

National Centre for Education Republic of Latvia

### VET content reforms in Latvia

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### **VET** reforms background

#### **Prestige of VET should be rise**

- Improved VET schools infrastructure (new buildings, teaching and training equipment)
- Vocational education competence centers with structural units in regions
- → Attractiveness of VET rises target 50/50

### Mechanism of cooperation with labour market

sectorial expert councils (SEC), VET Conventions and cooperation with local municipalities

(Vocational education law (2015), Cabinet regulations (2016))

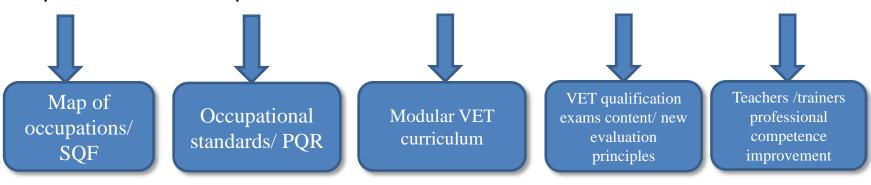
- ✓ ERAF investment 7 out of 41 VET schools are fully modernized
- ✓ Reform of content (2011-2021) occupational standards, modular VET programs, qualification exams etc.
- ✓ Work based learning 2013/2014 pilot projects, from 2016 according Cabinet regulations, ESF support 2017-2023



### **VET Curriculum reforms**

#### Main goal

Establish a system for ensuring the content of vocational education that is appropriate for the development needs, sectoral and dual education approach that is capable of responding rapidly to the demand of the labour market by regularly evaluating and updating the content of vocational education in accordance with the regularly updated sectoral qualifications structure.





### Social partners in VET

### Social partners play significant role in VET trough their involvement

- In curriculum development (new technologies, materials, equipment) to ensure its corespondence of the labour market requirements
- On the content of qualification examinations
- Process of organization- work based learning, practises
- In evaluating examination performance
- In organization of vocational skills competitions



# Occupational standards development

- Occupational standard is developed by working group composed of representatives of employers nominated by Sectoral Expert's council to better reflect sector and labour market needs
- Sectoral experts council discuss the final text and aprove it
- National Tripartite Sub-council for Cooperation in Vocational Education and Employment ratify an occupational standard



# Amendments in legislation for the VET Curriculum restructuring (1)

#### Professional education law amendments (1)

In vocational initial education, vocational basic education and vocational continuing education, modular VET programs can be implemented.

#### Module



part of the professional qualification, it is based on the learning outcomes to be achieved as an appreciable and demonstrable set of knowledge, skills and competences Modular program



The component of the VET program, which includes the objectives and tasks of the module, the results achieved by the module, the content of the module, the content acquisition plan, the evaluation criteria and procedure for the acquired education, and the list of methods and means necessary for implementation of the program

Modular VET program



VET program, the professional content of which, depending on the target set for the educational program, is a set of modules and which, as a result of the acquisition, can acquire a professional qualification

<sup>\* 22.06.2017</sup> amendments valid from 6.07.2017



# Amendments in legislation for the VET Curriculum restructuring (2)

#### **Professional education law amendments(2)**

Article 6 is amended by (9) as follows:

For a student who has acquired the module of accredited modular VET program or several modules that are recognizable in the labour market and can be identified as a set of evaluable knowledge, skills and competences, but does not prove the acquisition of a professional qualification, the educational institution issues a certificate for the acquisition of the module or related modules, the name of the educational institution, the name and surname of the student, the code and names of the accredited educational program, the names of the completed modules, the achieved results and evaluation, the time of acquisition, the name and surname of the head of the educational institution, the issued certificate number and the date of issue.



