



Ministry of Education, Culture and Science



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Why a specific policy for ESL?

Because education has a high rate of return:

- **Chance to find a job is two times as high;**
- **Regions with low ESL score low on youth unemployment;**
- **Crime rates are 5 times as high for ESL's;**
- **Lower costs of healthcare (3 million Euro/year);**

Overall conclusion:

Annual benefits of tackling ESL are higher than costs (900 vs 700 million Euro)



How to tackle ESL?

- **Keep focus on pupil / student instead of system: total approach (bottom up)**
- **Output based policy (covenants): Each reduced individual ESL results in a 2500 Euro payment to the school**
- **Own choice of instrument to achieve objectives (menu list)**
- **Facilitate, monitor and evaluate; pressure and support: Benchmark / compare regions**



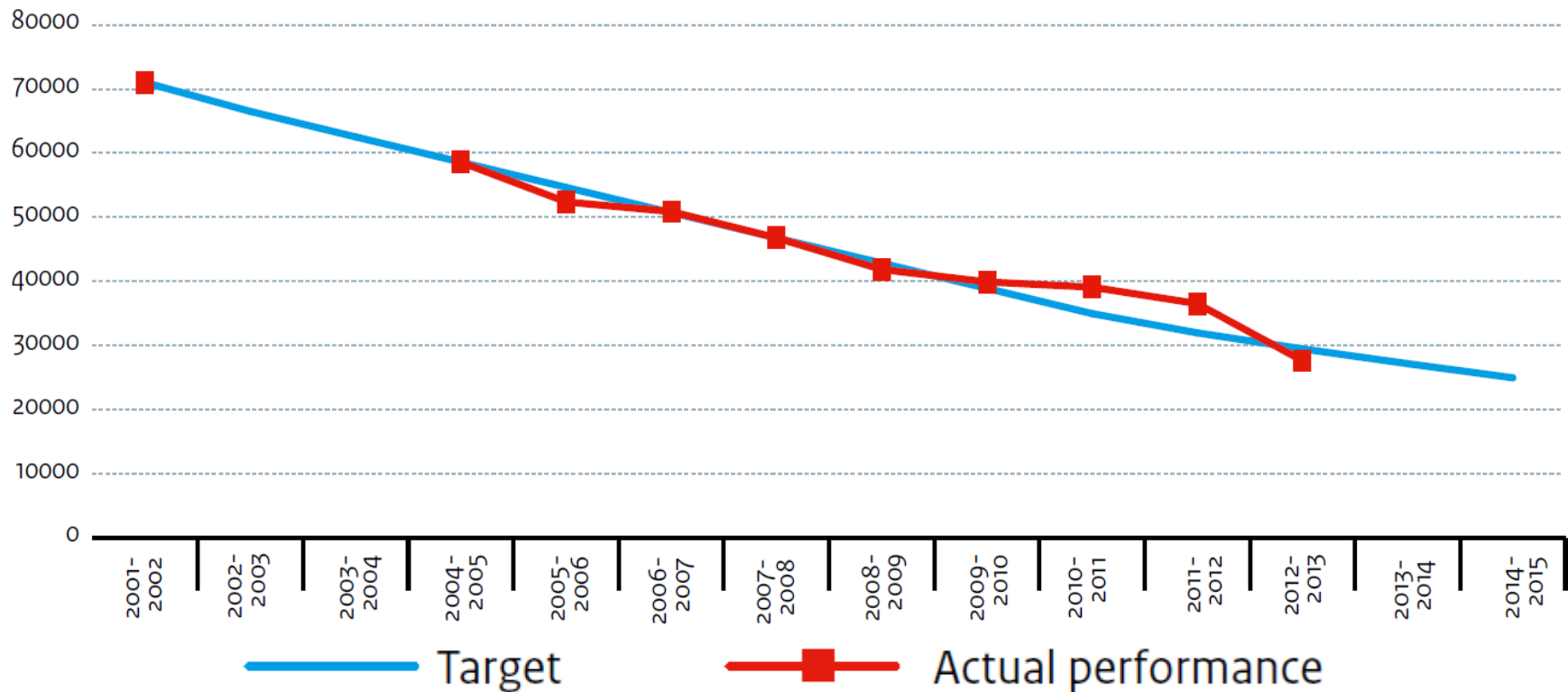
Measurements on school level

