

Action plans for the development of vocational education and training and non-formal adult education in Lithuania

In September–October 2014, the Minister for Education and Science of the Republic of Lithuania approved two important documents establishing the directions for long-term development of and investments into vocational education and training (VET) and non-formal adult education.

Action plan for the development of vocational training for 2014–2016 provides for general directions for VET development and identifies related projects. The following measures are foreseen in the action plan:

- Optimisation of the network of VET institutions and effective use of infrastructure;
- Optimisation of the supply of VET programmes carried out by VET institutions and improvement of the quality of the said programmes;
- Improvement of the system for the assessment and recognition of competences;
- Improvement of training of teachers working in VET institutions;
- Increasing the attractiveness of VET;
- Improvement of the management and training quality of VET;
- Provision of vocational guidance services.

The plan contains a preliminary list of projects to be funded the Operational Programme for the European Union Structural Funds' Investments in 2014-2020. Of these, the following projects are worth noting:

- Formation of the Lithuanian qualifications framework and modern curriculum;
- Enhancement of the capacities of managers of educational institutions;
- Development of sector-specific practical training centres;
- Infrastructure development of VET institutions having no sector-specific practical training centres;
- Raising awareness of life-long learning idea and increasing attractiveness of VET;
- Supporting the acquisition of international experience by teachers;
- Improvement of teachers competences, including key and technological competences;
- Development of the system for the assessment of competences and for the recognition of education or qualifications acquired abroad;
- Development of information systems and registers;
- External assessment of VET institutions and programmes;
- Provision of quality career education services;
- Mobility opportunities for VET institutions students with regard to trying out a practical training module at a workplace and in a sector-specific practical training centre;
- Supporting students (18+) from socially vulnerable groups in VET.

Action plan for the development of non-formal adult education for 2014–2016 aims at:

- Enabling adults to acquire key competences and shaping a positive attitude towards life-long learning;
- Creating favourable conditions for the development of life-long learning in VET and higher education institutions, and ensuring their quality;

- Developing an equal system of financial and organisational incentives leading to the creation of more favourable conditions for the participation of adults in life-long learning activities.

In order to promote the openness of VET schools to life-long learning activities, it is planned to increase the supply of modular non-formal VET programmes applicable for adult education and to provide vocational guidance services for adults. It is also planned to implement projects for recognition of competences and/or qualifications.

The plan contains a preliminary list of projects to be funded from the Operational Programme for the European Union Structural Funds' Investments in 2014-2020. It is foreseen to support adults education in all education sectors and the development of key competences, to support learning opportunities for seniors and to improve the quality of non-formal adult education.

Action plan for the development of vocational training for 2014–2016 (in Lithuanian)

Action plan for the development of non-formal adult education for 2014–2016 (in Lithuanian)

Source: ReferNet Lithuania