Development of the Cabinet Ministers Regulation No. 451 "Procedures for the Issuance of State-recognized Vocational Education and Professional Qualification Documents" Amendments



Development of the Cabinet Ministers Regulation No. 902 "Procedures for issuing documents certifying professional development and professional orientation" Amendments



# Amendments in legislation for the VET Curriculum restructuring (3)

Amendments to the Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 211 "Regulations on the National Standard for Vocational Education and State Vocational Education"

In addition to the subjects in compulsory VET content, there are also modules for professional competences and modular programs.

Introduction of **modular approach** based on the learning outcomes

#### new strategic goal

after acquiring educational programs, learners acquire competences, which includes knowledge, skills and attitudes, which are determined by occupational standards and requirements for professional qualifications.

**VET content** can be acquired on face to face **in work-based learning** 

\* Compliance with amendments to the PEL -Form of acquisition of vocational education face to face, including work-based learning

<sup>\* 19.09.2017</sup> amendments, valid from 22.09.2017



# Modular professional education programms

Advantages	Disadvantages
Based on the results, ensures mobility	
Flexible modular changeable content, expressed as a percentage	<ul> <li>Development process time-consuming and laborious</li> </ul>
Module provides competence acquisition by the learner is able to do?	Requires teachers methodological and pedagogical competence
Used alone modules or module groups of professional development	(interactive teaching methods, content restructuring)
A shorter period provides new sector qualifications acquisition	In order to achieve the results required the
May continue to acquire professional qualifications in various forms of educational attainment	involvement of students in the learning process and a high level of
Flexible modules varying in relation to the sector / region / business needs	independence
The employer in an understandable way formulated competence	9



# Methodology of modular programms

### Flexible VET curriculum

To ensure corespondence to labour market demands the following approaches have been used:

- Modular
- Sectoral
- Competenceslearning outcomes

# Structure of modular curriculum

- Compulsory (A)
   modules- provide
   sector specific general
   skills
- Optional modules (B) provide specific skills for particular professional qualification
- Free choice (C) –provide sector specificor local requirements



### **Modular VET programms**

# Grouping learning outcomes







Coopearation with ECVET/
EQAVET

#### **Units**

Parts of qualification consisting of related learning outcomes (knowledge, skills and competences)

#### **Modules**

Didactic parts of an education programme consisting of relate learning outcomes (knowledge, skills and competences).

One module can correspond more than one qualification



### Modular VET programs approbation and implementation

### In the 2016/2017 school year, approbation was started:

- 30 modular VET programs for 12 professional qualifications in 16 VET institutions, incl. 14 Vocational education competence centres
- 2 approbation seminars have taken place: 16.11.2016 and 27.04.2017
- The first results of the approbation are summarized, and conclusions are drawn
- The methodological work of VET institutions has been initiated in the methodological working groups, thus establishing VECC methodological work and strengthening by promoting cooperation between VET institutions



# Modular VET programs approbation and introduction

#### Since September / October of 2017 has introduced

Developed and licensed 100 modular vocational education programs for <u>35 professional qualifications</u>

- Implementation / approbation started for 80 modular education programs for 28 professional qualifications in 24 vocational education institutions, incl. 17 Vocational education competence centres
- The development of modular education programs is ongoing to increase the supply of adult continuing education programs
- In winter and summer 2018 enrolments is planned to start approbation and implementation of programs in more than 10 professional qualifications
- Modular VET programms implementation in municipal, privat VET schools, and Ministry of Culture subordinate VET institutions



#### VET Curriculum reforms continuing/ planned results

New modular VET programms, based on learning outcomes

Modular programms for 184 occupations (for 10 occupations by 31.12.2018)

VET qualification examination content development

Development and purchase of methodological materials and simulation equipment

- Improved 14 sectors' professions maps and 1 newfor Arts sector Design branch
- New occupational standards and professional qualifications requirements development
- **160 occupational standards** and PQR (90 OS/ PQR by 31.12.2018)
- Improvement of vocational and lifelong learning competencies of VET teachers, trainers and administration, incl. work with new content



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### Thank you for your attention!

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