

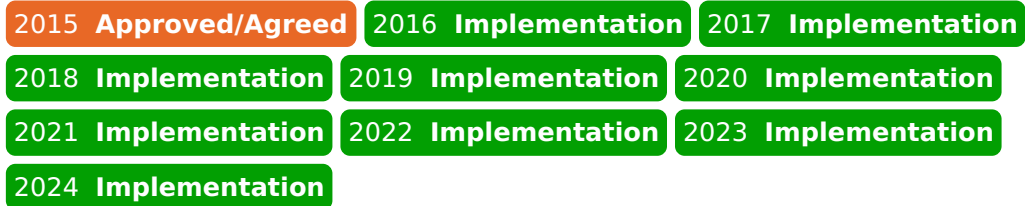
Cooperation framework with industry

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

STRATEGY/ACTION PLAN

 ITALY

Timeline



ID number 28315

Background

In 2015, the general framework for VET was designed by the labour and education ministries, in cooperation with the Regions and autonomous provinces. The State-regions conference was in charge of defining the minimum set of education and training standards valid for all regions countrywide. Apprenticeship was in place. It implied a work contract and comprised both on-the-job and classroom training. Apprenticeship had been high in the VET policy agenda in the preceding decades; nevertheless, it had been mostly used to recruit cheap labour.

Objectives

The cooperation framework with industry has the following objectives:

- (a) to introduce elements of flexibility to simplify the actual legislation and boost the attractiveness of apprenticeship amongst enterprises;
- (b) to set up a specific pedagogical methodology aimed at reinforcing the school-work exchange programme.

Description

On 13 July 2015, the Italian government adopted a reform of the national education system emphasising alternance between classroom work and periods of workplace training. The main objective is to boost school-to-work transition by increasing employment opportunities and guidance for students. The reform calls for improving the coordination of work-based training in the education system and greater cooperation between schools, local communities and companies.

The two policies work closely together to strengthen work-based learning experiences in schools. This includes apprenticeship that offers a more structured path, longer duration of on-the-job training, greater integration between companies and schools and, therefore, a greater opportunity for employment.

From 2015 to 2017, a number of 'protocol agreements' were signed between the education ministry and different industry organisations: the general confederation of Italian Industry (Confindustria), the National Association of Industrial Company Executives (Federmanager), the Federation of Italian Associations of Hotels and Tourism (Federalberghi), the Bank of Italy (Banca d'Italia). There are around 100 agreements at national level and 150 at regional level. These agreements concern a cooperation framework specifically aimed at supporting the implementation of school-work exchange projects, including apprenticeship.

2015 Approved/Agreed

2016 Implementation

2017 Implementation

2018 Implementation

2019 Implementation

In 2019, the protocol agreement between the education ministry and Federmeccanica (industrial association) ended. The results had been evaluated as positive.

Also, in 2019 a 'traineeship', pilot project involving Federmeccanica, Indire and the education ministry took place with the participation of 50 schools (in 18 Italian Regions) and companies. The participation scheme involved shared planning between schools and companies.

2020 Implementation

No protocol agreements were signed in 2020.

2021 Implementation

In 2021, some important memoranda of understanding were renewed (memoranda of this sort usually have a timespan of maximum two years). These renewed MoUs aimed to provide continuity to the activities started in previous years, to strengthen the collaboration between schools and the world of work and improve training, guidance, and employment opportunities for younger generations.

A significant development occurred in November 2021. An agreement was signed between the education ministry and Confindustria Moda. This agreement promotes training courses that allow the acquisition of technical-professional, relational, managerial and soft skills, that facilitate the matching between education institutions and companies affiliated with Confindustria Moda. The activated initiatives aim specifically to update teaching skills and to ensure that training courses are relevant to the labour market needs to the highest possible degree; they will also tackle persisting mismatches between VET provision and labour market demands. To promote the programme, and achieve the objectives of the agreement, a network of 82 education institutions called *textile, clothing and fashion (TAM)* was set up in collaboration with companies in sectors represented by Confindustria Moda. These institutions engaged in fruitful cooperation.

2022 Implementation

On 11 January 2022, with protocol n. 579, a memorandum of intent was signed between the education ministry and the Association of Italian Maîtres, Restaurants and Hotels to facilitate a smoother and more efficient school-to-work transition by expansion of practical training and work-based learning, particularly in the upper secondary and tertiary education cycle. Another objective concern strengthening territorial/regional/local relations between the VET school and the regional and local dimension labour market. To further support this aim, specific initiatives were promoted in relation to practical training in laboratories for the acquisition of technical-professional skills in a simulated work environment. Emphasis was given to assist learners in enhancing their communication and managerial skills in the catering sector

and to partnerships between schools, public bodies and companies. Finally, guidance and career development activities were also promoted to facilitate learners in making informed choices of tertiary level study paths (academic or non-academic).

On 12 April 2022, a memorandum of intent was signed between the ministries of education, culture, agriculture and the Italian Sommelier Association (protocol n. 11). The aim is to promote and support knowledge of the economic, productive, and cultural history related to wine and oil production. To further support this aim a National day of wine and oil culture was established. The inter-ministerial protocol affected particularly VET provision of technical and vocational schools (EQF 4, ISCED 354) in the agricultural sector, and more specifically the following subject areas: Agriculture and rural development, enhancement of the products of the territory and management of forest and mountain resource and Food and Wine, hotel hospitality. Other subject areas were also affected.

