

Modern and successful Slovakia: national integrated reform plan

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

STRATEGY/ACTION PLAN

 SLOVAKIA

Timeline

2020 **Completed**

ID number 38550

Background

After the appointment of the new government in March 2020, and as a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic, a new reform strategy was developed to elaborate the 2020 Government manifesto, and to identify measures that will be financed by the next generation EU recovery instrument.

Objectives

The main objective of the plan is to suggest reforms and specific measures that will increase the country's per capita GDP to reach 92% of the EU-27 average by 2030.

Description

The finance ministry was responsible for preparing the National integrated reform plan (NIRP). Over 100 experts, including analysts from respective ministries and experts from NGOs and businesses, contributed to the identification of milestones, measurable goals and required costs in eight priority areas. The following are the most relevant to VET:

- (a) education;
- (b) research, development and innovations;
- (c) digitalisation;
- (d) labour market and social sustainability.

The priority area education includes measures related to all education levels. Two components are the most relevant to VET. The component Modern schools and motivated teachers, with a budget of EUR 3 702 million, suggests opening the textbook market, creating inclusive teams in schools, developing new national curricula emphasising skills development, renewing facilities and improving school equipment, increasing teachers' salaries and supporting their continuing professional development. These measures should contribute to improving results in PISA testing from the current 480 points (combined) to 505 points. The component Strengthened adult learning has a budget of EUR 88 million; it includes measures such as the introduction of individual learning accounts, recognition of qualifications based on non-formal and informal learning, and stronger support for work-based learning. An increased share of adult participation in education up to 5% by 2024 is envisaged, as well as higher productivity of learners and higher adaptability and lower

vulnerability caused by automatisisation.

The NIRP also targets expenditures on research and development to be increased from 0.8% up to 1.2% GDP by 2024, and the country to reach 82% of the EU average on the European innovation scoreboard (EIS). Access to the internet is measured in terms of the Digital economy and society index (DESI) scores and aims to improve household's internet connectivity. Active labour market policies should pay more attention to the provision of courses aimed at reskilling and upskilling, resulting in higher employability of learners.

2020 Completed

In October 2020, NIRP was put out for public consultation. This document was explicitly presented in media as a menu of measures considered by the finance ministry as the most relevant and realistic, from which measures to be implemented can be identified and/or modified based on political agreements and public preference.

NIRP contributed to the debate on the final priorities of future reforms. Some NIRP suggestions were translated into priorities for the Recovery and resilience facility.

Bodies responsible

- Ministry of Finance

Target group

Learners

Learners in upper secondary, including apprentices

Learners at risk of early leaving or/and early leavers

Learners with disabilities

Learners from other groups at risk of exclusion (minorities, people with fewer opportunities due to geographical location or social-economic disadvantaged position)

Education professionals

Teachers

School leaders

Thematic categories

Governance of VET and lifelong learning

Coordinating VET and other policies

Optimising VET funding

Engaging VET stakeholders and strengthening partnerships in VET

Modernising VET infrastructure

Modernising infrastructure for vocational training

Improving digital infrastructure of VET provision

Modernising VET offer and delivery

Modernising VET standards, curricula, programmes and training courses

Developing and updating learning resources and materials

Acquiring key competences

Reinforcing work-based learning, including apprenticeships

Teachers, trainers and school leaders competences

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

Attractiveness of the teaching and training profession/career

Supporting teachers and trainers for and through digital

Supporting lifelong learning culture and increasing participation

Providing for individuals' re- and upskilling needs

Ensuring equal opportunities and inclusiveness in education and training

Subsystem

IVET CVET

Further reading

[Modern and successful Slovakia: national integrated reform plan \(in Slovak\)](#)

[Modern and successful Slovakia: national integrated reform plan - summary \(in Slovak\)](#)

[Modern and successful Slovakia website information](#)

[National recovery and resilience plan of the Slovak Republic \(in Slovak\)](#)

Related policy developments

2025 Implementation

National recovery and resilience plan

The National recovery and resilience plan sets out a package of reforms and public investments to be implemented by 2026.

 SLOVAKIA

Type of development

Strategy/Action
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Subsystem

IVET CVET

2025 Implementation

National programme for the development of education

On 27 June 2018, the government approved the National programme for the development of education (NPDE). The NPDE was adopted, with 106 measures to be fulfilled until 2027. Some measures related to regional schooling and higher education are relevant also to VET.

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<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/tools/timeline-vet-policies-europe/search/38550>