2019

The Ministry of National Education continues the reforms in the field of education and training, in order to ensure an education adapted to the labour market requirements and focused on personal and social development.

Introduction of the dual professional education

For 2019, the newly established National Authority for Dual Vocational Training in Romania (ANFPISDR), planned the following actions:

- conclusion of a partnership agreement with the National Centre for Development of Vocational and Technical Education (CNDIPT)

- conclusion of a partnership agreement with the National Qualification Authority (ANC) and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Romania (CCIR) for the achievement and implementation of Level 3 qualification level - Mechatronics

- promotion of dual VET system offer for the 2019-2020 school year

- development of an EEA grants (Norwegian Funds) funded project, which aims to improve the transition from the 8th Grade to high school/vocational school, and to reduce the school absenteeism in dual VET students (project application’ target group: 900 students enrolled in the 2019-2020 school year)

- drafting some legislative proposals to extend the dual VET to 3.5 years of study

- elaboration of proposals to complement the Law 34/1992 on sponsorship, so as to ensure an efficient use and the possibility of extending the material base associated with dual VET educational establishments

- elaboration of the draft Strategy for the development of dual VET education in Romania for the period 2019-2023

- development of study on the dual VET education impact on the national economy, from the perspective of training and assuring qualified human resources through dual VET education system.
Consolidation of the professional and technical education

Part of the Master Plan for the implementation of dual/apprenticeship programs in the initial VET in Romania for the period 2015-2020 will be implemented through the project Systemic Development of TVET in accordance with the socio-economic development needs at national, regional and local levels.

It was launched the final form of the Applicant’s Guide for the non-competitive project Systemic Development of Vocational and Technical Education and Training in accordance with the socio-economic development needs at national, regional and local level, in order to implement measures aimed at improving the relevance and increasing quality of TVET, in line with development needs at national, regional and local level.

A series of measures will be funded under the Vocational Education and Training Strategy of Romania for the period 2016 - 2020, aiming at the following specific objectives:

- increasing participation in initial vocational training programmes, especially for students/apprentices from disadvantaged communities with focus on the rural area and Roma minority

- increasing the participation in the dual education programmes of students and apprentices enrolled in secondary and tertiary non-university education, with focus on the economic sectors with competitive potential identified according to the Romania’s National Strategy for Competitiveness and intelligent specialization fields according to National Strategy on Research, Development and Innovation

- improving the skills of teaching staff, trainers, professional skills assessors, and of the companies’ staff in charge with training in the workplace

- increasing the number of offers provided by VET tailored to the needs and development trends of the labour market.

2018

The Ministry of National Education continues the reforms in the field of education and training, in order to ensure an education adapted to the labour market requirements and focused on personal and social development.

Consolidation of the professional and technical education

The 2018 Action Plan for the implementation of the Vocational Education and Training Strategy in Romania in the period 2015-2020 and the report on the implementation of the 2017 Action Plan thereof were drawn-up.

To implement the programmes in the initial professional training system, the implementation of the Master-plan for the period 2015-2020 was agreed.

The Applicant’s guide for the project Training the entrepreneurial skills - VET, from POCU and National Budget funding, has been completed. The general objective of the project is to improve the utility of the education and training systems for the labour market by developing the entrepreneurial skills in the secondary and vocational education and by facilitating the pupils’ transition from education to the labour market.
The National Competition Business Plan takes place annually, in partnership with the local public authorities, national or foreign higher education institutions and research institutions, non-governmental organizations, economic agents, employer associations from the economic fields for which vocational training is organised. In the competition Business Plan 2018, 301 practice firms have engaged in the local phase, with more 900 students.

The Ministry of National Education has submitted to the Ministry of European Funds the proposal for a project and a guide for the non-competitive project Systemic development of vocational and technical education in accordance with the needs of social and economic development at national, regional and local level, a project containing a component aimed at the development of entrepreneurship in Romania, with a view to the following:

- Development and improvement of the teaching-learning methods of teachers in vocational and technical education for the development of entrepreneurial skills - 6,100 trained teachers.

