











# R1 - TRAINING BEST PRACTICES ON SUSTAINABILITY AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY



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ATHENS UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS





Università degli Studi di Ferrara

## R1 - Research Report on training best practices on sustainability and circular economy

The following document is a part of the R1 - Research Report on training best practices on sustainability and circular economy of the TICHE - Training Innovation for Circularity and Holistic Economies, Erasmus+ project. The following mini-report represents a summary of the finding of the full report developed by the University of Ferrara within the R1. It contains a brief description of three main training best practices in six EU countries, namely Germany, Finland, France, Ireland, Italy, and Greece. regarding the circular economy.

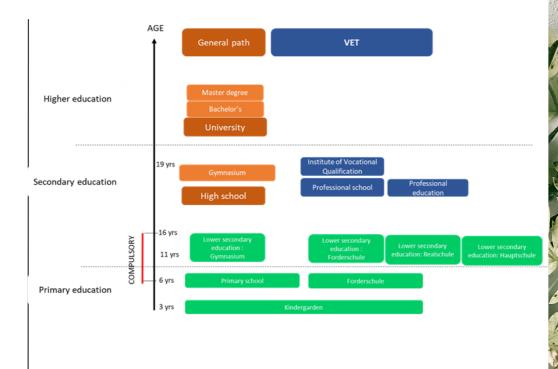
TThe aim of following report is to study the transition path towards greener jobs and to collect data on circular-oriented (and sustainable) courses in six EU countries. Specifically, the study will highlight best practices and weaknesses. The report is structured in two different sections. The first one tries to investigate the role of education in the circular economy, while the second one explain how different are educational programmes in the six countries analysed, and the impact of these differences on the development of new green jobs and positions. Available at https://tiche-academy.eu/.





## - Germany

## 1. Educational path



#### Circular programs

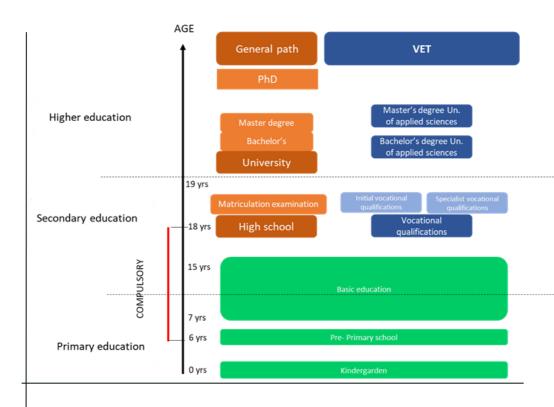
The majority of the courses offered by the German education system in the field of circular economy concern higher education: two bachelor's degree programs, three master's degree programs, two master of science programs, one MBA, and two PhDs. Courses focus on circular economy strategies mainly in the fields of business and management, and engineering. On the other hand, vocational programs develop in the areas of business and management, fashion industry and construction by orienting them towards circular economy objectives.





# - Finland

## 1. Educational path



#### Circular programs

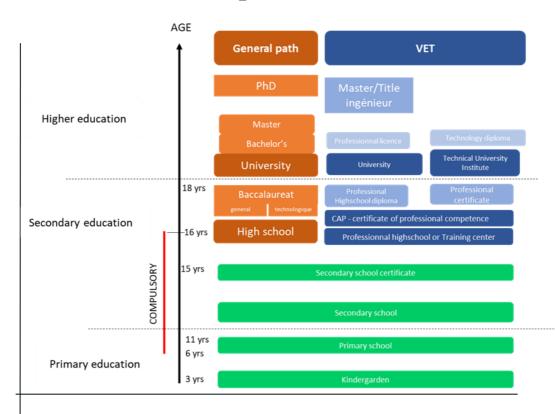
The Finnish education system provides a balanced educational offer in the field of circular economy between higher education and vocational programs. Higher education comprises: two bachelor's degree programmes, three master's science or programmes, one MBA, one summer school, and two PhDs. The training offering is mainly geared towards the in-depth study of circular economy strategies in engineering. On the other hand, the vocational programs are mainly aimed at upskilling of professional figures, specifically in business and management.





