

Hungary - Green Earth complex sustainability pedagogy programme for VET

Title of inspiring practice	Green Earth complex sustainability pedagogy programme designed for VET ('Zöld Föld fenntarthatósági oktatási program szakképzésre történő kiterjesztése')
Geographical area	Hungary, national level coverage.
Period of implementation	The project started in January 2022. The end of whole project is still unknown, but the end of the research part is estimated in 2023.
Rationale	The programme is a useful practice because it provides a new foundational subject for 9-10 graders concerning sustainability and it aims at reshaping the training and outcome requirements by developing a general set of criteria in terms of sustainability. In addition, this practice has the possibility of extension to V4 countries following research on the development of sustainable VET curricula.
Scope of the practice	Initial Vocational Education and Training
Educational level	ISCED 3 and ISCED 4, EQF 3, EQF 4 and EQF 5
Introduction and context	<p>The project is realised in cooperation with the following stakeholders: Ministry of Culture and Innovation, Sectoral Skill Councils, Alapértékek Nonprofit Kft. and the Innovative Training Support Centre (IKK – Innovatív Képzéstámogató Központ – national agency).</p> <p>The driver for the initiative was the need to render the Hungarian VET greener and to take a first step towards increasing the sustainability of the whole society. The main objective of the project is to transform the mindset of students though greener and more sustainable VET curricula. The programme is expected to be extended to other countries as well in the case of successful outcomes. What is deemed as good practice for the green transition is constantly changing, and what was good yesterday might not be considered as so today. Therefore, a major risk factor in curriculum development is ensuring that textbooks and workbooks are continuously updated to include knowledge and skills that are genuinely relevant and appropriate to the topic of sustainability.</p> <p>The programme has lot of opportunities, such as raising green awareness among students, teachers and, by extension, families; presenting sustainability as a separate subject in VET; introducing students to general and specific issues related to sustainability; preparing them for the sustainability aspects of their chosen profession, so that they can make responsible decisions as employees/managers after their graduation.</p>
Key activities and outcomes	<p>First of all, the programme establishes a new foundational subject concerning sustainability for 9-10 graders. In this framework, a framework curriculum of about 5-7 pages is prepared, textbook (160-180 pages), exercise book (80-90 pages) and teacher's methodology manual (180-200 pages) are drafted and the developing of 30 hours training for teachers is still in progress (sources: https://www.alapertekok.hu/letoltheto-anyagok/).</p> <p>In close cooperation with the relevant Sectoral Skills Councils and the IKK, two specific training and outcome requirements (KKK – képzési és kimeneti követelmények) will be revised and supplemented with sustainability aspects as well as a general set of criteria will be developed for the review of training and outcome requirements.</p>

	<p>Previous surveys have shown that students in VET attach growing importance to sustainability and sustainable lifestyles after attending their training and that students are increasingly recognising sustainable living as an essential tool to save the planet. However, the practical implementation of these ideas can often be hampered, for example, by the instructor's inability to deliver the material properly. As a consequence, students risk to not take sustainability seriously enough. To overcome this, the project plans to place greater emphasis not only on the development of students' vision but also on the methodological training of teachers.</p> <p>The success of the programme and the consequent engagement scope of knowledge transfer also depends on the extent to which the training programme can be "institutionalised", i.e. made compulsory or offered as a compulsory recommended subject in the context of currently optional subjects.</p> <p>The extent and speed of integration of the programme into the university teacher training system will be another key factor behind the success of the initiative.</p> <p>At the estimated end of the project, a research on pupils and teachers will be conducted to support the extension of sustainable VET curricula to the V4 countries. This will include a measurement of attitudes and knowledge levels related to sustainability. The aim of this research is to identify country-specific and student-specific parameters, thus supporting the development of curricula and professional programmes, and to provide a basis for the adaptation of the Hungarian model to the V4 countries.</p>
Contacts and sources	<p>Alapértékek Nonprofit Kft.</p> <p>https://www.alapertekek.hu/</p>
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