

Inception Phase of the EaP Programme

Supporting Education Reforms & Skills in the Eastern Partnership Region

29 May 2024, Turin



Funded by
the European Union



This event is part of the

EaP | Eastern Partnership 

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

Programme covers 5 countries of Eastern Partnership:
Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine

Duration: 3 years 2024 – 2026

Budget: 2.5 million EUR

Implementing agency: ETF

PROGRAMME RESULTS as per Action Document



Output 1: Diagnostic assessments of the national education sectors completed (up to 5 country analyses) (First Pillar)



Output 2 : Strengthened capacities of the education administrations/institutions in governance, financing and planning of education (Second Pillar and Third Pillar)



Output 3: Increased training and peer learning opportunities (Third Pillar)

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

Improve

Objective 1:
Improve
governance of
the education
systems in the
Eastern
Partnership
countries

Strengthen

Objective 2:
Strengthen
capacities in
evidence-based
planning and
monitoring of
performance in
the education
sector

Inform

Complementary
objective: Inform
the EU on
priority needs
and topics for
policy dialogue
and bilateral
programming of
EU support

INCEPTION PHASE

January – April 2024

- Identifying interest of the countries in programme activities and regional cooperation and exchange with their peers in Eastern Partnership;
- Documenting the current state of play, ongoing development and policy priorities in education sector reforms – [country snapshots](#)
- Finetuning programme activities and implementation timeline to meet the needs and expectations of the countries
- Mapping the key stakeholders of the countries and agreeing on coordination and national contact persons in the Ministries of Education in the countries.

Key Methodology and Milestones

Methodology:

- Rapid Education Diagnosis (RED) methodology
- Fact finding missions
- Participatory approach involving multiple stakeholders
- Modular structure for adaptability
- Comprehensive sector-wide analysis

Milestones:

- Country consultations completed by April 2024
- Workplan for 2024 elaborated
- Detailed country snapshots developed – sent for feedback
- Engagement of key stakeholders and EU Delegations

Main Actions and Plans for 2024 in Pillar 1

Diagnostic assessments using Rapid Education Diagnosis (RED)

- Launched in Armenia, Georgia and Moldova

Country Snapshots

- baseline papers on education systems, policies, ongoing programmes of EU and development partners supporting education reforms and stakeholder mapping developed on all 5 countries - to be discussed and validated by the countries and EU delegations

Specific studies or reviews

- To be agreed as a follow up of RED or upon request of the countries 2024-2026

Main Actions and Plans for 2024 with EaP Countries

Armenia:

- Comprehensive RED and capacity needs assessment
- Focus on reviewing the ongoing education reform and informing policy dialogue with the EU

Georgia:

- RED focused on governance and consolidating existing analyses
- Using findings to shape 2025 education strategy

Azerbaijan:

- Consultations with the government postponed for the second half of

Main Actions and Plans for 2024 in EaP Countries

Moldova:

- Comprehensive RED combined with capacity building on the use of evidence

Ukraine:

- Supporting EU accession process and monitoring ongoing reforms with the focus on education statistics, VET legislation and school network optimisation
- Specific capacity development activity to be agreed with the MoES
- No RED in 2024 - possibly in 2025-2026 subject to agreement with the MoES and consultations with the EC

Main Actions and Plans for 2024 in Pillar 2 and Pillar 3

Pillar 2: Capacity Development

- Launch in second half of 2024
- Thematic scope defined based on RED and capacity needs assessments

Pillar 3: Training and Peer Learning

- Two annual thematic peer learning events (2024-2026)
- Collaboration with EU Member States' education authorities for experience sharing
- Initial focus on evidence-based policymaking, teacher management and professional development, and school network optimisation

Main Actions and Plans for Pillar 3

In 2024:

- **Peer learning workshop on the use of evidence in education policies** on **29-31 May in Turin, Italy**
- **Teaching Excellence: Empowering Educators for the Future** teacher professional development and teacher system management on **17-19 September 2024 in Helsinki, Finland** (jointly with Finland's Ministry of Education and Culture)

In 2025: Q1/2025: on Optimisation of School Network, and a second one in Q3/4, then in Q1/2026.

- Country delegations of approx. 5 people will be invited to all events

Main Conclusions

- Country-specific implementation plans developed
- Extensive stakeholder engagement achieved
- Programme intervention logic and methodology refined

Ways Forward

- Implement RED in Armenia, Georgia, and Moldova
- Implement specific activities in Ukraine
- Continue stakeholder engagement and capacity building
- Focus on data and evidence use for policy planning, support for policy dialogue and EU integration in “TRIO”
- Ensure sustainability through regular monitoring and follow-up actions.

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