

Template 3: Educational System per Partner Country

Organization (full legal name):	Vilnius tourism and commerce school
Country:	Lithuania (LT)

Structure of the Educational System - Scheme of the National Educational System

Age	Grade	Education level	School
>	> 4 year	High education	University
>19	> 3 year	High education	College
>19	1-2 year	Vocational education	Vocational school
18	XII	Secondary education	Gymnasium, Secondary school, Vocational school
17	XI		
16	X	Basic education (Second part)	Gymnasium, Secondary school, Vocational school
15	IX		
14	VIII	Basic education (First part)	Progymnasium
13	VII		
12	VI		
11	V		
10	IV	Primary education	Primary school
9	III		
8	II		
7	I		
6	Preparatory	Pre-primary education	Kindergarten or primary school
5		Pre-school education	Kindergarten
4			
3			
2			
1			

Functioning of the National Educational System

Brief description regarding the functioning of the National Educational System.

Some aspects to take into account:

- Compulsory Education;
- Grade Levels / EQF Levels / Duration / Ages;
- Modalities to conclude each Grade Level;
- Legal organizations.

Education is compulsory for ten years between ages of 6 and 16 – primary and Basic education.

Lithuanian Educational system consists of 6 levels.

1 level (ISCED 1): primary education. School begins at the age of 6 – 7. Primary education is compulsory. It lasts for 4 years (ages 6/7 to 10/11). The purpose of primary education programme is the development of a healthy, active, and creative child who has acquired elementary literacy, social, informational and cognitive skills, which are necessary for proceeding to basic education. After successful completion of the primary education programme, pupils are awarded Primary Education Certificate.

2 level (ISCED 2): basic education Basic (lower secondary) education is compulsory. It lasts for 6 years (ages 10/11 to 16/17). The programme consists of two cycles: 5th – 8th and 9th – 10th grades. The purpose of first cycle is to integrate the basics of knowledge, abilities and skills. The second cycle is oriented to education of abstract thinking; the knowledge obtained at the latter is more generalized.

At this stage, assessment is criterion-referenced. A 1 to 10 marking system is used with 10 as the highest mark and 4 as the lowest passing mark. By the end of basic education pupils must take exams. Pupils who satisfactory complete basic (lower secondary) education are awarded Basic Education Certificate.

3 level (ISCED 3) Secondary education is made available to everybody who has successfully completed basic (lower secondary) education. It lasts for 2 years (ages 17/18 to 18/19). After pupils complete secondary education curriculum, they have to take leaving examinations, which are of two types: state-level and school-level. School-level examinations are held and assessed at school, while state-level examinations are held and assessed at National Examination Centres. All pupils have to take an obligatory examination in the Lithuanian Language, which consists of two parts, and 1 selectable examination.

Basic (lower secondary) and/or secondary education can also be acquired at vocational education schools. The programmes offered by vocational education schools combine basic (lower secondary) or secondary curriculum and vocational training. The duration of such programs 3-5 years. After successful completion of such studies, pupils obtain Basic Education Certificate or Maturity Certificate and Vocational qualifying certificate.

4 level (ISCED 4): Vocational education after Secondary education, for pupils who acquired secondary education and seeking professional qualification. This education is for students aged 18/19 and the finish school at the age of 20/21. Duration of the education is 1-2 years, depends on the complexity of the profession.

5 level (ISCED 5) High education

There are two types of high education institutions:

Universities, academy or seminary representing university sector of higher education. Colleges of higher education representing non-university higher education sector.

Universities offer university level degree granting studies and award Bachelor's, Master's, Doctoral degrees. Colleges offer college level degree granting studies and award Professional Bachelor's degrees. Duration of studies- 3-4 years.

Main university studies take 3,5-4,5 years. Graduates are awarded Bachelor degree.

Master's studies are available to those who have Bachelor degree. Duration of studies- 1,5–2 years. Graduates are awarded Master degree.

In Lithuania study volume is expressed in credits. One credit equals 40 hours of student work (in classrooms, labs, etc.) or one work week.

6 level (ISCED 6): Studies of Doctor degree.

Applicants to Doctor of Science degree or Doctor of Arts degree studies are required to have a Master's degree or a comparable qualification. The purpose of doctoral studies of science is to prepare scientists who would be able to independently conduct research and experimental (social, cultural) development work, and to solve scientific problems. The purpose of doctoral studies of art is to prepare artists researchers who would be able to create, interpret and develop research based on art practice. Duration of doctoral studies is usually of 4-6 years. After completion of the studies Doctoral Diploma is awarded.

Vocational Education and Training

Brief description regarding the national VET system, focused on Youths.

Some aspects to take into account:

- Modalities / Grade Levels / EQF Levels / Duration / Ages;
- Legal organizations.

Vocational education is provided in vocational schools, vocational education centres, labour market training centres or other institutions which have the right to provide vocational education. Vocational school courses end in a final examination (theoretical and practical) which varies in content according to the curriculum. Students can be awarded the vocational qualifying certificate or the vocational education and training diploma. The vocational qualifying certificate and the vocational education and training diploma each grant the student access to an occupation.

Pupils who, in conjunction with the vocational training curriculum, have also completed the ISE curriculum are granted basic school leaving certificates and those who have also completed the secondary education curriculum and passed Final examinations are granted Maturity certificates, which grant the student access to higher education institutions.

Vocational qualifying certificate may be issued for students who have completed a vocational school but have not completed basic school or for students who have completed post-secondary vocational schools. In all other cases the vocational education and training diploma is issued.

Vocational qualifying certificate 14-16 years of age depending on the study programme curriculum

Vocational education and training diploma and basic school-leaving certificate or Maturity certificate

16/17-18/19 years of age depending on the study programme curriculum.

The implementing of Modular training in Lithuanian vocational schools only begins and the modular vocational programme is due to be put in practice in 2015–2016 and 2016–2017 school years. Modular programmes should make vocational education more flexible and boost opportunities to adopt to individual learner's needs.