- Development of students’ entrepreneurial skills - 61,000 participants in the activities carried out for developing entrepreneurial skills.

Introduction of the dual professional education

Dual vocational education was introduced, where students benefit from vocational scholarships (200 lei - from the state budget) and from employers (between 200 and 600 de lei), as well as other facilities. In the 2018/2019 school year, there are 4110 students.

Through OMEN No 4798/2017, it was approved the Agreement for the practical training of students in dual education. The role of this contract is to ensure a quality training provision, so as graduates may be employed according to their level of education and the qualification they are awarded.

2017

The Ministry of National Education continues the reforms in the field of education and training, in order to ensure an education adapted to the labour market requirements and focused on personal and social development.

The year 2017 is dedicated to the promotion of the vocational and technical education in Romania.

Introduction of the dual professional education

OUG 81/23.11.2016 concerning the amending and supplementing the Law of National Education No. 1/2011 for supporting the dual education was adopted; tax incentives were introduced for the partner companies. The Fiscal Code was also supplemented by introducing the deductibility of the professional training costs for the companies supporting the dual vocational education.

The staff of the school inspectorates, of the vocational and technical education units, respectively the secondary education units was trained about the modality of organizing and functioning of the dual education.

The consultative partnership structures for the vocational and technical education units and those of the economic operators have been informed with regard to the stages of setting up the study teams in the dual education and the calendar for organizing and carrying out the admission in the dual education.
The National Centre for the Development of Vocational Education and Training is reorganised so as to include the field of entrepreneurship education, while the draft strategy to foster dual education is currently in the development phase. It was approved the **Agreement for the practical training of students in dual education**. The role of this contract is to ensure a quality training provision, so as graduates may be employed according to their level of education and the qualification they are awarded.

A number of 106 classes of dual education have been formed. It was approved the **Framework for the organisation and the timetable of the admission to public vocational education and dual education in the 2018/2019 school year**.

For the school year 2017-2018 a number of 3,466 places in classes/groups of dual education have been offered by companies.

According to the OMEN provisions No. 3556/2017 on the approval of the Framework methodology for the organization and carrying out of the admission in the dual education for level 3 professional qualifications and of the Calendar of admission in the level 3 state dual professional education, the admission is performed in two stages (July 2017 and September 2017, respectively).

**Proposals of non-competitive projects**

Increasing the relevance of the initial professional training by anticipating the professional training needs for the labour market and developing the learning component at the workplace (dual vocational and technical education) – POCU and National Budget funding. The following are aimed: the development of the mechanisms for anticipating the competences required on the labour market, the definition of the professional profiles, in order to develop/revise the qualifications in accordance with the relevant skills and the knowledge for the labour market needs and the adjustment of the education programmes to the labour market needs and trends.

**Consolidation of the professional and technical education**

By ministerial order, the year 2017 was declared the Year of the vocational and technical education. The order includes a Measure Plan with actions for promoting the vocational and technical education.

In the school year 2016-2017, for a number of 79,954 pupils registered in the vocational education in grades IX-XI, the practical training is carried out at a number of 6,680 companies.

By the OMEN order No. 3554/2017, the Methodology for organizing and functioning of the dual professional education was approved.

To implement the programmes in the initial professional training system, the implementation of the Master-plan for the period 2015-2020 was launched.

**Projects supporting the measure**

The Projects Erasmus+ **Support for the National Point of Reference for quality assurance in the education and the professional training - 2016 and 2017**, aim to: (1) elaborate a compendium of good practices for promoting the visibility and attractiveness of the vocational and technical education; (2) develop an institutional Guide for quality assurance in the initial professional training.

The Project Interreg Danube Transnational Programme **“Learning by Doing”** aims to perform transferable and accessible tools for the partner countries in order to support the vocational and technical educational in the Danube Region.

**Proposals of non-competitive projects**
Training the entrepreneurial skills through the training firm/simulated company - POCU and National Budget funding. The general objective of the project is to improve the utility of the education and training systems for the labour market by developing the entrepreneurial skills in the secondary and vocational education and by facilitating the pupils' transition from education to the labour market.

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