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CultiVETing Establishes Permanent Committees to Strengthen Agri-Food Vocational Education in Albania and Kosovo

New institutional mechanisms and action plans aim to improve curriculum relevance, strengthen entrepreneurship and connect vocational education more closely with the agri-food labour market.

PRESS RELEASE

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How can vocational education better prepare young people for the changing needs of the agri-food sector? Through CultiVETing, five Permanent Committees on VET Agri-Food Curriculum Development have been established in Albania and Kosovo. Each is supported by an action plan setting out priorities for curriculum improvement, practical learning and cooperation with employers.

The Committees provide a structured mechanism for reviewing curricula, identifying emerging skills needs and developing recommendations that respond to changes in the agri-food sector. Their work focuses on strengthening the integration of green, digital and entrepreneurial competences, improving work-based learning and internships, and building more systematic links between education providers and businesses.

Five committees, one shared direction

The five Permanent Committees have been established at the following institutions:

Albania
Agricultural University of Tirana (AUT)
Shoqata Qendra Sociale Don Bosco, Tirana

Kosovo
Employment Promotion Agency Kosovo (APPK)
SHMP "Bahri Haxha", Vushtrri
SH.M.A.T. "Abdyl Frashëri", Prishtina

Each Committee has a governance framework defining its mandate and responsibilities, alongside an action plan for 2026-2028. Together, these documents establish a basis for systematic curriculum review, stakeholder consultation, labour-market analysis and continuous improvement.

The action plans identify common priorities, including reviewing agri-food curricula, integrating green and digital competences, strengthening entrepreneurship and self-employment pathways, and improving internships and work-based learning. They also aim to increase structured employer engagement and establish feedback mechanisms between VET institutions, businesses and other relevant stakeholders.

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Connecting education with real opportunities.

The establishment of the Committees responds to a central challenge facing vocational education: ensuring that the skills young people develop reflect the changing needs of employers and the opportunities emerging across the agri-food sector.

Agriculture and food-related businesses increasingly require competences that extend beyond traditional production, including sustainable practices, digital technologies, business development and entrepreneurship. Stronger cooperation between VET institutions and employers can help make curricula more relevant and give students better opportunities to connect their learning with real working environments.

Through their action plans, the Committees will work towards more systematic curriculum development, stronger stakeholder participation and improved links between training, employment and entrepreneurship. The next phase will focus on implementing the action plans, documenting results and sharing lessons learned. Their experience can also provide a basis for continued exchange between Albania and Kosovo on curriculum improvement, entrepreneurship development and cooperation between education and the agri-food sector.

By establishing these mechanisms, CultiVETing is supporting a more structured and sustainable approach to connecting vocational education with labour-market needs and emerging opportunities in the agri-food sector.

About CultiVETing
CultiVETing – Cultivating Entrepreneurship in the Agrifood Sector through VET (Number: 101129381) is an Erasmus+ Capacity Building project co-funded by the European Union and implemented by 13 partner organizations from Albania, Kosovo, Greece, Italy, Germany, and Belgium.

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