

Innovative Training Support Centre Plc. (IKK)



Timeline



ID number 36515

Background

The mid-term VET policy strategy 4.0 is based on the restructuring of VET and adult learning (AL) conforming to Industry 4.0. One aim of the policy is to strengthen innovation technologies and to support innovation in VET, higher education and the economy.

In December 2019, the Ministry of Innovation and Technology adopted the VET Act LXXX. It was enacted to create a demand driven dual VET system that fulfils the needs of the economy and to prepare for the challenges of future technologies. The legislators identified the importance of cooperation among higher education, VET and the innovation ministry.

Objectives

The objective of the policy development is to create, support and implement innovation-related curricula, teaching methods, technologies, digital content and teaching material in VET and AL.

Description

In February 2019, a new agency was established, the Innovative Training Support Centre (*Innovatív Képzéstámogató Központ Zrt., IKK*). It also works alongside the National Office for Vocational Education and Training and Adult Learning (*Nemzeti Szakképzési és Felnőttképzési Hivatal*) as a state administrative VET body. The IKK supports the implementation of the provisions of the VET Act of 2019 on innovation, digitalisation and related areas. IKK also implements GINOP (Economic Development and Innovation Operational Programme (EDIOP) - financed by two of the Structural Funds, the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the European Social Fund (ESF).) and other EU funded or co-funded projects, supervised by the Ministry responsible for VET. IKK develops the content of the central and interactive professional examinations, assessment guidelines and other documentation. IKK contributes also to the coordination of the career counselling and career guidance experts.



The Minister for VET, through the IKK, is responsible for:

- (a) developing VET text and course books, digital teaching materials and other instructional tools;
- (b) operating the VET information centre;
- (c) elaborating VET related R&D tasks and developing a methodology of teacher assessment;
- (d) organising professional or qualification examinations if there is no Accredited Examination Centre doing this.

As a State administrative VET body, the IKK performs the following tasks:

- (a) external evaluation of the quality management of VET Institutions;
- (b) ensuring that Hungarian career counselling and career guidance is being developed in line with EU directives.

The core activities of the agency include:

- (a) taking part in the coordination of the Public education registration and academic base system (NEPTUN-KRÉTA), in cooperation with operators of State institutions;
- (b) supporting the development of a career tracking system and supporting career orientation;
- (c) supporting the newly developed specialised systems of vocational training and adult training;
- (d) providing methodological support for the development and operation of an independent examination centre;
- (e) participating in the Digital wellbeing programme, the Digital workforce programme and the Digital education strategy, in executing tasks related to vocational training and adult training;
- (f) full-scale planning and coordination of vocational training and adult training;
- (g) development and support of the assets management concept, with respect to IT and education assets;
- (h) research, mentoring and supporting innovative vocational training initiatives;
- (i) R&D activities (developing methodological materials);
- (j) supporting the establishment and operation of sectoral training centres;
- (k) operating a digital competency development system for the methodological advanced training of professional experts and vocational trainers;
- (l) operating the Digital Vocational Training and Adult Training Methodological Centre (DSZFMK).

2020 Implementation

The IKK Innovative Training Support Centre Plc started its customer service activities and developed its website as part of its outreach activities.

2021 Approved/Agreed

The planning, coordination, organisation and continuous monitoring of further training for VET teachers and trainers at the national level are carried out by the IKK Innovative Training Support Centre. To ensure the technical implementation of this task, IKK has established a national system for the CPD of VET teachers and trainers (OTR). The list of the training courses available is expanded and updated several times a year. The focus is primarily on training courses that enable the fulfilment of the VET 4.0 Strategy, in line with the EU's vocational training policy guidelines. The Examination Centre of the IKK Innovative Training Support Centre Plc was established in April 2021. The IKK Innovative Training Support Centre Plc, since 1 July 2021 has received the authorisation to work out professional proposals for VET teacher CPD in company environments. VET teacher CPD was implemented in the autumn of 2021 after continuous consultations with the Sector Skills Councils (SSCs) who among others are responsible for monitoring the needs of the economic stakeholders. Since then, the cooperation has been continuous, thus VET teachers CPD is in accordance with the needs of the labour market.

