

DEVELOPING CAREER AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATION IN ESTONIA

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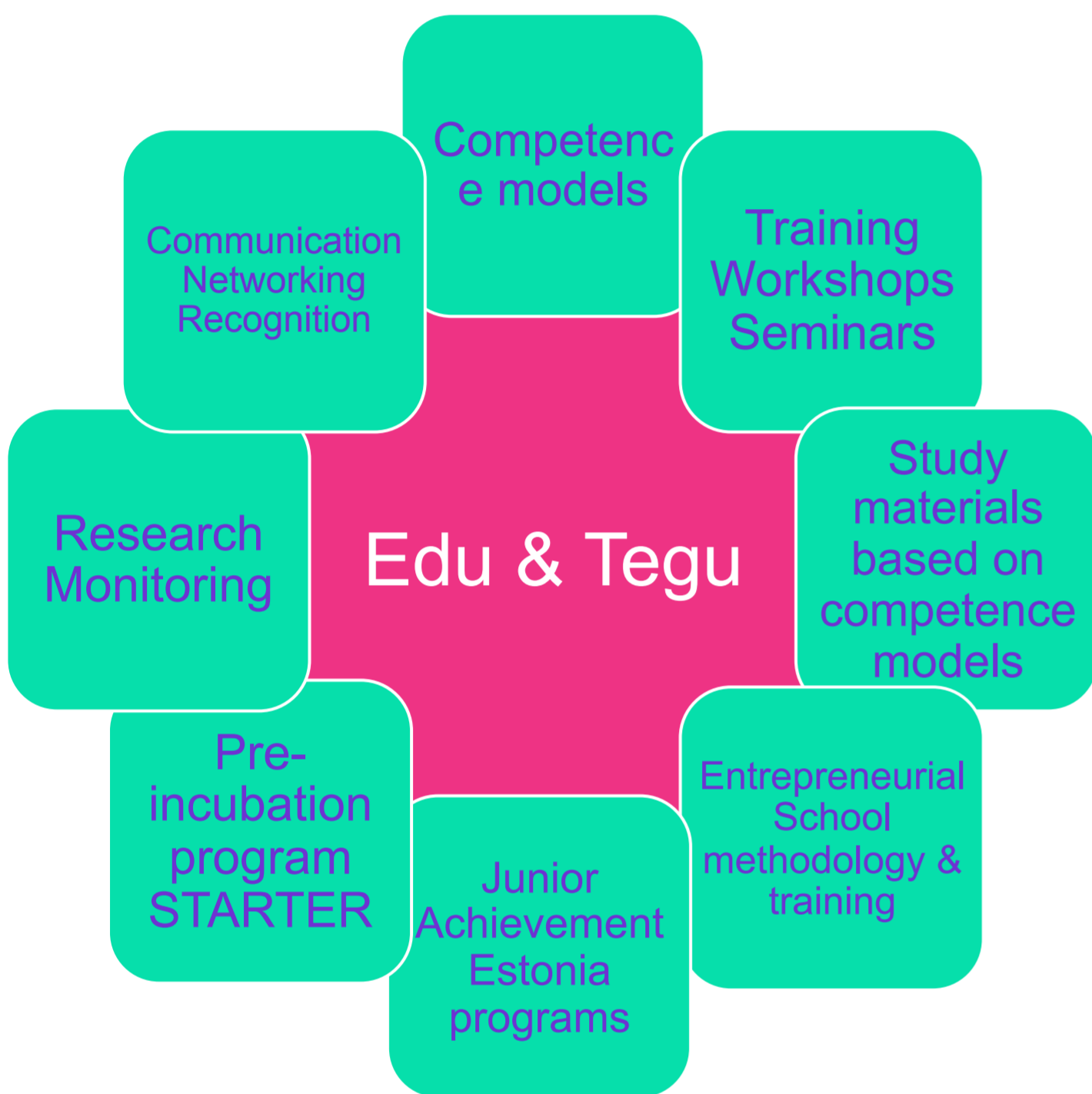
Photo: M. Partei

The entrepreneurship and career education program Edu & Tegu was brought to life in 2016 by the Estonian Ministry of Education and Research to promote entrepreneurship and career education and an entrepreneurial attitude at all levels of education. The program is financed by the European Social Fund (85%) and the Ministry of Education and Research (15%).

Developed career and entrepreneurship competences give more freedom to shape one's career, either to be an entrepreneur, an entrepreneurial employee or an active citizen. The development to become a person who wants and knows how to implement her ideas is supported throughout one's education.

