

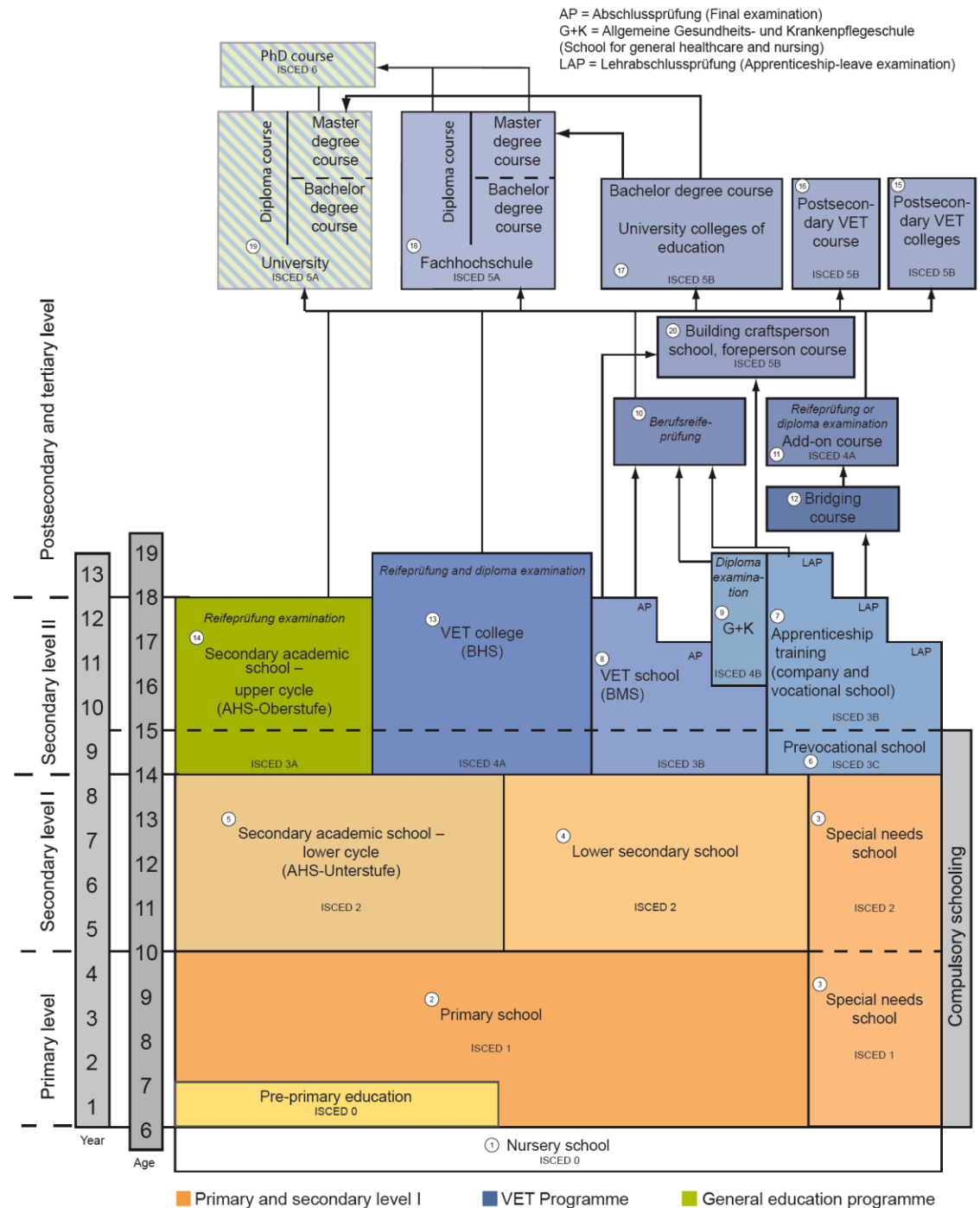
# ***Cornerstones of the Austrian VET System***

