

<b>3. Detailed description of main measures and/or their packages <sup>(1)</sup></b>
<b>Title</b>
<b>Strengthening the links of VET with the labour market.</b>
<b>Rationale/background, challenges addressed</b>
<b>Mismatches between qualifications and labour market needs, high youth unemployment rate, lack of connection of VET with social and labour market needs.</b>
<b>Specific objectives of the measure/package and their relation to the general objectives of the plan</b>
<b>Improve labour market relevance of VET, Enhance employability and social inclusion, facilitate school/training-to-work transitions, provide more opportunities for VET graduates and trainees to gain experience and improve their qualifications in real working conditions.</b>
<b>Description of main actions and activities comprising the measure/package, including implementation milestones and indicative timeline</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>Reinforcing apprenticeship schemes by 2025 (to be continued until 2029).</u></b>  In the Post-secondary year - Apprenticeship Class, the methodology of apprenticeship is applied, which includes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) apprenticeship with on-the-job training for at least 50% of the total duration of the program and</li> <li>b) laboratory specialty courses taking place in a school laboratory.</li> </ol> The apprentices' reimbursement for the period of their apprenticeship is set at 95% of the minimum wage of an unskilled worker. The implementation of the project of apprenticeships has been included in the Partnership Agreement for the Development Framework (ESPA). For the years 2023-2028 the number of potential beneficiaries is estimated annually to 25.000</li> </ul>

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<sup>1</sup> A package (of measures) is a coherent set of measures that address a particular challenge, one or several priorities and principles of the VET recommendation and/or objectives of the Osnabrück Declaration.

graduates (by 414 EPAL), which gives a total number of 125.000 graduates for the whole period. For the same period, the actual number of beneficiaries is expected to reach 4.500 apprentices per year (22.500 in total).

- **Reinforcing internship schemes by 2025 (to be continued until 2029).**

With the Joint Ministerial Decision K5/97484 of 5-8-2021, a paid internship was determined for the first time for the trainees of the Vocational Training Institutes (IEK) under the responsibility of the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs. The trainees will receive compensation equal to the 80% of the legal wage of an unskilled worker. The implementation of the project of internships has been included in the Partnership Agreement for the Development Framework (ESPA). For the years 2023-2028 the number of potential beneficiaries is estimated annually to 35.000 trainees (by 126 IEK), which gives a total number of 175.000 trainees for the whole period. For the same period, the actual number of beneficiaries is expected to reach 25.000 apprentices per year (125.000 in total).

- **Updated Occupational Profiles as key element to modernise VET offer and delivery**

The social partners and trade unions, i.e. representatives of employees and employers, play a key role to adapt VET to labour market by supporting and implementing activities to enhance the adaptability of workers and enterprises to the new entrepreneurial environment.

Aiming at enhancing the adaptability of workers, enterprises and the entrepreneurial environment to the new development requirements, with the support of the Labour Institute of General Confederation of Workers (INE/ GSEE) and the Institute of the Hellenic Confederation of Professionals, Craftsmen and Merchants (IME/ GSEVEE), integrated and targeted actions to align VET and training courses to labour market and to sectoral up- and re-skilling needs keep on implemented. These actions contribute to further development of quality assured systems for IVET, CVET and LLL and the certification of human capital skills. The deliverables include new Occupational standards defining also the required learning outcomes and the connected VET programmes, referred to specific occupations. In 2021, a new methodological tool for the development of the occupational profiles was adopted by the Governing Board of EOPPEP. And now, a new institutional framework for the certification of occupational profile is under way in order to be adopted in a new legal framework. About 200 Occupational profiles will be developed or updated and then certified in accordance to the new methodological and legal framework.

**EU policy priorities addressed**

<b>Council Recommendation on VET</b>	<b>Osnabrück Declaration</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A. VET is agile in adapting to labour market challenges. <input type="checkbox"/> B. Flexibility and progression opportunities are at the core of VET. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C. VET is a driver for innovation and growth and prepares for digital and green transitions and occupations in high demand. <input type="checkbox"/> D. VET is an attractive choice based on modern and digitalised provision of training/skills. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E. VET promotes equality of opportunities. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> F. VET is underpinned by a culture of quality assurance.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1. Resilience and excellence through quality, inclusive and flexible VET. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2. Establishing a new lifelong learning culture – relevance of CVET and digitalisation. <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Sustainability – a green link in VET. <input type="checkbox"/> 4. European Education and Training Area and international VET.
<b>VET subsystem (IVET, CVET, or both)</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> initial VET (IVET) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> continuing VET (CVET)	
<b>Scope (national, regional, local)</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> regional <input type="checkbox"/> local	
<b>Beneficiaries/target groups</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Apprentices of the Post-Secondary year - Apprenticeship Class</b></li> <li>• <b>Vocational Training Institutes (IEK) trainees</b></li> <li>• <b>Employees and Employers, workers and enterprises, unemployed people</b></li> <li>• <b>VET and labor policy makers</b></li> <li>• <b>VET providers</b></li> </ul>	

- **Career / Vocational Counsellors**

**Responsible ministries/bodies**

- **Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs**
- **Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs**
- **Social Partners**
- **ESPA Executive Unit – Education Sector of the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs**
- **Youth and Lifelong Learning Foundation**
- **Post-Secondary Year - Apprenticeship Class**
- **Vocational Training Institutes (IEK)**

**Source of funding (National, EU funds, sectoral)**

**Partnership Agreement for the Development Framework (main strategic plan for growth in Greece with the contribution of resources originating from the European Structural and Investment Funds of the EU)**