

PROJECT FACTSHEET

December 2024

PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP TO IMPROVED PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION IN UKRAINE (Phase III)



PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP TO IMPROVED PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION IN UKRAINE is a

project of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) in partnership with Geberit Trading LLC, Sika Ukraine LLC implemented by Swisscontact with the support of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine.

RATIONALE

Swisscontact started its operations in Ukraine in July 2020 just when Covid-19 was taking effect. Due to Covid-19 and the Russian invasion, the EdUP Project Manager operated from the regional office in Albania. It was only after the EdUP 3 contract in July 2023, that we established an office in Kyiv with a resident Country Director and a Project Manager.

Presently, Swisscontact runs 3 projects in Ukraine, in skilling (EdUP), agriculture markets (DP) and trade promotion (SIPPO) with 26 staff (70% female). Staff numbers are expected to reach close to 30 by the end of 2024 owing to an increase in program activities.

Due to wartime impacts and rapid technological advancements, Ukraine's economy faces a shortage of skilled labor across various sectors. Many companies are concerned about the lack of qualified staff, while numerous adults, including internally displaced persons, war veterans, and returning migrants, seek new skills and employment opportunities. VET in Ukraine faces challenges due to limited financial resources and persistent stereotypes about vocational graduates. Schools require modern technologies, equipment, and managerial capabilities to provide inclusive, market-relevant training.

The project aims to improve vocational education quality for construction workers through private sector investments, leveraging opportunities for systemic change and shifting attitudes towards VET as a key driver of economic recovery. This initiative helps young people and adults acquire market- demanded skills, enter the job market, and earn higher incomes.

The EdUP project Scale UP initiative is aimed at rehabilitating VET schools in frontline regions of Ukraine. It addresses the significant losses suffered by the VET sector due to Russia's military aggression. Through Scale UP, EdUP aims to rebuild and enhance the infrastructure and educational capacity of these schools, ensuring they meet modern educational standards and the needs of the job market.

GOALS/OBJECTIVES

Offer diversification: VET schools and businesses will collaborate to create innovative programs, including modular courses for adults and recognition of prior learning via qualification centers. Both occupational and educational standards will be updated.

New teaching methods: The project will implement electronic learning materials, digitize the educational process, and create digital resources. Teachers will gain improved competencies, fostering an inclusive educational environment.

Private sector involvement: Encouraging private sector participation in defining and providing educational content, especially in construction professions, and developing business relations at school, regional, and national levels.

Organizational development and labor market insertion: Ensuring project sustainability through coaching, implementing best practices in school management, career counseling, and enhancing the attractiveness of vocational education.

Infrastructure component: Additional support to 10 VET institutions in Ukraine's southern and eastern regions. The aim is to rebuild and enhance these schools' infrastructure and educational capacity, ensuring they meet modern educational standards and job market needs.

KEY RESULTS SINCE PROJECT LAUNCH

Since Swisscontact took over the project implementation in March 2020 (phase II), activities have been heavily influenced by COVID-19 and war. Nevertheless, many activities are conducted in person, under a revised security concept.

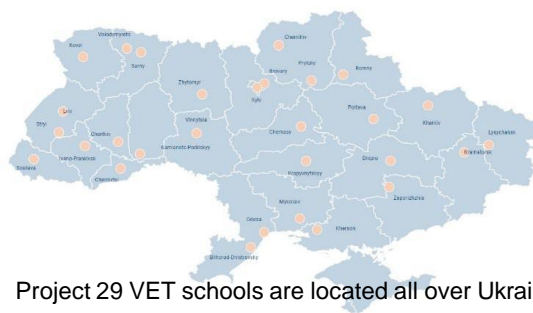
Results from previous phases:

- New plumber training curriculum, professional and educational standards, digital textbooks (including in the form of mobile apps), and a number of educational materials are developed in close cooperation with businesses and introduced in all project schools;
- Almost 200 teachers upgraded their qualifications; annual skills contests for students and teachers were held;
- 20 schools developed strategic plans;
- More than 20 companies became partners in the project and actively participated in VET reform.

The third phase of EdUP project is extended in both the number of the schools (29 instead of 25) and number of occupations (6 instead of 1).

Expected results:

- Creating better training and employment opportunities for construction professionals who are young people and adults;
- Women and men have access to a performing, labor market-oriented education and training offer in the construction sector;
- The private sector takes responsibility in the definition, provision and financing of VET in the construction sector at the provider level.



Project 29 VET schools are located all over Ukraine

PROJECT AT A GLANCE

TITLE

PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP TO IMPROVED PLUMBING EDUCATION IN UKRAINE (Phase II)

DEPARTMENT

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

THEME

Vocational Education

COUNTRY

Ukraine

FUNDING

SDC, Geberit, Sika

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER

Gurt (2014-2019)

Swisscontact (March 2020-2027)

STAKEHOLDERS

Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine

TARGET GROUPS / BENEFICIARIES

Students and adults, including war veterans, internally displaced persons, and Ukrainians returning from abroad, teachers and managers of VET schools, private companies, including SMEs (producers, installers, service providers), and relevant public entities in the construction sector.

DURATION

Phase 1: July 2014 – July 2018

Phase 2: October 2018 – June 2023

Phase 3: July 2023 – June 2027

BUDGET

Phase 1: CHF 400 000

Phase 2: CHF 1 325 000

Phase 3: CHF 10 108 820

GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS:

Ukraine

IMPRINT

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