

Promoting VET through education and training fairs

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

PRACTICAL MEASURE/INITIATIVE

 AUSTRIA

Timeline

2017 Implementation 2018 Implementation 2019 Implementation
2020 Implementation 2021 Implementation 2022 Implementation
2023 Completed

ID number 27983

Background

Careers information fairs often face the challenge that visitors come to the fair badly prepared and are confronted with an information overload.

Objectives

Supporting the education and training choices of young people at the interface between secondary level I and II through target group-oriented preparation for fair attendance, attractive fair design and integration into the whole orientation process.

Description

The Vorarlberger education and training fair is a new exhibition in the province of Vorarlberg, which took place for the first time in November 2017. The target groups were all learners in the 7th and 8th grades. For 3 days, vocational schools and companies in the province and from neighbouring regions presented their education and training programmes in an interactive and innovative way, giving the visitors the opportunity to learn about different vocational education and training (VET) possibilities by trying some activities (e.g. programming industrial robots) and through discussions with trainers, learners of VET schools and colleges and apprentices. Part of the concept was in-school preparation before visiting the fair, the use of different customised working materials to support the visit and a follow-up in school.

The fair takes place every second year and is a joint initiative of the Vorarlberg Economic Chamber, the Federal government of Vorarlberg, the regional public employment service and BIFO, which is the regional career guidance office. The main responsibility for the organisational work lies with the Vorarlberg Economic Chamber.

2017 Implementation

2018 Implementation

2019 Implementation

In 2019, the Vorarlberger education and training fair 'I' was successfully held for the second time in 2019 with around 10 000 visitors. The concept of actively preparing and following up the target group in the schools as well as the interactive involvement of the young people at the fair itself was further expanded and refined.

2020 Implementation

In 2020, the programme of the education and training fair 'I' is fully implemented. Adaptation of the concept will be a regular part of its development but will not affect the policy itself. The fair takes place every two years and is next scheduled for autumn 2021.

2021 Implementation

In November 2021, a physical fair could be held despite the COVID-19 pandemic; it accommodated 15 000 visitors on 3 days.

2022 Implementation

As the fair is only held every second year, no fair was held in 2022.

2023 Completed

The education and training fair 'I' was held again in November 2023 and attracted more than 16 500 visitors over three days. The measure is fully implemented. The fairs are held on a regular basis every second year and no significant changes are expected.

Bodies responsible

- Vorarlberg Economic Chamber
- Federal government of Vorarlberg
- Vorarlberg Public Employment Service (AMS)
- Guidance for education and career (BIFO)

Target group

Learners

Young people (15-29 years old)

Education professionals

Guidance practitioners

Entities providing VET

Companies

VET providers (all kinds)

Thematic categories

Modernising VET offer and delivery

Reinforcing work-based learning, including apprenticeships

Supporting lifelong learning culture and increasing participation

Promotion strategies and campaigns for VET and lifelong learning

Lifelong guidance

Subsystem

IVET

Further reading

[Vorarlberger education and training fair website](#)

“ … ” Cite as

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