Vision Statement

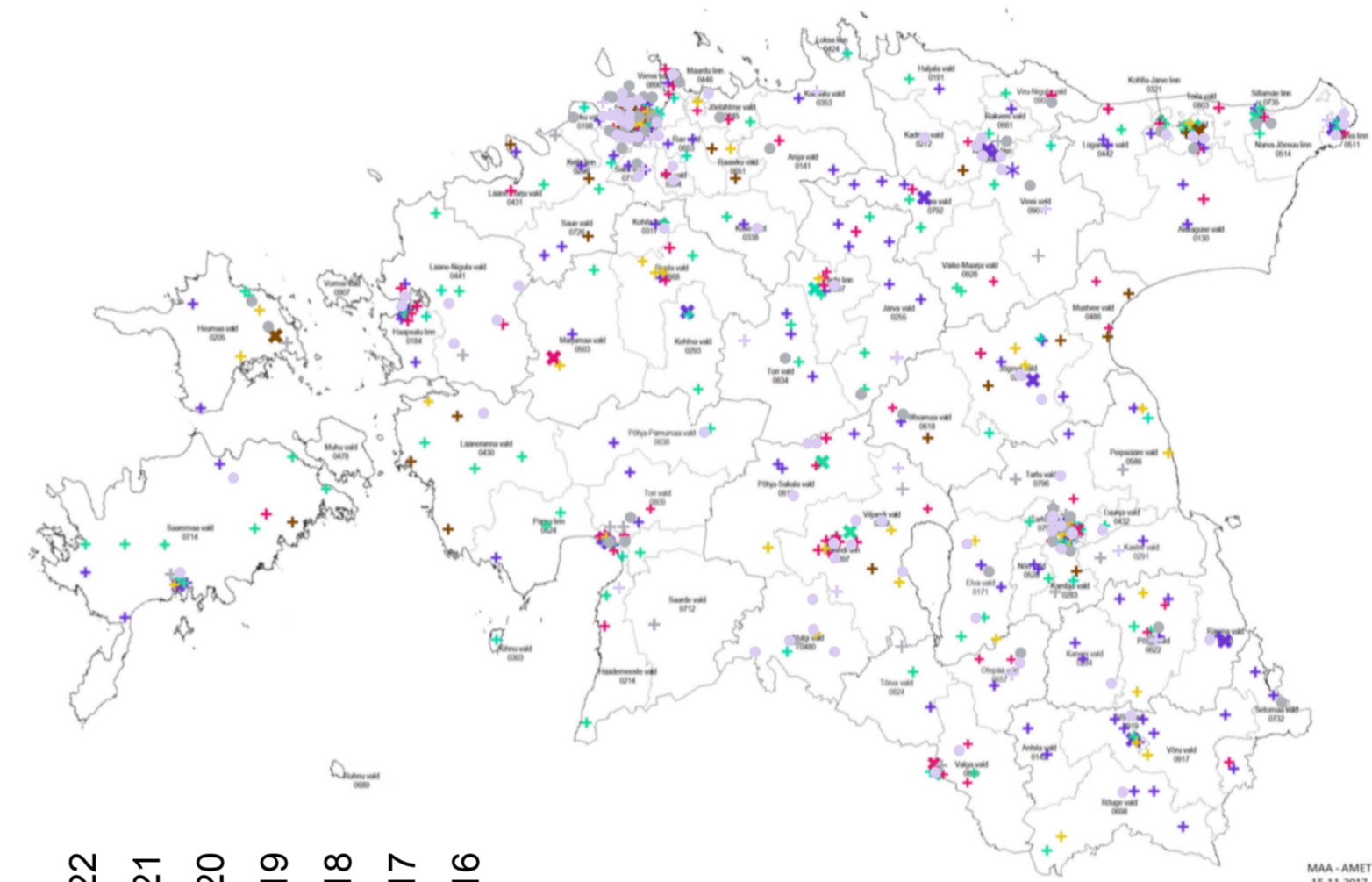
In order to assess the expansion and impact of the Edu & Tegu program, monitoring interviews are conducted with key staff members, qualitative and quantitative data is gathered, analysed and presented in a quarterly monitoring report. From 2016 to September 2022, more than 120 monitoring interviews and 24 reports have been completed.



