

# Promoting IVET

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

PRACTICAL MEASURE/INITIATIVE

 ROMANIA

## Timeline



ID number 29423

## Background

The National Centre for TVET Development acts to increase the attractiveness of initial vocational education and training (IVET) for teenagers, encouraging them to see it as a choice that has a double benefit: enabling them to acquire a qualification that offers them access to continuing education or to enter the labour market. Key aspects for increasing participation in IVET programmes include informing all direct and indirect potential beneficiaries about their options for education and training, training offer, labour market needs, qualification choices, access, structure and length of training programmes, examination and certification, benefits and opportunities. Ensuring smooth entry into the labour market is the ultimate aim.

## Objectives

To increase participation in initial vocational education and training (VET) programmes.

To offer every young person the opportunity to enjoy personal and professional development through IVET and to become self-assertive and proactive in making their own professional choices.

## Description

The National Centre for TVET Development, together with the support of the education ministry, runs annual information campaigns to raise public awareness that initial VET can be a first option for young people. This can provide them with the opportunity to acquire competences (both general and professional) and attitudes and skills leading to a qualification at EQF level 3 or 4 that is recognised on the labour market as well as offering an option to continue to higher education.

The campaigns mainly take the form of meetings with county school inspectors, school directors of IVET schools and lower secondary education schools, teachers in IVET programmes, potential IVET learners and representatives of companies and local authorities, to promote initial VET programmes and their benefits. They are organised

according to a plan of actions for promoting IVET, approved by the education ministry, and take place annually with the support of the county school inspectorates, local authorities and schools.

### **2016 Approved/Agreed**

In 2016, the Ministry of Education (Order 6155/22.12.2016) declared the 2017/18 school year as the Year of promoting the initial VET.

In late 2016, new legal provisions were approved for the introduction of initial dual VET as a form of organisation of the 3-year school VET programme (Emergency ordinance 81/2016) as of 2017/18.

The National Centre for TVET Development continued a series of public joint meetings with county school inspectorates, IVET schools, companies, chambers of commerce and industry, and local authorities to promote initial VET programmes.

The programme raises awareness among potential IVET students of their career options, with career guidance and counselling for lower education student training courses made through JOBS project 2012-19.

The JOBS project (Job orientation training in businesses and schools, 2012-19) continued offering teaching materials and training for teachers and trainers. It aimed to prepare learners in the last years of compulsory education and during their studies in technical colleges, helping to acquire life skills and competences, develop a realistic perception of job opportunities and work life in their region and be able to make well informed decisions about their further education (vocational education or university career) and thereby their professional career.

### **2017 Implementation**

Public meetings and campaigns were made in cooperation with education, authorities and companies to raise their awareness of their vital role in the implementation of initial VET, the structure, organisation, calendar of admission to IVET programmes.

As every school year, in 2017, *Crafts week was organised*, to inform lower secondary education learners about different opportunities to continue their study and training within a form of initial VET programme (including the initial dual VET). This involved cooperation of both company and VET school representatives. Schools also went on visits to companies in order to find out about the environment, opportunities, code of conduct, examples of activities or stages of an activity, and the benefits of accessing initial VET programmes.

Sessions were organised on career guidance and counselling for lower secondary education learners. 280 teachers were trained on career guidance and counselling to provide support and carry out related activities with students enrolled in the eighth grade and promote initial VET as an option for education.

### **2018 Implementation**

In 2018, the National Centre for TVET Development participated in public meetings and campaigns involving representatives from education (county school inspectors, school directors, teachers), local authorities and companies to raise their awareness of their vital role in the implementation of initial VET, the structure, organisation, and calendar of admission to IVET programmes.

The Crafts week was organised and strengthened the relationship among with potential IVET programme beneficiaries, IVET schools and employers.

Teachers (889) were trained on career guidance and counselling to provide support and carry out related activities with students enrolled in the eighth grade and promote initial VET as an option for education. More than 5 000 students benefited from such activities.

