



Lifelong career guidance centres

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

PRACTICAL MEASURE/INITIATIVE

CROATIA

Timeline

2016 Implementation 2017 Implementation 2018 Implementation 2019 Implementation 2020 Implementation 2021 Implementation 2022 Implementation 2023 Implementation 2024 Implementation

ID number 28788

Background

The Lifelong career guidance centres (CISOK) were introduced in 2013 to provide tailored lifelong career guidance to all citizens, especially young people (pupils and students) and NEETs. To deliver highly accessible services based on local needs, CISOK strongly rely on a broad network of partnerships, including local chambers, universities, adult education institutions, education providers, and NGOs.

Objectives

The main objectives of the partnership-based approach of CISOK are to:

- (a) balance labour market needs and competence development
- (b) offer tailored guidance to different target groups at the local and regional levels

Description

Since 2016, Lifelong career guidance centres have been continuously signing cooperation agreements with local-level partners so as to identify the needs of specific groups and offer tailored career guidance services. Local partners involve schools, colleges and universities, volunteer centres, Roma associations, public health and social welfare centres, youth associations, local stakeholders in trades, crafts and the economy, as well as development agencies. By the end of 2018, 337 cooperation agreements were signed. Lifelong career guidance centres are the focal points for these activities as part of the national youth guarantee programme and the 2016-18 strategic plan of the ministry responsible for labour.

2016 Implementation	
2017 Implementation	
2018 Implementation	

2019 Implementation

By the end of 2019, 387 cooperation agreements were signed; 50 new agreements in 2019.

2020 Implementation

By the end of 2020, 402 cooperation agreements were signed; 15 new agreements in 2020. Lifelong career guidance centres are part of the 2020-22 strategic plan of the ministry responsible for labour (MROSP).

2021 Implementation

By the end of 2021, 410 cooperation agreements were signed.

CISOK provided the largest number of services to users under the age of 15 (N=1 204) and to users aged 15 to 19 (N=519). Young people up to 30 years received 2 111 services, which accounts for 60% of all services in 2021. Information and career counselling services were offered to 225 NEETs (153 active, 72 inactive).

2022 Implementation

By the end of 2022, 453 cooperation agreements were signed.

CISOK provided the largest number of services to users under the age of 15 (N=7 760) and users aged 15 to 19 (N=3 504). Young people aged 15 to 29 received 12 418 services, accounting for 68% of all services in 2022. Information and career counselling services were provided to 753 NEETs (673 active, 80 inactive).

2023 Implementation

By the end of 2023, 473 cooperation agreements were signed.

CISOK provided the largest number of services to users under the age of 15 (N=5 406) and to users aged 15 to 19 (N=5 094). Young people aged 15 to 29 received 7 150 services, accounting for 36% of all services provided in 2023. Information and career counselling services were provided to 1 718 NEETs (1 262 active, 456 inactive).

2024 Implementation

By September 2024, 487 cooperation agreements were signed.

By October 2024, 592 services were provided to users under the age of 15, and 1 041 services to users aged 15 to 19. Young people aged 15 to 29 received 2 944 services, accounting for 31% of all services provided during this period. Information and career counselling services were offered to 1 412 NEETs (261 active, 1 151 inactive).

Bodies responsible

Public employment service (HZZ)

Target group

Education professionals

Guidance practitioners

Entities providing VET

VET providers (all kinds)

Other stakeholders

Social partners (employer organisations and trade unions)

Thematic categories

Governance of VET and lifelong learning

Engaging VET stakeholders and strengthening partnerships in VET

Supporting lifelong learning culture and increasing participation

Lifelong guidance

Subsystem

IVET CVET

Further reading

CISOK portal

Related policy developments

2024 Implementation

Strategic framework and investment priorities for labour and employment up to 2027

The National Plan for Labour, Occupational Safety and Employment 2021-2027, under the objective Strengthening workforce competences, defines the following measures relevant for VET:



Type of development

Strategy/Action plan

Subsystem

IVET CVET

2020 Implementation

Lifelong career guidance strategy 2016-2020

The strategy was adopted in 2015. It was developed by the Lifelong Career Guidance Forum (LLCG forum), a national body for stakeholder cooperation, with the aim to establish a systemic approach to lifelong career guidance and career development and its integration in education and training.

CROATIA

Type of development

Strategy/Action plan

Subsystem

IVET CVET

66 · · · JJ Cite as

Cedefop, & ReferNet. (2025). Lifelong career guidance centres: Croatia. 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/28788