On 26 May 2022, a memorandum of intent (protocol n. 13716) was signed between the education ministry and the Italian Union of Hotel Conciergerie (UIPA). The memorandum aims to promote the acquisition of technical-professional, relational and managerial skills, in the concierge, reception and hotel reception sector. Finally, the memorandum encourages collaboration between schools and UIPA for the optimal organisation of training activities and for enhancing the job prospects of learners participating in the respective sector.

2023 Implementation

On 5 October 2023, an agreement was signed between the Ministry of Education and Merit and the Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport (Prot. note 13.05 -10-2023) to increase the professionalism of drivers that transport goods and to enhance the characteristics of professionalism, modernity, technological development, environmental and social sustainability through adult training in the Provincial Centres for Adult Education (CPIA). Adult learners that participate in these courses can obtain the respective driving license and the professional certificate of professional competence for the transport of goods.

2024 Implementation

On 30 January 2024 a memorandum of understanding was signed between the education ministry and the Altagamma Foundation (Protocol no. 3 of 30/01/2024) for a fruitful collaboration aimed at the definition, implementation and promotion of projects and initiatives in favour of first- and second-year students of the second cycle of education. The objectives of the memorandum signed are:

- (a) the planning, programming and dissemination of innovative orientation and training courses, to contribute to the valorisation of talents and the strengthening of 'Made in Italy' professions;
- (b) the experimentation of tools and operational models that promote synergies between the educational and training system and the economic and productive system of the diverse territory and;
- (c) the promotion of training courses that consider the specific skills required by the economic sectors of the territories and by the companies belonging to the Altagamma Foundation.

In April 2024, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the education ministry and SNAM S.p.A. (Protocol n. 14231 of 10/04/2024). Through this memorandum, collaboration, connection and comparison between the education and training system and the world of work is promoted, in order to encourage the acquisition of technical skills by students, as well as relational and managerial skills.

In May 2024, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the education ministry and the National Association of employment agencies - ASSOLAVORO, on the topic of orientation and employability (Protocol n.13 of 9 May 2024), in order to encourage the synergy and the exchange of data on employment opportunities, useful for identifying possible improvements in the planning of interventions envisaged for

secondary schools as part of the school guidance reform, with a view to promoting a greater connection between the education and training system and the world of work and facilitate the consistency of training orientation paths with the needs of the world of production and work.

Bodies responsible

- Ministry of Education and Merit
- Ministry of Education (until 2022)
- Ministry of Education, Universities and Research (until 2019)
- National and regional industry organisations

Target group

Learners

Learners in upper secondary, including apprentices

Education professionals

Teachers
Trainers
School leaders
Guidance practitioners

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

Modernising VET offer and delivery

Reinforcing work-based learning, including apprenticeships

Supporting lifelong learning culture and increasing participation

Lifelong guidance

European priorities in VET

VET Recommendation

VET agile in adapting to labour market challenges

Subsystem

IVET

Further reading

[Planning, managing and evaluating work placement schemes: the pilot project Traineeship experience \[Progettare, gestire e valutare i percorsi di alternanza scuola-lavoro:l'esperienza\]](#)

del progetto pilota 'traineeship']

Work placement schemes for school students: Federmeccanica, Indire and Miur published the book on the pilot project on traineeship

Protocol n. 579. Memorandum of intent between the education ministry and the Association of Italian Maîtres, Restaurants and Hotels [Protocollo d'intesa tra il Ministero dell'Istruzione e l'Associazione Maîtres Italiani, Ristoranti e Alberghi]

Protocol n. 11. Memorandum of intent between Ministry of Education, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Agriculture and Italian Sommelier Association [Protocollo d'intesa, n.11]

Protocol n. 13716. Memorandum of intent between Ministry of Education and Italian Union of Hotel Conciergerie[Protocollo d'intesa tra il Ministero dell'Istruzione e l'Unione Italiana Portieri d'Albergo (UIPA), 26 maggio 2022, con prot. n. 13716]

Agreement between the Ministry of Education and Merit and the Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport, to increase the professionalism of drivers for the transport of goods through the training of adult CPIA students and the achievement of professional I

Memorandum of understanding between the Ministry of Education and Merit and the ALTAGAMMA Foundation

Memorandum of understanding between the Ministry of Education and Merit and SNAM S.p.A.

Memorandum of understanding between the Ministry of Education and Merit and the National Association of employment agencies - ASSOLAVORO

Related policy developments

2024 Implementation

The Good school and subsequent reforms

On 13 July 2015, the Italian government adopted a reform of the national education system called the Good school (La Buona Scuola), emphasising alternance between classroom work and periods of workplace training.

 ITALY

Type of development

Regulation/Legislation

Subsystem

IVET

2024 Implementation

The regulatory framework for apprenticeship

Apprenticeship regulations were entirely reformed in 2015 (Legislative Decree No 81/2015). The State-regions conference is in charge of defining the minimum set of education and training standards valid for all regions countrywide.

 ITALY

Type of development

Regulation/Legislation

Subsystem

IVET

“ … ” Cite as

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<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/tools/timeline-vet-policies-europe/search/28315>