## 2019 Implementation

In 2019, the National Centre for TVET Development supported career guidance and counselling: training courses for lower secondary education students and ninth grade students and teachers through the JOBS project.

The centre also updated its institutional website with information related to initial VET in Romania.

## 2020 Implementation

In 2020, 42 online meetings with local committees for the development of social partnership took place, one meeting for each county. These are advisory committees (representatives from local authorities, companies, parents' association, county school inspectorates, trade unions) that support initial VET implementation by analysing the proposals for the enrolment of students in IVET, disseminating information about IVET programmes, participating in the approval of new qualifications based on labour market needs, supporting partnership agreements between schools and companies for the practical training of students.

The Crafts week was organised. In the North-East Region schools organised various events with topics such as the National day of trades debate (in Iași) and a joint meeting dedicated to National crafts day in Piatra Neam.

The National Centre for TVET Development initiated the development of an-online publication to promote best practices of IVET that took place in various schools providing IVET qualifications: *Vocation and passion in initial VET* aims at promoting IVET and bringing public recognition to schools, students, and economic partners who faced and managed COVID-19 challenges in 2020. The publication was made available on their website.

Within the Erasmus+ project EQAVET-NRP-RO 2019-21, 10 networks of VET schools were established for 10 fields of professional training in which 59 VET schools are registered.

Between 11 February and 11 March 2020, the National Centre for TVET Development initiated, with the support of the education ministry, a public national campaign, *The profession makes the difference*, to promote relevant labour market qualifications. Three newsletters were issued in early 2020 to describe and present some of the most popular qualifications (car mechanic; operator on machines with numerical command; sales/commerce operator).

A press release was published regarding the beginning of the campaign on the website of the education ministry.

## 2021 Implementation

In 2021, the National Centre for TVET Development, county school inspectorates, schools, local authorities and companies worked together to promote the benefits of IVET in Romania and increase its attractiveness.

The activities (face-to-face and online) focused on:

- (a) young IVET learners and IVET graduates sharing successful experience acquired at the work-place;
- (b) the new education and training offer for 2022/23;
- (c) how potential graduates could develop a professional career within their company;
- (d) benefits, motivating work offers and career progression within companies.

The calendar of activities at county level reached a total of 2 418 events and was implemented with the support of local authorities, school and companies. These events are a rich source of information for potential students, parents, community, local

authorities and VET providers (schools and companies).

The National Centre for TVET Development also promoted IVET by sharing information (Facebook, institution website, online meetings organised within other initial VET-related projects under implementation) and inviting schools to register and participate in international events such as Cedefop PhotoAwards, Selfie, and European Skills week. The partnership network of 59 schools exchanged good practices in IVET, promoted their IVET education offer by using the dedicated electronic communication platform created with the support of an Erasmus+ co-financed project on Quality Assurance in IVET.

The institution website was also used for constant communication with IVET beneficiaries and partners by regularly publishing important IVET news on training offers, new measures adopted to prevent COVID-19 spread, and new methodological guidelines.

### **2022 Implementation**

Promoting IVET opportunities took place with the support of the National Centre for TVET Development, county school inspectorates, schools, local authorities and companies who worked together to showcase the benefits of IVET in Romania and increase its attractiveness.

The activities involved both face-to-face and online meetings where employers' representatives, young IVET graduates, public authorities, VET teachers and inspectors were invited to share their positive experiences and promote specific labour market opportunities after successfully graduating from IVET programmes. The National Centre for TVET Development monitored activities throughout the country with the support of county school inspectorates. The data collected showed an average of 250 events of promotional activities in each region.

The National Centre for TVET Development also continued to promote IVET by sharing information about training opportunities through their information channels.

### **2023 Implementation**

In 2023, the National Centre for TVET Development continued promoting IVET among young learners in cooperation with county school inspectorates, VET schools, local authorities and companies similar as in 2022. Information channels and meetings also among teachers involved in partnership networks organised on thematic fields (as part of EQAVET project implementation) were also active.