- **Continuous learning pathway pre-vocational to secondary vocational education**
- **Improving education: secondary vocational education levels 3 and 4**
- **More guidance and counseling systems in the schools**
- **Extra facilities for vulnerable youth: a combination of regular education with care and support and vocational training if necessary.**



Results

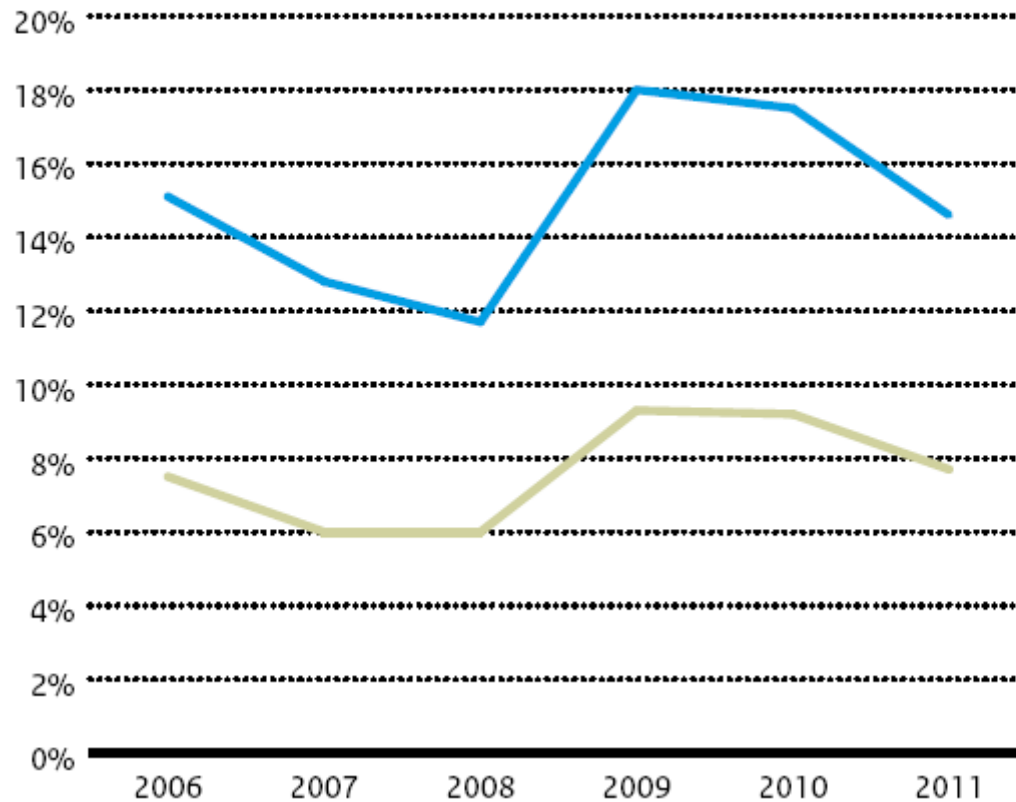
- **New early school leavers 2012/2013: 27.760**
- **Target 2016: 25.000**





Youth Unemployment

- % Without a basic qualification (15-23 year)
- % With a basic qualification (15-23 year)





Recommendations

- **Comprehensive approach: policy is based on strong, long-term cooperation between national, regional, municipal and school level.**
- **Clear ambition shared by partners**
- **Focus on figures: fix targets, measure, monitor and motivate (M-M-M).**
- **Monitoring and benchmarking (analyzing).**
- **Long term political and financial commitment to reduce early school leaving.**