

Fast-track initial vocational training programmes for the unemployed in technical professions

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

PRACTICAL MEASURE/INITIATIVE

CYPRUS

Timeline

2018 Approved/Agreed

2019 Implementation

2020 Implementation

2021 Completed

ID number 28082

Objectives

To train or retrain unemployed people of all ages in a range of technical vocations, aiming towards improving their employability.

Description

Since 24 April 2018, fast-track initial vocational training programmes for the unemployed in technical professions are in place by the Cyprus Productivity Centre (CPC). Candidates undergo an assessment of their technical skills and a personal interview. Participation is free of charge. The activity is in full-scale implementation stage. However, a major issue is the lack of funding for establishing any sort of training allowance for the participants of the programmes. As a result, the demand for the programmes remains low.

2018 Approved/Agreed

2019 Implementation

In 2019, only two programmes were implemented, one in telecommunication, duration 400 hours, and another in dress making, duration 500 hours. All the initial programmes were offered and remained active (i.e., implementation was possible provided there is sufficient interest in participation).

2020 Implementation

In 2020, the Ministry of Labour Welfare and Social Insurance (MLWSI) approved the inclusion of this project for funding from the Social Fund (ESF+) for the structural funds programming period 2021-27, to overcome the obstacle of low demand. The project was separated into two projects, one aiming towards the upskilling of NEETs and one for the upskilling and reskilling of long-term unemployed. Both projects included the provision of training allowance for the participants.

2021 Completed

No programmes were implemented in 2021 due to low demand.

Even though the labour ministry approved the inclusion of this project for funding and made a proposal, these programmes were not included for funding from the European Social Fund (ESF+) in the programming period 2021-27.

Bodies responsible

- Cyprus Productivity Centre (CPC)

Target group

Learners

Young people not in employment, education or training (NEETs)
Unemployed and jobseekers

Thematic categories

Modernising VET offer and delivery

Modernising VET standards, curricula, programmes and training courses

Supporting lifelong learning culture and increasing participation

Financial and non-financial incentives to learners, providers and companies
Providing for individuals' re- and upskilling needs

Subsystem

IVET

Further reading

[Cyprus Productivity Centre- webpage on training programmes](#)

“ ... ” Cite as

Cedefop, & ReferNet. (2026). Fast-track initial vocational training programmes for the unemployed in technical professions: Cyprus. In Cedefop, & ReferNet. (2026). *Timeline of VET policies in Europe* (2025 update) [Online tool].

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/tools/timeline-vet-policies-europe/search/28082>