### **2024 Implementation**

In 2024, promoting IVET among young learners and adults continued. The activities included education fairs, annual crafts week events, career guidance/counselling and others.

A new approach to IVET was launched, based on the adoption of new education laws in 2023, including an introduction of complete dual pathway up to EQF level 8. A new approach to IVET, opportunities and prospects of personal and professional development for young students was also presented.

## **Bodies responsible**

- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of National Education (until 2021)
- National Centre for TVET Development (CNDIPT)

# Target group

## Learners

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

## Education professionals

Teachers  
Trainers  
School leaders  
Guidance practitioners

## Entities providing VET

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

## Other stakeholders

Social partners (employer organisations and trade unions)

# Thematic categories

## Supporting lifelong learning culture and increasing participation

Promotion strategies and campaigns for VET and lifelong learning  
Lifelong guidance

# 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

[Project JOBS](#)

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[Press release on the beginning of the national campaign on promoting initial VET](#)

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[Website with all information related to initial VET in Romania](#)

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[Campaign The profession makes the difference, Ministry of Education web portal](#)

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[Newsletter No 1 on Car mechanic \(part of the national campaign The profession makes the difference\)](#)

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[Newsletter No 2 on Operator on machines with numerical command \(part of the national campaign The profession makes the difference\)](#)

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[Newsletter No 3 on Sales/commerce operator \(part of the national campaign The profession makes the difference\)](#)

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[Collection of good practices in initial VET schools Vocation and passion in initial VET](#)

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[Promoting the European skills week on the website of the NCTVETD](#)

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[Promoting school opportunities to register in UNESCO Associated Schools Network \(ASPnet\) on the website of the NCTVETD](#)

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[Promoting the European skills week in 2022 on the website of the NCTVETD](#)

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## Related policy developments

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**2024 Implementation**

### IVET provision in line with the labour market needs

Educated Romania underlines the commitment to adjusting the education system to current and emerging challenges. Education and skills-related measures and actions are to be implemented with the support of State budget and EU funds.

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#### Type of development

Practical  
measure/Initiative

#### Subsystem

IVET

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**2024 Implementation**

### Measures to prevent early leaving from education and training

The national strategy to reduce early school leaving in Romania was adopted in June 2015. It is based on prevention, intervention and compensation in thematic/policy areas and addresses the following directions of action/pillars:

 ROMANIA

#### Type of development

Strategy/Action  
plan

#### Subsystem

IVET

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**2024 Implementation**

## Promoting entrepreneurship competence in VET

The National Centre for TVET Development registers new training firms and corresponding activities annually.

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### Type of development

Practical  
measure/Initiative

### Subsystem

IVET

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2024 Implementation

## Revising training standards in IVET

In 2013-16, the training standards for IVET (131 initial VET qualifications at EQF level 3 and 69 qualifications at level 4) were revised and, in 2016, were approved by ministerial order.

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### Type of development

Regulation/Legislation

### Subsystem

IVET

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2024 Implementation

## Incentives for learners to participate in VET

The government supports the implementation of initial VET programmes by offering financial support in various forms.

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### Type of development

Regulation/Legislation

### Subsystem

IVET

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2021 Completed

## The 2016-20 VET strategy

The strategy for education and vocational training in Romania for 2016-20 was adopted in 2016 (government Decision No 317 on 27 April 2016).

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**Type of development**

Strategy/Action  
plan

**Subsystem**

IVET CVET

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**2024 Implementation****Introducing dual IVET programmes**

An amendment to the Education Law endorsed in November 2016 (Ordinance No 81/2016) introduced a dual form of initial VET for qualifications at EQF/ROQF (Romanian national qualifications framework) levels 3, 4 and 5.

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**Type of development**

Regulation/Legislation

**Subsystem**

IVET

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