

National strategic framework for the upgrade of VET and apprenticeship

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

STRATEGY/ACTION PLAN

 GREECE

Timeline

2016 **Approved/Agreed**

ID number 28247

Description

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

- (a) improve VET governance and adopt a mechanism that follows up implementation;
- (b) make visible the social role of VET and enhance VET's contribution to society;
- (c) improve and expand apprenticeship;
- (d) improve VET and its connection to the labour market;
- (e) improve quality in VET;
- (f) improve VET's efficiency;
- (g) enhance permeability and mobility;
- (h) improve VET's attractiveness;
- (i) improve excellence in VET;
- (j) ensure the efficient use of VET's public infrastructure (including human resources).

For the implementation of the strategic framework, i.e. the establishment of a regulatory basis, four laws/amendments, one Presidential decree, 11 Joint Ministerial Decisions and 18 Ministerial Decisions were issued. Law 4610/2019 integrated all the amendments related to apprenticeship and addressed the issue of access to tertiary education. With the adoption of the Law, the legislative framework regulating upper secondary VET and apprenticeship was considered complete.

2016 Approved/Agreed

The National strategic framework for the upgrade of VET and apprenticeship was approved in 2016.

Bodies responsible

- Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs
- Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs
- National Organisation for Certification of Qualifications and Vocational Guidance (EOPPEP)

Target group

Learners

Learners in upper secondary, including apprentices
Young people (15-29 years old)
Young people not in employment, education or training (NEETs)
Adult learners

Education professionals

Adult educators
Guidance practitioners

Entities providing VET

Companies
Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)
VET providers (all kinds)

Thematic categories

Modernising VET offer and delivery

Reinforcing work-based learning, including apprenticeships

Supporting lifelong learning culture and increasing participation

Permeability between IVET and CVET and general and vocational pathways, academic and professional higher education

Subsystem

IVET CVET

Further reading

[National strategic framework for the upgrade of VET and apprenticeship](#)

Related policy developments

2024 Implementation

The 2022-24 Strategic plan for vocational education and training, lifelong learning and youth

The six strategic objectives of the plan are further analysed into sub-objectives that serve the effective implementation of the strategy.

 GREECE

Type of development

Strategy/Action
plan

Subsystem

IVET CVET

2024 Implementation

Modernising career/vocational guidance practitioner occupational profile and certification

In 2015, the National Organisation for Certification of Qualifications and Vocational Guidance (EOPPEP), in cooperation with social partners and responsible ministries, developed a career/vocational guidance practitioner occupational profile.

 GREECE

Type of development

Practical
measure/Initiative

Subsystem

IVET CVET

2019 Approved/Agreed

Changes in learner assessment in IVET

Law 4610/2019 reduces the number of examinations in upper secondary VET programmes offered by vocational upper secondary schools (EPAL) by more than 50% (Article 117).

 GREECE

Type of development

Regulation/Legislation

Subsystem

IVET

2024 Implementation

Teacher CPD focused on apprenticeship

The Institute of Educational Policy (IEP) is carrying out the project Teachers and trainers training on issues related to apprenticeship.

 GREECE

Type of development

Practical
measure/Initiative

Subsystem

IVET

2024 Implementation

New beginning at EPAL initiative

In October 2017, implementing the 2016 strategic framework, the education ministry introduced the initiative A new beginning at EPAL, which included basic skills-enhancing measures, socio-psychological support and integration actions. The initiative was piloted in 2017/18 in nine schools.

 GREECE

Type of development

Practical
measure/Initiative

Subsystem

IVET

2024 Implementation

Easing permeability for VET learners

Following the 2016 national strategic framework, the first grade of vocational upper secondary schools (EPAL) is common to all learners. The second grade is where sectoral division takes place, while in the third grade learners opt for a speciality.

 GREECE

Type of development

Regulation/Legislation

Subsystem

IVET

2021 Completed

Graduate tracking study

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).

 GREECE

Type of development

Practical
measure/Initiative

Subsystem

IVET

2019 Discontinued

Changing VET governance

The National Committee for VET was set up in 2017. It is responsible for the overall coordination of governance of Greek VET, monitoring the implementation of the 2016 National strategic framework for the upgrade of VET and apprenticeship and evaluating its results.

 GREECE

Type of development

Practical
measure/Initiative

Subsystem

IVET CVET

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.

 GREECE

Type of development

Practical
measure/Initiative

Subsystem

IVET CVET

2024 Implementation

Developing apprenticeship

The key element of the 2016 strategic framework was the design and implementation of the post-secondary apprenticeship year, which is offered by vocational upper secondary schools (EPAL).

 GREECE

Type of development

Regulation/Legislation

Subsystem

IVET

2023 Completed

Quality Assurance of IVET Programmes

EOPPEP - in its capacity as an EQAVET NRP - is authorised to run an Erasmus+ programme entitled Towards an enhanced post-COVID VET (EPOS - VET).

Type of development

Practical
measure/Initiative

Subsystem

IVET

“ ... ” **Cite as**

Cedefop, & ReferNet. (2025). National strategic framework for the upgrade of VET and apprenticeship: Greece. 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/28247>