

## *Foreword*

As highlighted in the OECD Action Plan for Youth, successful engagement of youth in the labour market is crucial not only for their own personal economic prospects and well-being, but also for overall economic growth and social cohesion. Therefore, investing in youth is a policy priority in all countries, including Lithuania, and requires concerted action to develop education systems and labour market arrangements that work together well.

Following the launch of the OECD Action Plan for Youth in May 2013, the OECD is working closely with countries to implement the plan's comprehensive measures in their national and local contexts and to provide peer-learning opportunities for countries to share their experience of policy measures to improve youth employment outcomes.

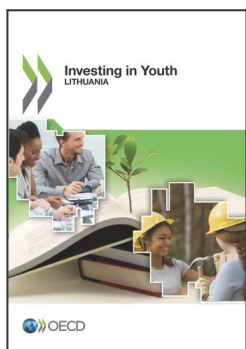
The report is the response to a request for collaboration made by the Lithuania Government to the OECD in 2014. It builds on the extensive country reviews that the OECD has carried out previously on the youth labour market and vocational education and training (Investing in Youth; Jobs for Youth; Learning for Jobs and Skills beyond School), as well as on the OECD Skills Strategy.

The present report on Lithuania is the fourth of a new series on Investing in Youth which builds on the expertise of the OECD on youth employment, social support and skills. This series covers both OECD countries and countries in the process of accession to the OECD, as well as some emerging economies. The report presents new results from a comprehensive analysis of the situation of disadvantaged youth in Lithuania exploiting various sources of survey-based and administrative data. It provides a detailed diagnosis of the youth labour market in Lithuania from an international comparative perspective, and offers tailored recommendations to help improve school-to work transitions. It also provides an opportunity for Lithuania to learn from the innovative measures that other countries have taken to strengthen the skills of youth and their employment outcomes, notably through the implementation of a Youth Guarantee.

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