

# Increasing access to vocational education and training for third-country nationals

**POLICY DEVELOPMENT****PRACTICAL MEASURE/INITIATIVE** LITHUANIA

## Timeline

**2025 Implementation****ID number 50469**

## Background

Vocational education and training (VET) policy initiatives and reforms implemented in Lithuania in the areas of curriculum, quality assurance and the assessment and recognition of competencies have created favourable conditions for the development of an open and flexible VET system. Recent significant and rapid geopolitical and migration developments highlight the need for the Lithuanian VET system to be better prepared to respond to the expectations and needs of third-country nationals. Historically, the Lithuanian VET system has been focused on the needs of permanent Lithuanian residents, with VET provision delivered exclusively in the Lithuanian language. As a result, VET institutions currently lack sufficient institutional capacity and experience to organise and deliver VET for third-country nationals, while teachers often lack the competences required to work with learners from diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds. Consequently, there is also a need to adapt VET curricula accordingly.

## Objectives

This initiative focuses on adapting the VET system to integrate third-country nationals, address their training (reskilling and upskilling) needs, and facilitate their integration into the society and labour market. The initiative directly addresses the issues of social integration of third-country nationals through more inclusive third-country national non-formal VET within the project 'Increasing Access to Vocational Education and Training for Third-country Nationals'. The project is funded by the Swiss-Lithuanian VET Programme 2022-2029.

## Description

The project 'Increasing access to vocational education and training for third-country nationals' aims to increase the accessibility and inclusiveness of VET so that quality VET and related services can be provided to third-country nationals, enabling them to integrate successfully into the labour market.

During the project's implementation, it is planned that methodological and practical instruments for VET curricula are developed and tested, and that curricula are adapted accordingly. This is expected to enable VET institutions not only to provide quality VET services to third-country nationals, but also to establish a methodological and institutional

basis for the further development of VET services for third-country nationals beyond the project's duration.

Following the project's implementation, the necessary prerequisites are foreseen to be in place to allow for the flexible adaptation of curricula for third-country nationals. It is envisaged that third-country nationals gain enhanced opportunities to improve and acquire competences through the services of VET institutions.

The project's target group comprises VET institutions and organisations responsible for VET policy planning and implementation, as well as bodies supporting the integration of third-country nationals, employers and associated employer structures.

The Central Project Management Agency (CPVA) acts as the programme operator (the body responsible for the implementation). The Ministry of Education, Science and Sport is involved in specific processes during project implementation. These responsibilities are defined at national level in Resolution No 1322 of 25 November 2020 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania on the preparation for and administration of European Union and other international financial support funds.

The Qualifications and VET Development Centre (KPMPC) is the project promoter.

### **2025 Implementation**

In February 2025, the KPMPC and the Central Project Management Agency (CPMA) signed a project agreement related to the initiative and the project 'Increasing Access to Vocational Education and Training for Third-country Nationals' (PROF-ŠMSM-P-001) (2025-2028), which was launched. The planned budget for the project is EUR 1 100 000.

In May 2025, an accredited 48-hour teacher-training programme was developed to enhance participants' competences in working with third-country nationals in VET institutions and in adapting VET programmes to learners' needs. The first training phase, delivered in September and October 2025, comprised 24 hours and involved 42 selected representatives from VET institutions. In October 2025, a career education module was also developed for specialists providing individualised career guidance to third-country nationals in VET institutions.

## **Bodies responsible**

- Central Project Management Agency (CPVA)
- Ministry of Education, Science and Sport
- Qualifications and VET Development Centre (KPMPC)

## **Target group**

### **Learners**

Young people (15-29 years old)

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

Learners with migrant background, including refugees

Learners at risk of early leaving or/and early leavers

Learners with disabilities

Learners from other groups at risk of exclusion (minorities, people with fewer opportunities due to geographical location or social-economic disadvantaged position)

## **Thematic categories**

### **Modernising VET offer and delivery**

Modernising VET standards, curricula, programmes and training courses

Diversifying modes of learning: face-to-face, digital and/or blended learning;  
adaptable/flexible training formats

Developing and updating learning resources and materials

### **Teachers, trainers and school leaders competences**

Systematic approaches to and opportunities for initial and continuous professional development of school leaders, teachers and trainers

## **Subsystem**

IVET CVET

## **Further reading**

[Information about the KPMPC Increasing Access to Vocational Education and Training for Third-country Nationals \(Nr. PROF-SMSM-P-001\) \(only in Lithuanian\)](#)

### **Cite as**

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<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/tools/timeline-vet-policies-europe/search/50469>