2022 Implementation

The IKK Zrt.'s own examination centre (IKK Vizsgaközpont), established on 20 April 2021, organised and conducted the qualifying examinations, for which it is responsible by law. In cooperation with the National Office for VET and AL (NOVETAL) that developed interactive examination tasks, the centre developed an online application platform for the exams.

The IKK Zrt. received and checked the content of the submitted programme requirements (PKs) registered by the Minister and published them. It also received and verified the content and format of applications for the establishment of Sectoral Training Centres (STCs) with the participation of the VET Centres.

The IKK Zrt. organised and implemented professional training programmes (CPD) for VET teachers in the OTR system (CPD of VET teachers and trainers), and set up additional programmes.

The IKK Zrt. created a comprehensive national vocational search system (Átfogó Szakmai Országos Keresorendszer, abbreviated ÁSZOK), including a mapping platform. The map includes all VET institutions in Hungary and a user can search by county, city, school, vocational occupation, qualification, sectoral classification or training pathway.

The Unified Digital Information System (EDIR) has been set up to host the websites of VET Centres and institutions. This has resulted in a high quality and user-friendly website for VET Centres and their member institutions, with a uniform structure and image. **By the end of 2022, 38 VET Centres and 347 institutions joined EDIR.**

In addition, the IKK Zrt. provided customer service and information activities; conducted research on equal opportunities in the field of VET; and operated a network of experts for the development of Programme and Outcome Requirements (KKKs), Programme Curricula (PTTs) and Programme Requirements (PKs).

The IKK Zrt. development of systems to support career guidance (SkillsCom, Digital Pathfinder, a platform for collecting information on scholarships, grants and tenders).

IKK Zrt. is implementing partner of several GINOP projects (GINOP-6.2.4, GINOP-6.2.5, GINOP 6.2.6-, GINOP-6.2.8., GINOP-6.1.10.) and is also partner in the implementation of the RRF - 2.2.3 project.

2023 Implementation

In 2023, the number of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) programmes for VET teachers and trainers rose to 178. An online system was introduced to support applications for VET teachers and trainers and manage training courses.

In October 2023, IKK launched a series of webinars, providing an online forum for VET teachers and trainers to share knowledge and experiences. The main topics in 2023 included CPD opportunities for VET teachers and trainers and the use of digital materials.

Eight sector-based and two thematic expert working groups were formed, involving 42 innovative and recognised VET teachers and trainers. These working groups aim to enhance the quality and content of VET and adult training for the 21st century (in the framework of the GINOP 6.2.4.-VEKOP-16-2017-00001 project). They focus on integrating learning materials into daily educational activities under various funded projects, promoting project-based education, which is the preferred approach in the renewed VET system, aimed at making education more effective.

IKK also established an advisory working group to support the development of the quality management system for VET institutions. This included over 100 online and face-to-face consultations and thematic workshops.

An online media campaign was carried out to promote VET, support career choices, and guide individuals considering further education or career changes.

Additionally, funding for the 'VET Programme in Hungary' was approved under the Swiss-Hungarian Cooperation Programme Phase II, with IKK Plc. designated as the programme operator.

By Government Decree 341/2023, IKK Plc. was appointed to operate the Digital Education Innovation and Training Centre. This centre aims to improve the quality, inclusivity, and effectiveness of Hungary's educational systems while reducing the digital divide and enhancing digital skills nationwide. The centre will manage the Hungarian digital competence framework in line with European Union standards, provide support for digital competence development, and create relevant training programmes and assessments. It will also collaborate with various stakeholders to implement digital training initiatives and promote micro-credentials in vocational and adult education. Overall, IKK will play a crucial role in advancing a coordinated digital education ecosystem in Hungary, enhancing workforce employability for the digital economy.

