following European and national directions.

The programme supports and contributes to the implementation of education policies of the education ministry, as well as the implementation of the policy for teachers' (including VET teachers') professional development. The CPI plans to implement the programme for the academic period 2023-27, targeting teachers at all levels.

2020 Pilot

The 10 learning modules were designed and developed in cooperation with the open university of Cyprus, the European university and Frederick university during 2020.

2021 Implementation

The CPI (along with the three universities) is implementing phase 2 of the programme (December 2021 - May 2022), which teachers and school leaders from all levels of education can either join for the first time or can continue their professional development through further learning modules. The CPI plans to implement the programme for the next 4 academic years, targeting more teachers at all education levels (primary, secondary and VET).

2022 Implementation

In May 2022, phase two of the DCDE programme was completed. The full version of the programme was operational and ran as regular practice.

The national implementation plan (NIP) on the Council Recommendation on VET include a number of actions that support the enhancement of VET teachers' digital competences, ensuring that educators are well-equipped to integrate digital technologies into their teaching:

- (a) the digital transformation of school units with the aim of enhancing digital skills and skills related to STEAM education (action 3.3) focusses on enhancing digital skills of students (equipping classrooms with e-class infrastructure) and in-service teachers.
- (b) the development of technical and vocational education and training (action 3.4) covers systematic training for instructors on technological developments and new industrial methods; as well as improving the quality of teaching through professional development.

2023 Implementation

The learning modules of the programme were updated and based on the results of a public tender, the CPI (in cooperation with the European University and Frederick University, the CYENS Centre of Excellence and the C.S.STEM Education Cyprus) has been offering the Teacher Training Programme for digital competency development to teachers of all education levels - primary, secondary and VET.

2024 Implementation

The ongoing phase of the Teacher Training Programme for digital competency development, as per the public tender contracts, will run until the end of 2026. The programme is delivered through the 'eLearn' online learning environment of the Cyprus Pedagogical Institute, in blended - in-person and distance - learning mode.

Bodies responsible

- Cyprus Pedagogical Institute (CPI)
- Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth (MESY)
- Ministry of Education, Culture, Sport and Youth (MoECSY) (until 2022)

Target group

Education professionals

Teachers
School leaders

Thematic categories

Modernising VET offer and delivery

Acquiring key competences

Teachers, trainers and school leaders competences

Systematic approaches to and opportunities for initial and continuous professional development of school leaders, teachers and trainers

Supporting teachers and trainers for and through digital

European priorities in VET

VET Recommendation

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

Osnabrück Declaration

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

Subsystem

IVET

Further reading

[Cyprus Pedagogical Institute](#)

[The 'eLearn' online learning environment of the Cyprus Pedagogical Institute.](#)

[Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth. \(2025\). Teacher Training Programme for digital competency development.](#)

“ … ” Cite as

Cedefop, & ReferNet. (2025). Enhancing VET teachers' digital competences: Cyprus. In Cedefop, & ReferNet. (2025). *Timeline of VET policies in Europe* (2024 update) [Online tool].

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/tools/timeline-vet-policies-europe/search/39014>