## - France

### 1. Educational path



Circular programs

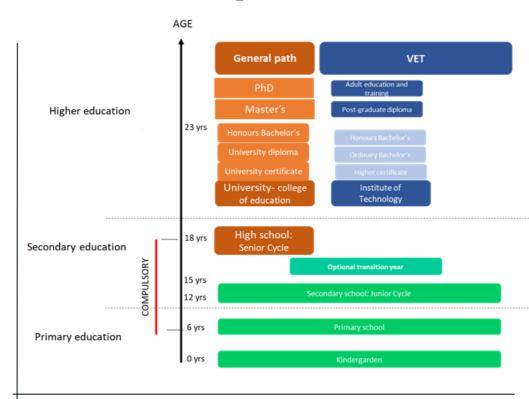
In the French education system, circular economy strategies and concepts are integrated into higher education programmes by a bachelor's degree course, three master degree courses, six master of science courses and a PhD. Business and management courses predominate, followed by an engineering course, a product design course and an economics course. In line with this, upskilling vocational courses are also mainly aimed at creating new figures able to translate and re-design current business models in a circular perspective. The specialisation courses, on the other hand, also involve the field of engineering and aim to train professionals capable of integrating and enriching their skills with circular economy practices.





# - Ireland

#### 1. Educational path



#### Circular programs

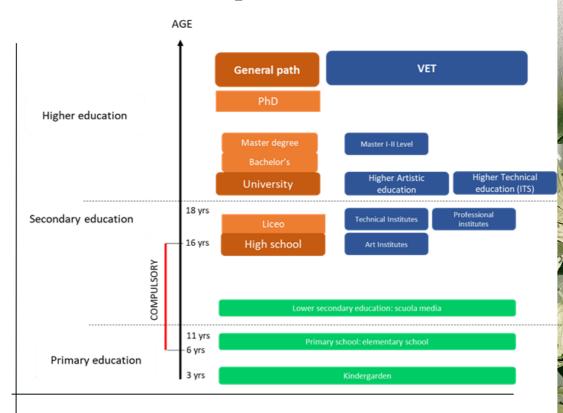
The Irish educational offer is more limited in terms of highly qualified training programmes: one bachelor's degree, two master's degrees and one postgraduate course, which spans several disciplines such as energy sector, engineering environmental science, and business and management. Master's and PhDs in the field of the circular economy are lacking. Among vocational programs, it is possible to distinguish two courses aimed at providing certifications in circular economy and sustainability, one upskilling course and one training course.





# - Italy

### 1. Educational path



#### Circular programs

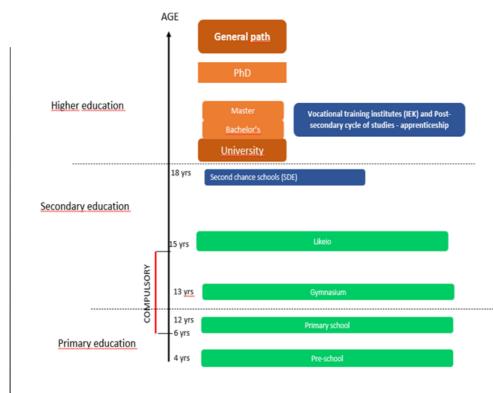
Italy's higher education offer is the richest compared to the other countries surveyed. Although there are no bachelor's degree courses, there are six master's degree courses, three first-level second-level master's degrees, two master's degrees, two MBAs and three PhDs. Higher education is also complemented by the presence of a research centre specialised in the circular economy. The courses mainly focus on economics (political economy and economics and management) and business and management disciplines. Less attention is paid to the provision of vocational programmes, indeed the Italian education system only offers two upskilling courses in business and management.

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## - Greece

## 1. Educational path



#### Circular programs

The Greek educational offer in the field of circular economy is mainly focused on higher education. It comprises: two bachelor's degrees, two master's degrees, two Msc, and one Ph.D. courses generally engineering economics ranging from to to agriculture. On the other and, for the vocational training offer, it distinguish the EPAL training programme, which provides lengthy training in nine different fields. Courses last a maximum of three years, with a possible additional year dedicated to apprenticeships.









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