

EDUCATION AND YOUTH



EU SUPPORTS

Higher education and Vocational Training-
the main EU tool is the
Erasmus+ programme

Vocational education and training (VET)

★ **Gyumri Market and Culinary School**

Budget: **€20.400.000**

The main objective of this grant is to improve the economy of the Shirak region. Gyumri Market aims to catalyze economic, cultural and sustainable development in Gyumri by designing and developing a sustainable food and community development model that incorporates education, empowerment, a cooperative model, and market space and tourism. Gyumri Market and Culinary School is a culinary school and market space that operates a section of the market providing quality education and skills-building training for local stakeholders.

★ **Innojjevan Center**

Budget: **€640.000**

EU has supported establishment of four learning labs and roll-out of a work-based learning based vocational educational model in Ijevan in partnership with the Union of Advanced Technology Enterprises (UATE) offered at the "Innojjevan" center since 2022. The project is aimed at launching PPP dialogue in Armenia's Ijevan city aimed at establishment of a sustainable ecosystem for development of innovative entrepreneurship in the domain of tourism, high value agriculture and food processing.



Secondary education - the main tool is the **EU Sector Support Programme** with **Budget Support total of € 32 mln**, including € 2.7 mln for technical assistance

Non-formal/extracurricular education

★ **COAF SMART Centers**

Budget: **€20.400.000**

The SMART Centres will be operated by the Children of Armenia Fund (COAF). SMART Centres will provide after-school educational opportunities and access to currently non-existing services for children and young adults aged 6-18 years from 50 rural communities in Armenia's Syunik province. Using a dedicated transportation/bus network, up to 6000 learners annually will be given the opportunity to follow COAF's "SMART Citizenship Curriculum: covering subjects such as mechanics, programming, entrepreneurship, languages, arts, music, and athletics.

★ **TUMO**

EU contribution: **€12.500.000**

EU TUMO Convergence Center

A hub for research, education, and start-ups geared towards university students and young professionals, the EU TUMO Convergence Center will bring together partners to bridge the gap between higher education and industry in Armenia, connecting students, researchers, and professionals while fostering innovation and entrepreneurship.

TUMO Labs

TUMO Labs is a free educational programme for young professionals and university students over the age of 18. 42 Yerevan is a tuition-free programming school designed to train the coders of the future. The project is planned to be completed in 2027.

EU contribution: **€1.000.000**

Kapan Tumo

A TUMO Center for Creative Technologies is a free educational centre specialising in design and technology for children aged 12-18 is being set up in Kapans historic train station. Renovation works are planned to be completed end of 2024, but until then, courses are available at the mini Tumo Box in Kapan.

YOUTH

EU supports youth initiatives through bilateral and regional programmes.

Budget: **€2.000.000**

€ 1.200.000

€ 800.000

EU contribution

KAS contribution

Youth empowerment has been the focus of the civil society bilateral portfolio of the EU since 2020. Currently EU supports implementation of **Youth in Action: Youth Empowerment, and Leadership Development in Armenia** implemented by the Armenian branch of Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAS), World Vision Armenia (WVA), Media Initiatives Center (MIC), Gyumri "Youth Initiative Centre" (YIC). The objective of the project is to empower and educate young people and youth NGOs in order to encourage their active participation in civic and public affairs in Armenia.

Currently there are 3 ongoing EU4Youth regional projects:

★ Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship (2021-2025)

1. EU4Youth phase III

Budget: **€15.120.000**

€ 14.400.000

€ 720.000

EU contribution

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania contribution. Implemented by a consortium led by CPMA.

Project purpose: To foster active participation of youth in both democratic life and in the labour markets of the beneficiary countries, with a focus on disadvantaged youth, thus contributing to sustainable and smart growth, social cohesion, economic and societal resilience to respond to war-generated impacts and reduction of inequalities in EaP societies. Project activities will

★ Youth Engagement and Empowerment (2023-2025)

2. EU4Youth phase IV

Budget: **€5.600.000**

€ 5.000.000

€ 600.000

EU contribution

from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Implemented by the German development agency GIZ.

Project purpose: To bolster youth policy dialogues across all levels in the Eastern Partnership region, while also enhancing youth work quality and accessibility, particularly targeting young individuals in remote or disadvantaged regions.

Project activities will help increase the capacity of youth organisations and state institutions to jointly promote a more participatory and structured policy dialogue and improve the quality and reach of youth work to mobilise and engage more young people from remote/disadvantaged areas.

★ EU4Youth Coordination and Policy Support (24.11.2023 - 24.05.2026)

3. EU4Youth phase V

Budget: **€2.500.000**

Implemented by the Ernst & Young (EY).

Project purpose: Coordination and policy support for EU action on youth in the EaP region continued with strengthened outreach, partnerships and measurable results.

The EUD initiated establishment of the Youth Advisory Council (YAC) to provide a continuous structured mechanism for Armenian youth for contribution to shaping and implementation of youth-related EU programs and initiatives that will be functional from January 2025. It will act as a bridge between the EUD, the youth community of Armenia and relevant state entities, fostering wider engagement, peer-to-peer communication channel, and dialogue mechanism for young people.