YOUNG PEOPLE NOT IN EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION OR TRAINING

Prevention, outreach and skills development
Western Balkans priorities

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FRAMING THE YOUTH TRANSITION
WHAT ARE WE USUALLY LOOKING AT?

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION (ex. crisis, disruptions, new transition patterns)

DETAILED DATA ON YOUTH LABOUR MARKET SITUATION

LONG-TERM CONSEQUENCES ON EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AND LABOUR MARKET ATTACHMENT

POLICY LEVERS AND CONTEXTS SHAPING THE TRANSITION

YOUTH TRANSITION
Share of youth (aged 0-24) in the total population, trends and projections

Source: ETF KIESE database, calculations based on UN DESA data
Percentage of population aged 15-24 identified as NEET

Source: ETF KIESE (from LFS and Eurostat). 2022 or last year available
Employment rate (age 15+) by educational attainment

Source: ETF KIESE (from LFS and Eurostat). 2022 or last year available
Starting point: Where are the youth today?

Source: ETF KIESE, Eurostat (2021 or latest)

Note: As a % of youth aged 15-29. Totals don't add up to 100 due to those with an unknown status.
Exposure of recent Vocational Educational and Training graduates to **Work Based Learning**

Operational definition used: Apprenticeship includes *remunerated, curriculum-related* work-experience during studies, of *at least 6 months* in duration.

Source: Eurostat (lfs0_16feduc); * ISCED 3-4 VET graduates aged 15-34
YOUTH GUARANTEE IN THE WESTERN BALKANS

• Political commitment
• Partnership based approach and social dialogue
• Engagement of youth organisations
• Stronger collaboration schools – universities – PES – social services
• Reform of ALMPs and capacity building of Public Employment Services
• EU and ILO – capacity building, peer exchange and funding
• Contribution of other international and European agencies, donors.
Support NEET transition to work

Outreaching  Counselling  Skills  Employment
YOUTH GUARANTEE & CAREER COUNSELLING

EARLY INTERVENTION OR PREVENTION PHASE
• integrate career education as structured learning programme in formal education throughout all levels from primary education onwards

OUTREACH & PREPARATION PHASES
• train partners that reach out to young people in the provision of career guidance. Young NEET often need extensive support before they are ready to participate in YG preparatory activities
### Towards Effective Outreach

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<th>Outreach as information service</th>
<th>Outreach to empower</th>
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<td>Main objective: registration of NEETs</td>
<td>Main objective: help NEETs find their way</td>
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<td>Sometimes support offer such as motivational training, training on CV writing and interviewing etc.</td>
<td>Empower NEETs to reengage into learning and working in a self-directed way (intrinsic motivation)</td>
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<td>Fast activation</td>
<td>Sustainable activation</td>
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<td>Short term, rather technical intervention to hand over to other stakeholders (PES, trainers)</td>
<td>Establish trustful relationships with young NEET</td>
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Quality Assurance of YG offers

Implications for traineeships, apprenticeships, qualifications frameworks and validation of non-formal and informal learning
European quality framework for apprenticeships


**Apprenticeships** are understood as formal vocational education and training schemes that

a) combine learning in education or training institutions with substantial work-based learning in companies and other workplaces,

b) lead to nationally recognised qualifications,

c) are based on an agreement defining the rights and obligations of the apprentice, the employer and, where appropriate, the vocational education and training institution, and

d) with the apprentice being paid or otherwise compensated for the work-based component.

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<th>Criteria for learning and working conditions</th>
<th>Criteria for framework conditions</th>
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<td>Written agreement</td>
<td>Regulatory framework</td>
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<td>Learning outcomes</td>
<td>Involvement of social partners</td>
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<td>Pedagogical support</td>
<td>Support for companies</td>
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<td>Flexible pathways and mobility (VNFIL, NQF, upward mobility)</td>
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<td>Pay and/or compensation</td>
<td>Career guidance and awareness raising</td>
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<td>Social protection</td>
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<td>Work, health and safety conditions</td>
<td>Quality assurance and tracking of apprentices</td>
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European quality framework for traineeships

• Council Recommendation of 10 March 2014 on a Quality Framework for Traineeships
EUR-Lex - 32014H0327(01) - EN - EUR-Lex (europa.eu)

Traineeships are understood as a limited period of work practice, whether paid or not, which includes a learning and training component, undertaken in order to gain practical and professional experience with a view to improving employability and facilitating transition to regular employment.

Key principles:
• Conclusion of a written traineeship agreement
• Learning and training objectives
• Working conditions applicable to trainees
• Rights and obligations
• Reasonable duration (recommended max 6 months)
• Proper recognition of traineeships
• Transparency requirements
Quality of training offers

National Qualifications Frameworks (NQFs) assure that all qualifications included in the national qualifications registers are:

• market relevant
• properly designed and described (learning outcomes)
• assessed in a valid and reliable assessment process
• covered by QA procedures.

NQFs are at various stages of operationalisation.

Training programmes fall under different jurisdictions (adult learning, non-formal learning, IVET, CVET) and might not yet be included in the NQFs. Close collaboration with all relevant partners is crucial.

QA mechanisms should be applied in line with the national regulations and circumstances.

QA priorities: labour-market relevance of programme and quality of learner’s assessment process.
Consider use of validation of non-formal and informal learning (VNFIL) - alternative route to qualification

2012 Council Recommendation on validation of non-formal and informal learning

EUR-Lex - 32012H1222(01) - EN - EUR-Lex (europa.eu)

Validation systems in place - challenges in:
• attracting candidates - outreach
• scaling up the service

For whom:
• Persons with skills (work experience, unpaid work in family business, volunteering, hobby)

BUT
• VNFIL can be combined with training and work-based learning offers
Potential benefits
• Shorter training time
• Reduced training costs
• Motivation boost

Validation process - synergies

VNFIL embedded in learning paths

Source: Instytut Badan Edukacyjnych (IBE)
Key references
The reinforced Youth Guarantee - Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion - European Commission (europa.eu)

Youth disengagement and skills mismatch in the Western Balkans | ETF (europa.eu)
Youth transition and skills mismatch in Eastern Partnership countries | ETF (europa.eu)
Youth transition and skills mismatch in EU Southern Neighbourhood | ETF (europa.eu)

Council Recommendation of 15 March 2018 on a European Framework for Quality and Effective Apprenticeships
EUR-Lex - 32018H0502(01) - EN - EUR-Lex (europa.eu)

Council Recommendation of 10 March 2014 on a Quality Framework for Traineeships
EUR-Lex - 32014H0327(01) - EN - EUR-Lex (europa.eu)

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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