

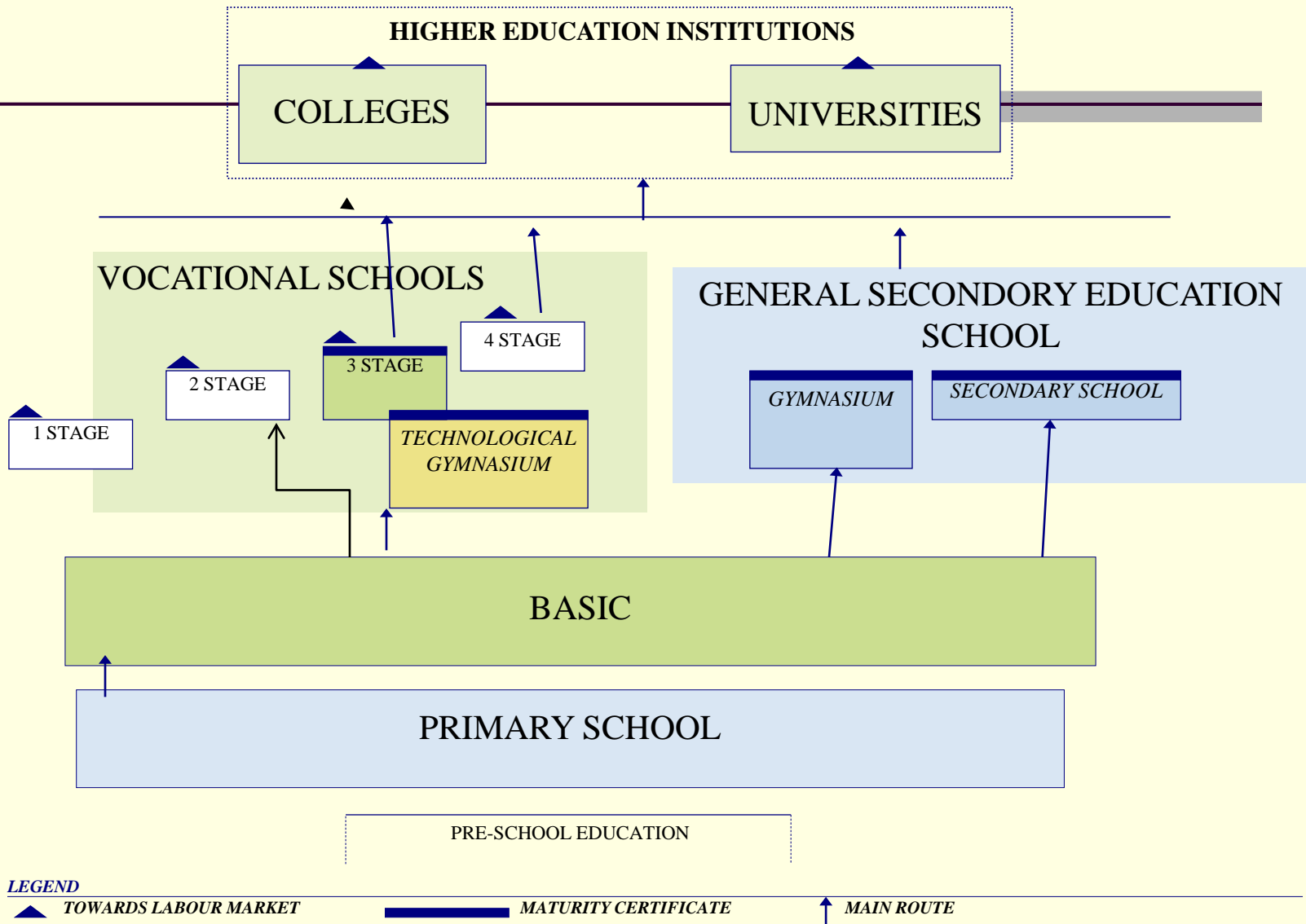
# **Vocational Education and Training System in Lithuania**

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# Diagram of Education and Training System



# Vocational education and training institutions

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- 83 state-run vocational education and training (VET) institutions:
  - 56 VET schools (budgetary institutions) – founder ME&S
  - 13 VET schools (self-governing public institutions) – one of the founders ME&S.
  - 3 VET schools (self-governing public institutions) – founder ME&S and municipalities
  - Other VET schools – founders Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Health and others
  - Funding 267 mil. LTL in 2010
- 11 Labour market training centers.

# Vocational education and training providers and financing

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- The main initial VET providers are vocational schools, which implement both initial and (about 10%) continuing. Initial training is funded from the state budget in accordance with a methodology for calculating training costs for each student (pupil's basket model).
- The main continuing VET providers Labour market training centers (or enterprises). Continuing training is usually funded by enterprises, the Employment Fund or other funds, or the learner. According to national legislation, in certain cases training can be sponsored by the State.

# **MERGE OF INITIAL AND CONTINUOUS VOCATIONAL TRAINING**

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**Merge in optimisation of the network of vocational training providers and their management:**

In February 2010 the Government Resolution on **Delegation of Founder's Functions of Labour Market Training Centres to the ME&S** was adopted. It means that previous **two vocational training systems are merged into one system** and transferred to the ME&S.

