

AGENDA

KNOWLEDGE SHARING SESSION

TITLE:

Apprenticeships and traineeships for the Ukraine Youth Guarantee – findings from a quality assessment

TIME AND DATE: MONDAY, 23 FEBRUARY, 15:00-17:00 KYIV TIME
(14:00-16:00 CET)

REGISTRATION AT THE FOLLOWING [REGISTRATION LINK](#)

SUMMARY:

The Knowledge Sharing Programme for the Inter-Agency Working Group on Youth Guarantee in Ukraine aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the initiative, examine available services and support for young people in order to build effective implementation strategy.

Youth employment policy is a high priority in Ukraine. The European Union (EU) is supporting **Ukraine's reforms** aimed at consolidation of education and training relevance and employment services in the context of reconstruction, recovery and preparation for EU accession. The Youth Guarantee aims to ensure that all young people under the age of 30 can avail of a good quality offer of employment, continued education, an apprenticeship or a traineeship within a period of 4 months after becoming unemployed or leaving education.

Apprenticeships and **traineeships** are two important forms of work-based learning (WBL). Apprenticeships – also known as dual programmes – are designed to develop occupational skills and lead to recognised qualifications. These combine school-based learning with WBL, with the latter typically accounting for a significant proportion of the programme duration which is usually longer (2-4 years). Traineeships are WBL periods that complement formal or non-formal education and training programmes. Traineeships can be a compulsory and integrated, or optional and supplementary component of a VET programme. They may last from a few days or weeks to several months but are generally shorter than apprenticeships. Both traineeships and apprenticeships may be offered as **active labour market programmes** (ALMP).

Because of their particular importance for youth employment, the EU has developed **quality standards for both traineeships and apprenticeships**. The European Framework for Quality and Effective Apprenticeships was developed in 2018 with the support of the European social partners and includes 14 criteria for high-quality and effective apprenticeships (Council of the European Union, 2018). These criteria are divided into two categories: learning and working conditions, and framework conditions. The 2014 Quality Framework for Traineeships contains a set of quality criteria relating to traineeships

delivered in various policy contexts, including as part of active labour market policy (Council of the European Union, 2014). The framework can also be used to guide the development and review of traineeships in other contexts, e.g. in initial or continuing VET.

In 2025, the ETF conducted an analysis of the main VET programmes in Ukraine against the criteria of these two EU frameworks.

This webinar aims to present the main findings of the ETF analysis on the quality of work-based learning (WBL) in initial vocational education and training (IVET), continuing vocational education and training (CVET) and active labour market policies (ALMPs), and to discuss challenges and gaps.

The session will also explore advantages of active membership in the **European Alliance for Apprenticeship (EAfA)** for Ukrainian partners.

The online session will be delivered in English with simultaneous interpretation into Ukrainian.

Time (Kyiv)	Sessions
15:00 - 15:10	<p>Welcome</p> <p><i>Cristina Mereuta, Acting Head of Knowledge Hub for Skills and jobs Unit, ETF</i></p>
15:10 - 15:30	<p>Latest developments in Ukraine</p> <p><i>Iryna Shumik, Director VET Department, Ministry of Education and Science, Ukraine</i></p>
15:30 - 16:00	<p>Introduction: Quality standards for apprenticeships and traineeships</p> <p><i>Stefan Thomas, Senior Human Capital Development Expert, ETF</i></p> <p>Presentation of findings: The quality of apprenticeships in IVET and CVET</p> <p><i>Snizhana Leu-Severynenko, National expert</i></p> <p>Discussion with the audience <i>Moderated by ETF</i></p>
16:15 - 16:35	<p>Presentation of findings: The quality of traineeships in ALMPs</p> <p><i>Snizhana Leu-Severynenko, National expert</i></p> <p>Discussion with the audience <i>Moderated by ETF</i></p>
16:35 - 16:55	<p>The European Alliance for Apprenticeship (EAfA)</p> <p><i>Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (tbc)</i></p> <p><i>Floriana Folisi, Human Capital Development Expert, ETF</i></p>
16:55 – 17:00	<p>Closure</p>