Source: compiled by authors

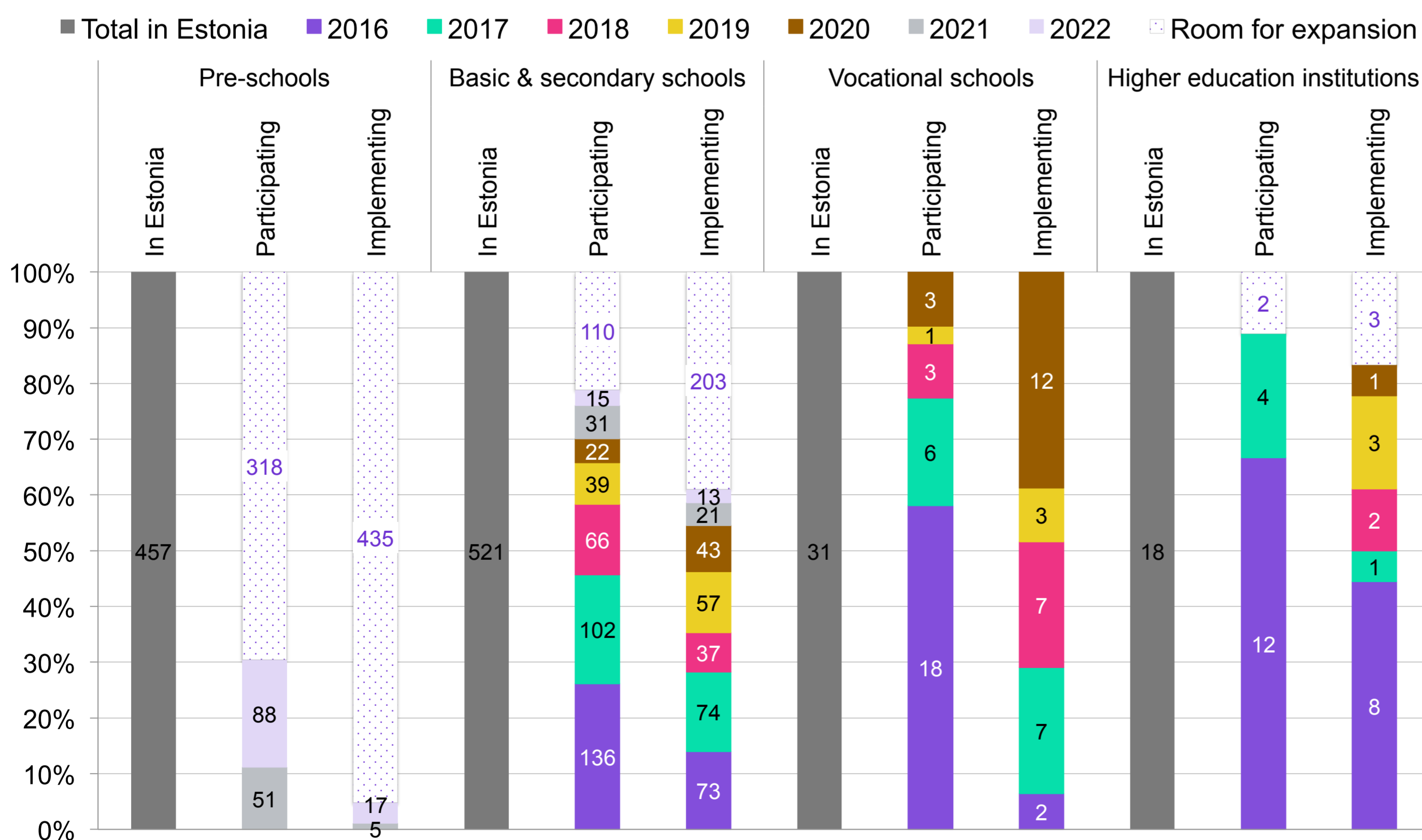
The entrepreneurship and career education program has been expanding rapidly over the last seven years. It has reached all 15 counties and all educational levels in Estonia. As of September 2022, teacher(s) from 58% of education institutions have taken part in at least one activity of the program: 30%* of pre-schools, 79% of basic and secondary schools, all vocational schools and 89% of higher education institutions. Somewhat surprisingly, schools located outside larger cities have been more active in joining the program.

* In 2021 pre-schools were added to the program as a new target group.



Source: compiled by authors

Expansion of the entrepreneurship and career education program Edu & Tegu in Estonia 2016–2022



Source: compiled by authors

Teachers participating in the program are provided with various tools, materials, training, knowledge & advice to start implementing career and/or entrepreneurship education in their schools. As of September 2022, career and entrepreneurship education is implemented in 38% of education institutions: 5%* of pre-schools, 61% of basic and secondary schools, all vocational schools and 83% of higher education institutions. As the data shows, the Edu & Tegu program has had a substantial impact on the development and expansion of career and entrepreneurship education in Estonia. However, there is still considerable room for growth, especially regarding pre-schools and basic and secondary schools, both in program participation and implementation of career and entrepreneurship education. The aim is to reach as many schools as possible by the end of 2023.