





CATCHING-UP REGIONS

VET REFORM: MATCHING THE EXISTING SUPPLY OF VOCATIONAL SECONDARY STUDY PROGRAMMES AND NEEDS OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN THE PSK

Steering Committee Prešov, May 17-18, 2018



VET: Recent developments

- 1. AP/AA finalization
- 2. Mission (May 10-18)
- 3. Indicative short-term action plan
- 4. Next steps and issues to discuss



VET: Action Plan – Activity 1.1. Survey of labor market needs

1.1.1 Overview of local companies' demand for VET graduates

- In-depth interviews and focus groups with a representational group of 40 different types of employers/companies in the PSK, taking into account the subregions -Prešov metropolitan region (Prešov, Vranov nad Topľou and Sabinov districts), Podtatranský region (Poprad, Kežmarok and Stará Ľubovňa), North Carpathian region (districts Bardejov, Svidník and Stropkov) and the North-East Carpathian region (the districts of Medzilaborce, Snina and Humenné)
- The analysis will include in depth interviews and focus groups to assess the causes, nature, and scale of the potential mismatch, identifying specific needs that companies deem important in graduates' curriculum in medium and long term perspective, making them more employable. This activity will produce a summary report that presents the companies' view and suggestions about the existing vocational education system, the current skills it produces, and suggestions for its reform to increase its utility.
- Output: Report on labor market needs in the Prešov region
- Duration: 3 months (June August 2018)



VET: Action Plan – Activity 1.2. Analysis and design of reform of the secondary vocational schools

1.1.2 Analysis of the secondary vocational schools (SVS) on the supply side

- pupils (number of pupils in study and teaching specialisations in view of the outcome of the report on labor market needs), qualifications of teachers (general education and vocational education subjects)
- supply of existing study and teaching specialisations (in which students are currently studying at SVS) – there are 76 SVS established by PSK and 8 private/ church SVS
- recommendations for enlargement or abolition of the study programmes according to the analysis of the labor market survey, expansion of the supply of schools for retraining courses, lifelong learning
- Output: A report mapping the existing secondary vocational study and teaching courses and specialisation in the PSK area, including a proposal to optimize the structure of secondary vocational education study programs in line with labor market needs
- Duration: 9 months (June 2018 February 2019)



VET: Action Plan – Activity 1.3. Investment needs analysis of prioritized secondary vocational schools

1.3.1 Identification of investment needs of prioritized secondary vocational schools

- analysis according to material-technical and geographic distribution for individual prioritized study programs
- analysis of staff capacities of the SVS proposals for training of pedagogical staff,
 needed curriculum modifications, increase of the recommended number of staff etc.
- Output: Report with recommendations on necessary investments needs for the prioritized secondary vocational schools (ca. 5 selected schools)
- Duration: 5 months (January May 2019)

Final output:

- Sufficient data concerning under/over-supply in secondary vocational education sector and labour market needs leading to a prioritized set of investment needs in a sample of schools. The tailor-made recommendations will serve as a starting point for the reform process in order to improve matching between the existing supply of vocational secondary study programmes and needs of the labour market in the region.
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VET: Recent activities

Pre-Mission April/Early May

- Identification and review of potential evaluation designs & data collection instruments
- WB team identification of international and local consultants/experts

Pre-Mission and Mission May 10-18

- WB team team formation of local consultants/experts
- PSK meetings identification and assessment of PSK regional education data, reports, etc.
- Min Edu SK familiarization of current and anticipated VET reforms
- Other national stakeholders discussing VET reforms with National Institute for Education, Federation of Employers' Association, Slovak Institute for VET, MESA 10 NGO

Workshop with directors of VET schools (May 16, 2016)

- Orientation to SK CuRI and VET project
- Discussion on current status of secondary VET (issues, challenges, opportunities, etc.)
- Next steps in VET secondary school study ("Activity #2")



VET: Indicative short-term action plan

Inception Report finalization	May 30, 2018
Interviews and focus groups with companies	June-July 2018
Next mission to Slovakia, SCM participation	Late June, 2018
Analysis of data from companies' interviews and focus groups	July/August 2018
First draft outputs from Activity 1.1.1	End of August 2018



VET: Next steps and issues to discuss

Next Steps

- General division of tasks WB PSK + possible EC role
- Finalization of team formation international and local team members
- Decisions and drafting of first set of companies' study data collection instruments
- Preparations for data collection management (tablets, etc.) and training

<u>Implementation Issues</u>

- PSK to collect and provide requested data on schools, etc.
- Inception Report draft elaborated by May 15, its finalization till May 30

Information and Data Needed for Further Analysis

- TBD pending further review of recently obtained reports/data
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