

Curricular changes to impede traditional gender patterns

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

REGULATION/LEGISLATION

 SWEDEN

Timeline

2017 Design

2018 Design

2019 Design

2020 Design

2021 Approved/Agreed

ID number 28537

Background

Many VET programmes are dominated by learners of one gender. While there is a 40/60 gender split between female and male learners enrolled in IVET overall, there is a 40/60 split in only two of the 12 programmes. The highest share of male learners are in the electricity and energy programme (96%) and in the HVAC and property maintenance programmes (97%). The highest share of female learners is in the handicraft programme (94%).

Objectives

To counteract skilled labour shortages by attracting both genders to VET tracks which are normally dominated by only one gender.

Description

The government commissioned the National Agency for Education in December 2017 to propose curricular changes to modify traditional gender patterns (including VET programmes). The proposal was presented to the government in December 2018 and explicitly stated that the curricular requirements concerning gender equality are also pertinent in work-based learning. Once curricular changes to impede traditional gender patterns will be approved, teachers, school leaders, adult educators and VET providers will have the task to implement it.

2017 Design

2018 Design

2019 Design

In June 2019, the National Agency for Education was missioned to propose additional curricular changes, responding to the need to revise curricula to counteract sexism, sexual harassment, forced marriage and honour-related violence and oppression.

2020 Design

In 2020, the government approved the proposal.

In 2020, there was no progress to report.

2021 Approved/Agreed

The curriculum changes were approved by the government in February 2021. In the following, changes were made to modify traditional gender patterns and counteract sexism, sexual harassment, forced marriage and honour-related violence and oppression.

Bodies responsible

- National Agency for Education

Target group

Learners

Learners in upper secondary, including apprentices
Adult learners

Thematic categories

Modernising VET offer and delivery

Modernising VET standards, curricula, programmes and training courses

Supporting lifelong learning culture and increasing participation

Ensuring equal opportunities and inclusiveness in education and training

Subsystem

IVET CVET

Further reading

[Information about the government mission. See 3.6, p. 3](#)

[Mission to propose curricular changes regarding gender equality](#)

[Presentation of the outcome of the mission to propose curricular changes regarding knowledge about the field of sexuality and cohabitation](#)

“ … ” Cite as

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<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/tools/timeline-vet-policies-europe/search/28537>

