



MINISTERUL EDUCAȚIEI
ȘI CERCETĂRII
AL REPUBLICII MOLDOVA



With funding from
Austrian
Development
Cooperation



EduLIFE
EDUCAȚIE ȘI DEPRINDERI DE VIAȚĂ

CONNECTING YOUTH TO THE JOB MARKET THROUGH LIFE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

The program aims to support students in vocational education, particularly girls and vulnerable youth, to practice healthy and responsible behaviors and develop life skills for better job readiness.

PERIOD:

1 December 2023 – 30 November 2027

BUDGET: EUR 2,109,830.00

INSTITUTIONS INVOLVED:

- Technical vocational education institutions across the country
- Businesses that are part of dual education
- Youth centers



In the Republic of Moldova, Vocational and Technical Education (VET) graduates face various challenges regarding their transition to the labor market.

However, students who have completed the „Decisions for a Healthy Lifestyle” course in VET, taught by well-prepared teachers, and who have benefited from a safe and friendly environment at school, in dormitories, and in the workplace, have developed healthier life skills, teamwork abilities, critical thinking, and resilience in various life situations more effectively.

The program represents the continuation of the project „Develop life skills and healthy behaviours of Students in Vocational Education & Training for their development and job readiness”, implemented by UNFPA, ADA, and MEC in 12 VET institutions, from 2019 to 2023.

Target groups of the program:

At least **27,600 students** (about 60% VET students) will receive multilateral support for life skills development and job *readiness*;

The teachers providing „Decisions for a Healthy Lifestyle” course in all VET institutions, the managers of the institutions, psychologists, and social educators in dormitories;

About **220 human** resources specialists and masters/trainers from 50 companies, which are part of dual education and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry will participate in training on creating a friendly environment for young people at work;

About **1,000 parents** of VET students will participate in a parenting program.



Key Results and activities:

1. Technical vocational education institutions able to sustainably teach the course “Decisions for a Healthy Lifestyle” by:

- empowering teachers through ongoing education programs;
- equipping VET institutions with interactive teaching materials;
- integrating education for life skills development in initial teacher training programs;
- student-friendly spaces in VET schools and dormitories.

2. Companies that are part of dual education and technical vocational education institutions are empowered to create a youth-friendly, gender-sensitive environment in the workplace and the school environment by:

- developing standards for a safe, gender-sensitive, and student-friendly school environment;
- training school psychologists and health workers, social pedagogues in dormitories;
- equipping VET institutions with dispensers and menstrual hygiene items;
- empower companies that are part of dual education to create a friendly working environment for young specialists.

3. The technical vocational education community promotes the development of life skills for better employment of young people. It strengthens its efforts for greater impact with peer educators, Youth centers, parents, Youth Clinics network, and other key stakeholders by:

- organizing communication and awareness-raising activities and campaigns on the key messages of the project;
- expanding and supporting the work of the “Peer Educators’ Network” in VET;
- empowering parents who have students in VET institutions through the parenting program;
- supporting young people through vocational and career guidance programs in the Youth Centers.



The project „Connecting youth to the job market through life skills development” is implemented by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA Moldova) with financial support from the Austrian Development Agency through the Austrian Development Cooperation funds, in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Research of the Republic of Moldova.

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Program partners:

Ministry of Education and Research

National Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Pupils Council in VET

National Network of Youth Centers

National Network of Youth-Friendly Health Centers

Donor community in VET