

# Graduate tracking study

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

PRACTICAL MEASURE/INITIATIVE

 GREECE

## Timeline

2017 Implementation 2018 Implementation 2019 Implementation  
2020 Implementation 2021 Completed

ID number 28252

## Description

A new VET graduate tracking study was carried out in Greece in 2019-21 by the National Organisation for Certification of Qualifications and Vocational Guidance (EOPPEP) in cooperation with the National Institute for Labour and Human Resource (EIEAD). The project focuses on graduates of 2.5-year post-secondary VET programmes (IEK). Using quality indicators such as the placement rate of VET graduates and the utilisation of acquired skills in the workplace, the research analyses the position of IEK graduates within the labour market. It also measures the degree of satisfaction of:

- (a) graduates, about the curriculum and the specialisation they have completed;
- (b) employers, about graduates' knowledge, skills and competences.

Initial data stress the importance of skills certification: IEK graduates certified by EOPPEP score three times higher in terms of employment rates than IEK graduates without certification. Almost 50% of the graduates interviewed had already found a full-time job; 25% of them were still unemployed. IEK graduates tend to find a work placement relevant to their specialisation. The most prevalent way to find a job was through networking rather than through recruitment agencies. Following the successful pilot phase of the VET graduate tracking mechanism, EOPPEP plans to develop a broader and more systematic tracking mechanism in the near future.

### 2017 Implementation

### 2018 Implementation

### 2019 Implementation

The first phase of the graduate tracking study was completed in 2019, while the second phase was under design.

### 2020 Implementation

The national quality system department of EOPPEP, under the role of the national reference point (NRP) of the EQAVET network, has concluded a 2-year research cycle (2019-21) tracking IVET graduates in the labour market. 10 000 IEK graduates from both public and private institutions and 1 000 employers from different economic

sectors participated in the research. The results denote teamwork, professional-technical skills and interpersonal and communication skills as the three more important key competences and underline that the greatest mismatches are in digital skills, initiative and entrepreneurship and multilingual competence.

### **2021 Completed**

On 30 March 2021, EOPPEP organised an international conference, *Monitoring the progress of graduates of vocational education and training (VET) in the labour market: the case of IEK graduates, findings and conclusions*; this was to present the findings of large-scale research on VET graduate tracking, in which 9 830 graduates participated, from public and private IEK of all specialities, from all regions of the country, as did more than 1 000 companies that employ IEK graduates.

The survey underlines issues of skills activation and skills matching pillars. Issues of labour market participation, transition to work and skills utilisation support the positive role of VET results. The research findings highlight the importance of the EOPPEP certification of the vocational skills of IEK graduates for finding a job. It is observed that the non-certified graduates face a greater problem of unemployment than their certified peers. The importance of the EOPPEP certification process is also evident in the answers of the employers, as a large percentage (48.05%) judges EOPPEP certification as a critical factor in the recruitment of IEK graduates.

The certification process conducted by EOPPEP seems to have a positive effect on the relevance of the first job in relation to the speciality studied. It is highlighted that the certified IEK graduates work in positions that are more relevant to the subject of the speciality they studied (62.97%) compared to the non-certified (49.28%).

## **Bodies responsible**

- National Organisation for Certification of Qualifications and Vocational Guidance (EOPPEP)
- National Institute of Labour and Human Resources (EIEAD)

## **Target group**

### **Learners**

Learners in upper secondary, including apprentices  
Adult learners

### **Entities providing VET**

VET providers (all kinds)

### **Other**

VET policy-makers

## **Thematic categories**

### **Governance of VET and lifelong learning**

Establishing and developing skills intelligence systems

### **Supporting lifelong learning culture and increasing participation**

Promotion strategies and campaigns for VET and lifelong learning

Lifelong guidance

# Subsystem

IVET

## Further reading

[VET graduate tracking study](#)

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[EQAVET internet meeting press release, 30 March 2021](#)

## Related policy developments

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**2024 Implementation**

### Skill needs forecasting system

The legal framework for a skills needs forecasting system was established in 2016. EIEAD was given the mandate to coordinate the development of the Mechanism of labour market diagnosis.

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#### Type of development

Practical  
measure/Initiative

#### Subsystem

IVET CVET

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**2016 Approved/Agreed**

### National strategic framework for the upgrade of VET and apprenticeship

The framework sets out 10 strategic intervention areas which, in turn, contain certain implementation measures. These 10 areas are to:

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#### Type of development

Strategy/Action  
plan

#### Subsystem

IVET CVET

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“ ... ” **Cite as**

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