

EUROPEAN ALLIANCE FOR APPRENTICESHIPS

NATIONAL COMMITMENT

Contact details:

COUNTRY	Norway
Ministry(ies)	Education and Research
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Ministries

The Ministry of Education and Research is responsible for national policy and regulation on primary and secondary education, including VET, and higher education. The Ministry cooperates with other relevant ministries such as Public Health, Regional, Trades and Labour in order to coordinate governance and resources.

Indicate the **focus of this commitment** – tick relevant box(es)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supply | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quality |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Image | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mobility |

Description

The Ministry is partner in The Social Contract between the Norwegian Government and the social partners - an important effort for more apprenticeships. Furthermore, the Ministry cooperates with social partners through national boards for the various industries and sectors of the labour market where discussions and actions for increased apprenticeships are a main target. Some of the most important actions and steps in order to increase VET relevance and promote apprenticeship as a major part of VET in national policy are:

- **Increased public funding to stimulate enterprises to offer more apprenticeships**
- **Improving the VET programme's relevance to the labour market. Done in cooperation with social partners, a programme which will run until 2017**
- **Deployment of public procurement in public contracts to promote apprenticeships**
- **Strategy for more apprenticeships in the public sector**
- **Establishment of public authorization of craftsman`s certificates from other countries**

The European Alliance for Apprenticeships (EAfA) is a multi-stakeholder initiative to strengthen the supply, quality and image of apprenticeships. The commitment will be published on the EAfA webpage.

Web: ec.europa.eu/apprenticeships-alliance

Email: empl-eafa@ec.europa.eu

Added value

The Ministry's main ambition with this commitment is to increase awareness and image of VET and the apprenticeship system both nationally and in cooperation with EU member states and other European countries, in order to increase labour quality and competitiveness, and in order to supply competence and qualifications to the society both nationally and in Europe.

Partners

Nationally, the Ministry will cooperate with the social partners and with other ministries of relevance. The Ministry will also seek cooperation through suitable forums such as the European Alliance for Apprenticeship and other European and international organisations.

Guidelines for completing the template

Commitments are accepted from **EU countries, EFTA countries and EU candidate countries**, and should demonstrate concrete commitment and actions that will strengthen apprenticeships when it comes to one or more of the following aspects:

1. Increasing **supply**
2. Improving the **quality**
3. Improving the **image**
4. Enhancing **mobility**

Commitments should be in line with the [Council Declaration](#) on the European Alliance for Apprenticeships of 15 October 2013, and include concrete reform(s)/initiative(s). They should not be funding applications or project proposals, and they will not give any rights for funding. For instance, commitments could be linked to:

- a change in or a reform of the national VET and apprenticeships system;
- enhanced support to actors, including financial and non-financial aid;
- exploring the possibility of initiating a pilot for developing apprenticeship-type training in companies that have not previously engaged in this form of training;
- considering adopting or building on a successful apprenticeship model from another country/region;
- reviewing an existing apprenticeship model in order to explore how the quantity, quality, efficiency image of this training could be increased;
- measures to improve opportunities of mobility for apprentices;
- offer cooperation and partnership to other participating countries.

Benefits

By making a pledge and joining the Alliance your organisation can benefit from:

- **Networking** – A European network of apprenticeship experts
- **Learning** – Sharing of experiences and best practices
- **Tools** – Access to guidelines, practical tools and resources
- **Information** – News, reports, funding information and invitations to workshops and events
- **Visibility** – Increased visibility and publicity around your initiatives

Commitment

By making a pledge and joining the Alliance your organisation commits to:

- **Promoting** – Promote the value and benefits of apprenticeships
- **Sharing** – Share learning and practices within the Alliance network and other stakeholders
- **Informing** – Provide information on your activities, results and next steps through an annual online survey

Definition of apprenticeships:

1. Apprenticeships are part of **formal education and training programmes**;
2. Apprenticeships combine **company-based training** (periods of practical work experience at a workplace) with **school-based education** (periods of theoretical/ practical education in a school or training centre);
3. Apprenticeships **lead to a nationally recognised qualification**.

Most apprenticeships are based on a contract or formal agreement between the employer and the apprentice, with the apprentice being paid for his/her work. Sometimes they are other contractual arrangements between the employer, the VET provider and the apprentice.