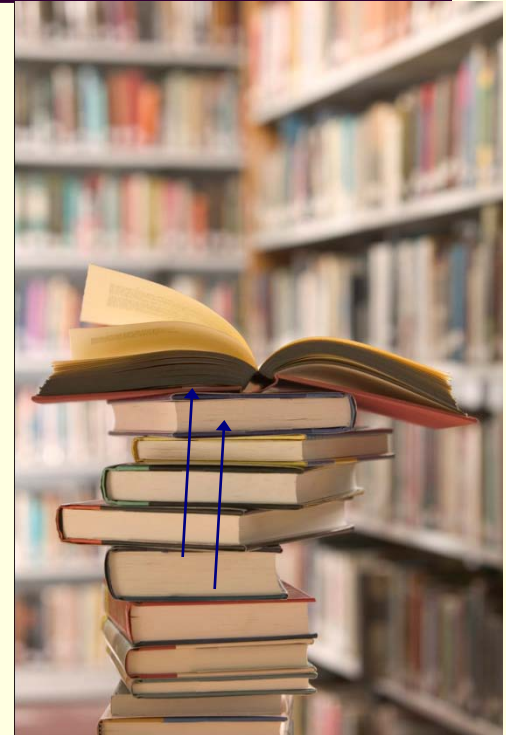
# Network optimisation

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1. **Optimisation of the network of vocational training institutions** by transferring some of them to municipalities. Part of the vocational training institutions will be merged with other vocational training or educational institutions. In 2011 it is planned to transfer 13 out of currently available 59 vocational training institutions.
2. **Reorganisation of vocational schools to (self-governing) public institutions** – after change in legal status of institutions, also other co-partners (i.e. enterprises, regional government representatives, social partners, municipalities and etc.) may participate in their management. In parallel, financial independence of institutions is increasing.
3. It is also planned to give special focus on **the establishment the network of sectoral vocational training centres (SVTCs)**. The main objective of SVTCs is to ensure that students would acquire practical skills corresponding to the labour market needs by making use of the state- of- the -art technologies and equipment. The services of these centres will be used by all students of vocational training institutions, tertiary institutions, employees of sectoral enterprises, teachers of profession and etc.

# Vocational training programmes

- Skill needs are evaluated by performing sectoral studies, and by making labour market forecasts, as well as in the course of developing VET standards.
- Practical training should comprise 60% to 70% of the total time allocated to teaching vocational subjects. Environmental issues, ICT and foreign languages should either be integrated into the professional subjects, or developed as separate modules.
- In order to react to innovations in the economy and to reflect better local needs, VET institutions have the right to independently change the content by up to 10%.



# Quality assurance

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- With the aim of ensuring the uniform assessment of VET graduates' readiness for practical activity, the function of the final qualification assessment is delegated to social partners.
- The Lithuanian Vocational Education and Training Council functions as an advisory body in making decisions regarding strategic questions in VET on a national level. It comprises in equal proportions members representing state and municipal institutions, members representing employer and business organisations, and members representing employee organisations.



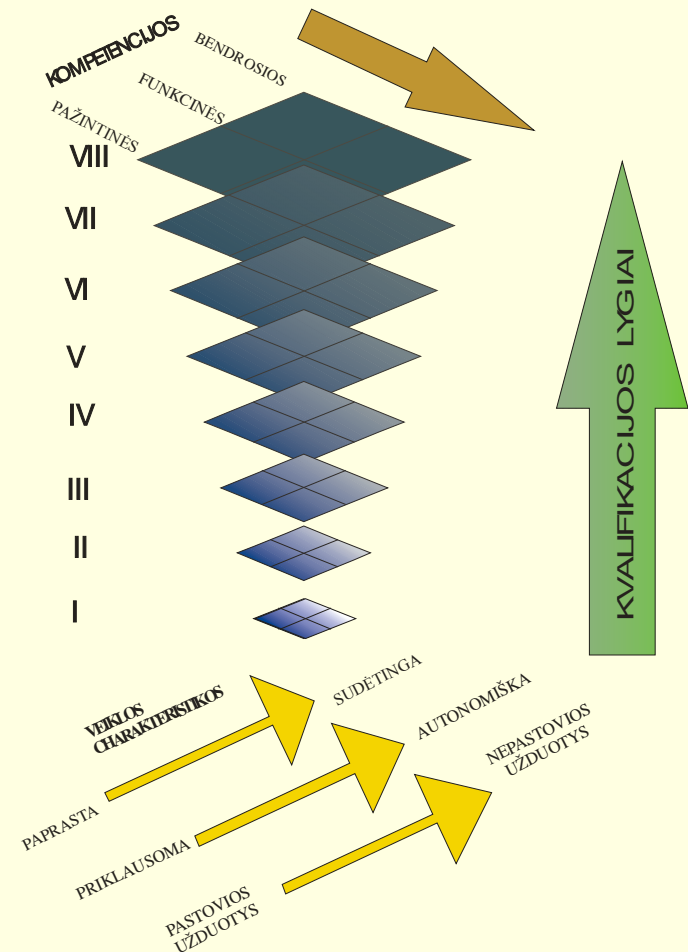
# Development of National Qualification System

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- Lithuania is constantly moving towards a coherent national system of knowledge and competencies assessment aiming to build bridges between formal, non-formal and informal education and thus creating an “open” structure accessible to everyone. In principal legal basis is in place already.

# Development of National Qualification System

The level system of qualifications based on competences required for a person's work.



# Future priority actions

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- The target of VET development is to make VET an equal part of the lifelong learning system. Future priority actions are related to the development of modular training programmes and the credit system, the design of teaching materials, and the improvement of the subject-related competencies of teachers.
- development of the qualifications system, the updating of resources for practical training (the establishment of sectoral practical training centres).