

Austria - Apprenticeship “Metal Technology” - redesign of the Training Regulation

Title of inspiring practice	Apprenticeship “Metal Technology” - redesign of the Training Regulation (<i>“Lehrberuf “Metalltechnik”, Novellierung der Ausbildungsordnung”</i>)
Geographical area	Austria, at national level.
Period of implementation	The project started in May 2022.
Rationale	<p>“Green skills” training is implemented as a part of the apprenticeship course. In Austria, “Metal Technology” is one of the most popular apprenticeship courses, following the strong focus of the Austrian industry on metal technology expertise and the high demand for this qualification in the labour market. For this reasons, the government put strong focus on this apprenticeship and other thematic-related professions. Furthermore, the training regulation for the “metal technology” apprenticeship course have been redesigned, together with apprenticeships on electrical engineering and installation and building technology (die Lehrberufe “Elektrotechnik” und ” Installations- und Gebäudetechnik”). This initiative fits into the Austrian system of dual Vocational Education and Training.</p>
Scope of the practice	Initial Vocational Education and Training
Educational level	EQF 4
Introduction and context	<p>The key stakeholders involved in the practice are the Austrian Federal Ministry of Labour and Economy and the Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research, social partners, VET providers, enterprises and vocational schools.</p> <p>The driver behind this initiative was the need to update the main job profile of workers following the changing skills demand. All apprenticeship training regulations are screened in a regular cycle of about 5 years and are adapted to the latest market and socio-economic conditions. This happens in a legally regulated stakeholder process.</p> <p>The initiative mainly targets apprentices and companies.</p> <p>The goal of the project is of making professions more attractive and of accommodating new competences. In Austria, this process is legally regulated in the Vocational Training Act (Berufsausbildungsgesetz, BAG).</p> <p>The development of new Vocational Profiles is financed by the Federal Governmental.</p> <p>The Apprenticeship Training itself is paid by companies with an additional funding (company funding for apprenticeships=betriebliche Lehrstellenförderung) provided by the Federal government.</p>
Key activities and outcomes	<p>The development of training regulations is a process that has been implemented in Austria by law and involves government representatives, social partners the school administration (concerning the part-time vocational schools), working together as part of the Federal Advisory Board of Apprenticeship Training (Bundesberufsausbildungsbeirat, BBAB).</p> <p>The modernisation of the apprenticeship landscape takes place in the form of apprenticeship packages and is a continuous process that is supported by the systematic analysis of apprenticeships that is mandatory every 5 years. In 2023, this systematic analysis of apprenticeships (“occupational screening”) will start again and will be completed in 2024. The whole process is legally based and includes all relevant stakeholders.</p>

	<p>According to the current forecast, training regulations for the following central job profiles will be modernised or newly created in the 2023 apprenticeship packages: Electrical engineering and Installation- and building technology.</p> <p>The success of the apprenticeship training derives from the fact that this is seen as a common task and is considered as a high responsibility of all the relevant stakeholders at national level. The apprentices are trained in accordance to the current market and socio-economic conditions to cover the need for skilled workers in Austria.</p> <p>Furthermore, the process is accompanied by scientific support and is therefore welcomed by the stakeholders.</p> <p>The training concerns the implementation of new and transversal (e.g. digital as well as green) skills.</p>
Contacts and sources	<p>Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Wirtschaft (Federal Ministry for Labour and Economy)</p> <p>Sektion VI – Nationale Marktstrategien / National Market Strategies</p> <p>Abteilung / Department 7 - Berufsausbildung / Vocational Training</p> <p>Referat / Unit 7a – Innovation der Lehre / Innovation of Vocational Training Systems</p> <p>POST.VI7_22@bmaw.gv.at</p> <p>Sources (<i>Metalltechnik-Ausbildungsordnung</i> “metal technology training regulation“): BGBLA_2022_II_97.pdf (bka.gv.at)</p> <p>Website: Metalltechnik 2022 (bmaw.gv.at)</p>
Date of update	9 November 2022