2024 Implementation

In 2024, IKK completed a detailed revision of the Programme and Outcome Requirements for vocational qualifications listed in the Register of vocational qualifications (nationally referred to as Register of vocational occupations), incorporating green skills and sustainability.

The CPD programme for VET teachers and trainers expanded to 235 courses, including six programmes newly developed by the IKK itself focusing on digital learning materials and the effective use of the Digital Collaboration Space Module of the KRÉTA system.

In relation to the operation of the Digital Education Innovation and Training Centre, preparations and implementation of measures have started under DIMOP Plus to enhance citizens' competences and advance the digitalisation of VET.

The number of sectoral working groups increased to 11, facilitating nearly 30 national seminars and enhanced regional advisory activities (organisation of regional professional programmes, face-to-face, online and telephone counselling activities). These working groups helped develop projects and good practices for six sectors, which are available on IKK's website.

IKK produced a practical manual for implementing flexible learning pathways (Orientation year (*Orientációs évfolyam*), Springboard (*Dobbantó*) and School workshop (*Muhelyiskola*) programme).

In support of the quality management system of VET institutions, 400 tailored consultations were held, and preparations for external evaluations of VET institutions were initiated. This included a pilot evaluation of 25 institutions and training for nearly 2 000 people.

Webinars continued in 2024, focusing on AI applications in vocational education, on thematic weeks and on sharing of good practices.

The tendering process for the two programme components - Renewal of the methodology of vocational education and examination and Strengthening career orientation - under the second phase of the Swiss-Hungarian Cooperation Programme, titled 'VET in Hungary', has been completed. As a result, the VET centres responsible for implementing these components have been selected.

Bodies responsible

- Ministry of Culture and Innovation
- IKK Innovative Training Support Center (IKK Nonprofit Plc.)
- Sector Skills Councils

Target group

Learners

Learners in upper secondary, including apprentices
Young people (15-29 years old)
Adult learners

Education professionals

Teachers
Trainers
School leaders
Adult educators
Guidance practitioners

Entities providing VET

Companies
Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)
VET providers (all kinds)

Thematic categories

Governance of VET and lifelong learning

Engaging VET stakeholders and strengthening partnerships in VET

Modernising VET offer and delivery

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
Supporting teachers and trainers for and through digital

Supporting lifelong learning culture and increasing participation

Lifelong guidance

Subsystem

IVET CVET

Further reading

[The VET Act LXXX of 2019 \(entering into force on 1 January 2020\)](#)

[About IKK](#)

[System for the VET teacher and trainer CPD \(OTR\)](#)

Related policy developments

2024 Implementation

Accredited Examination Centres in VET and AL

An important innovation of the Act on VET LXXX of 2019 is that final vocational examinations will be delivered by AECs instead of VET institutions and AL providers.

 HUNGARY

Type of development

Regulation/Legislation

Subsystem

IVET CVET



2024 Completed

The project Improving the quality and content of 21st century vocational training and adult education (GINOP - 6.2.4)

The aims of the project Improving the quality and content of 21st century vocational training and adult education (GINOP - 6.2.4) include the review of the examination system, the development of a validation system and the preparation of a methodology for VET content development that is compatible

 HUNGARY

Type of development

Practical
measure/Initiative

Subsystem

IVET CVET



2022 Completed

Projects to develop digital competences of adults (GINOP-6.1.2.)

The 2016-20 Narrowing the digital gap national project (GINOP 6.1.2-15) aims to boost digital competences through free-of-charge training for the working-age population across the country, especially for low-skilled adults.

 HUNGARY

Type of development

Practical
measure/Initiative

Subsystem

CVET



2024 Implementation

Green and digital transition in the Hungarian VET

Hungary's Digital Education Strategy was launched in 2016.

 HUNGARY

Type of development

Strategy/Action
plan

Subsystem

IVET CVET

2024 Implementation

Guidance-related amendments

Since 2015, the National Office of Vocational Education and Training and Adult Learning has been responsible for the development and operation of the national careers guidance system.

 HUNGARY

Type of development

Regulation/Legislation

Subsystem

IVET CVET

“ ... ” Cite as

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