Addressing curricular digital skills

POLICY DEVELOPMENT **STRATEGY/ACTION PLAN** 🇸🇪 SWEDEN

Timeline

2017 **Approved/Agreed** 2018 **Implementation** 2019 **Completed**

ID number 28543

Background

The Swedish government places high importance on responding to the digital transition of the economy. In 2016, the National Agency for Education presented to government a national information and communication technology (ICT) strategy for education, including initial VET. A broad range of stakeholders were involved in developing the strategy and revising curricula: national programme councils, other national agencies, universities, ICT experts, teachers and students. Social partners have been consulted to identify industry-specific digital skills that VET learners will need to develop to stay competitive.

Objectives

To increase the digital skills of learners in response to labour market needs.

Description

In March 2017, the government approved new curricula to address the ICT strategy objectives. Programming skills are now embedded in primary and lower secondary education, especially through technology and mathematics. Amendments include qualification-tailored digital skills. For example, the Child and recreation programme stresses the responsible use of digital technology to support children. The new curricula were implemented, including all VET programmes, in 2017/18.

2017 Approved/Agreed

2018 Implementation

2019 Completed

The curricular changes were implemented with the start of the school year 2019/20 and runs since then as a regular practice. The responsibility for continuing the action plan to operationalise the strategy was transferred to SALAR/SKR (the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions) in 2019, but the initiatives are no longer specific to VET. SALAR/SKR is an employers' organisation that represents and advocates local government in Sweden. All of Sweden's municipalities and regions are members of SALAR.

Bodies responsible

- National Agency for Education
- Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SKR/ SALAR)

Target group

Learners

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

Thematic categories

Governance of VET and lifelong learning

Engaging VET stakeholders and strengthening partnerships in VET

Modernising VET offer and delivery

Modernising VET standards, curricula, programmes and training courses

Acquiring key competences

Reinforcing work-based learning, including apprenticeships

Subsystem

IVET

Further reading

National action plan for digitalisation of education, Skoldigiplan [Nationell handlingsplan för digitalisering av skolväsendet, Skoldigiplan]