

EUROPEAN ALLIANCE FOR APPRENTICESHIPS

MEMBER STATES – PLANNED REFORMS/INITIATIVES

Considering the Council Declaration¹ on the European Alliance for Apprenticeships of 15 October 2013, **Estonia** will undertake the following measures to increase the quality, supply and attractiveness of apprenticeships.

Main objective

1. Improving the coherence of labour market and education and training systems.
 2. Reducing the share of adults without professional qualification or vocational training.
 3. Strengthening vocational education and training systems, including work-based learning and apprenticeship schemes.
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Description

In 2013 new Vocational Education Institution's Act and other regulations related to the Act came into force,

- the conditions and procedure for the organisation of work-practice was established by a regulation of the Minister of Education and Research;
- the regulation on workplace-based study form (apprenticeship) was revised.

It is planned to significantly increase possibilities to acquire qualification through participation in apprenticeship programmes in the next ESF period.

Added value

In Estonia, apprenticeship studies are less common than traditional school based programmes. Workplace-based study-schemes are not used very widely. In the academic year 2012/13 students enrolled in workplace-based studies made up only 2 percent of total VET students, this is 551 persons from 26.172 students. Expected outcomes: 6.000 apprentices can acquire qualification in the period 2014-2023.

Added value of the initiative: it's targeted to reduce the share of people without professional qualification or vocational training; workplace-based study form will also be more widely used in Estonia.

Partners

A wide range of partners will be involved: other Ministries, employers, their representative organisations, Professional Councils, VET providers etc.

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¹ http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/lisa/139011.pdf