***Brussels, 8th October 2012***

## Some statistics: education and economic indicators

<b>Proportion of students in VET at Sec II</b>	Austria: 76,8% EU-average: 52,8%
<b>Completion rate of Sec II</b>	Austria: 86% EU-average: 78,6%
<b>Early school leavers</b>	Austria: 8,7% EU-average: 14,4%
<b>Tertiary attainment</b>	Austria: 23,5% EU-average: 32,3%
<b>Youth unemployment</b>	Austria: 8,3% EU-average: 21,4%
<b>Labour productivity</b>	Austria: 116,3 EU: 100

# The Austrian education system



# Main VET programmes

## Dual Apprenticeship training

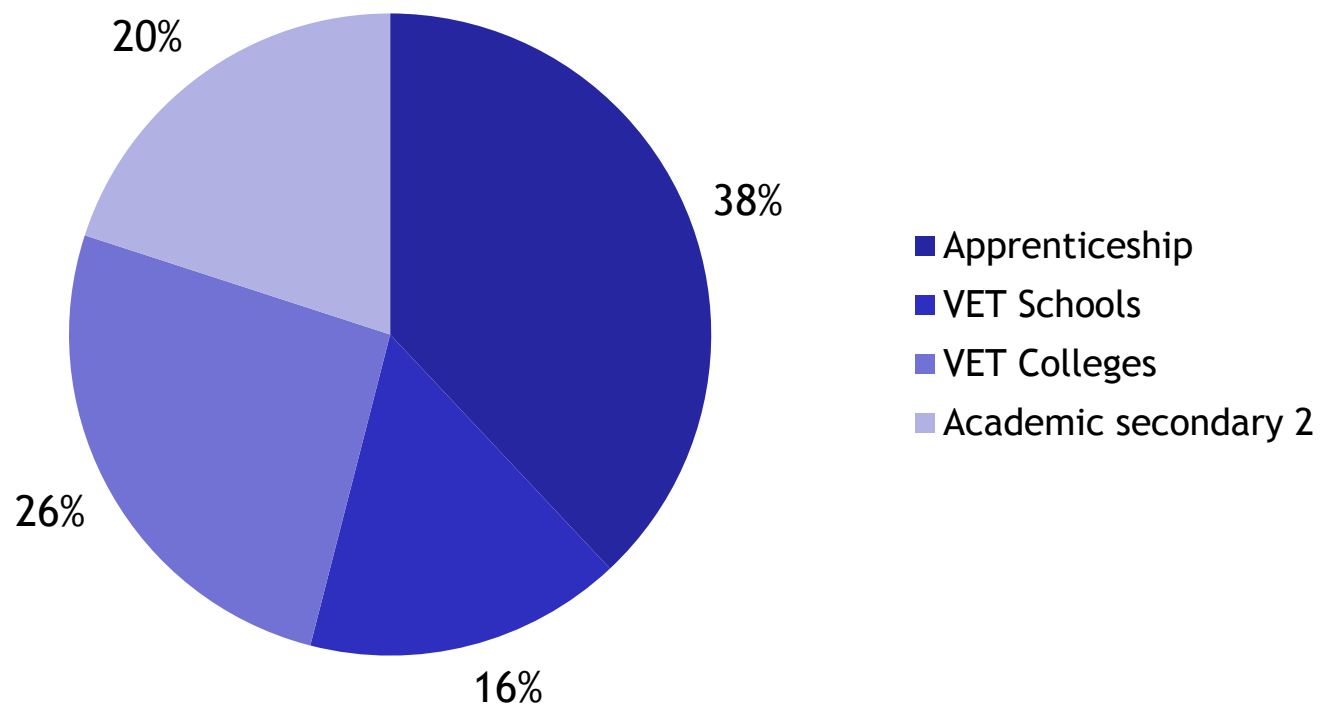
- training enterprise (80% of time) and part-time vocational school (20% of time)
- demand led system: apprenticeship contract between enterprise and apprentice
- training is based on two regulations (ordinances): training company and school
- 200+ apprenticeships (“professions”) in practically all branches of the economy with a 2-4 years training period depending on the profession
- Access to regulated professions and basis for “Higher VET”: “Meister” and other professional qualifications

## Full time VET Schools and Colleges

- combination of general and vocational education
- different types and duration (1-5 years)
- Double qualification in VET-colleges (5 years): VET-diploma and university access

## Percentages of students in general education and in VET at year 10 of schooling

Distribution of students in year 10 of schooling

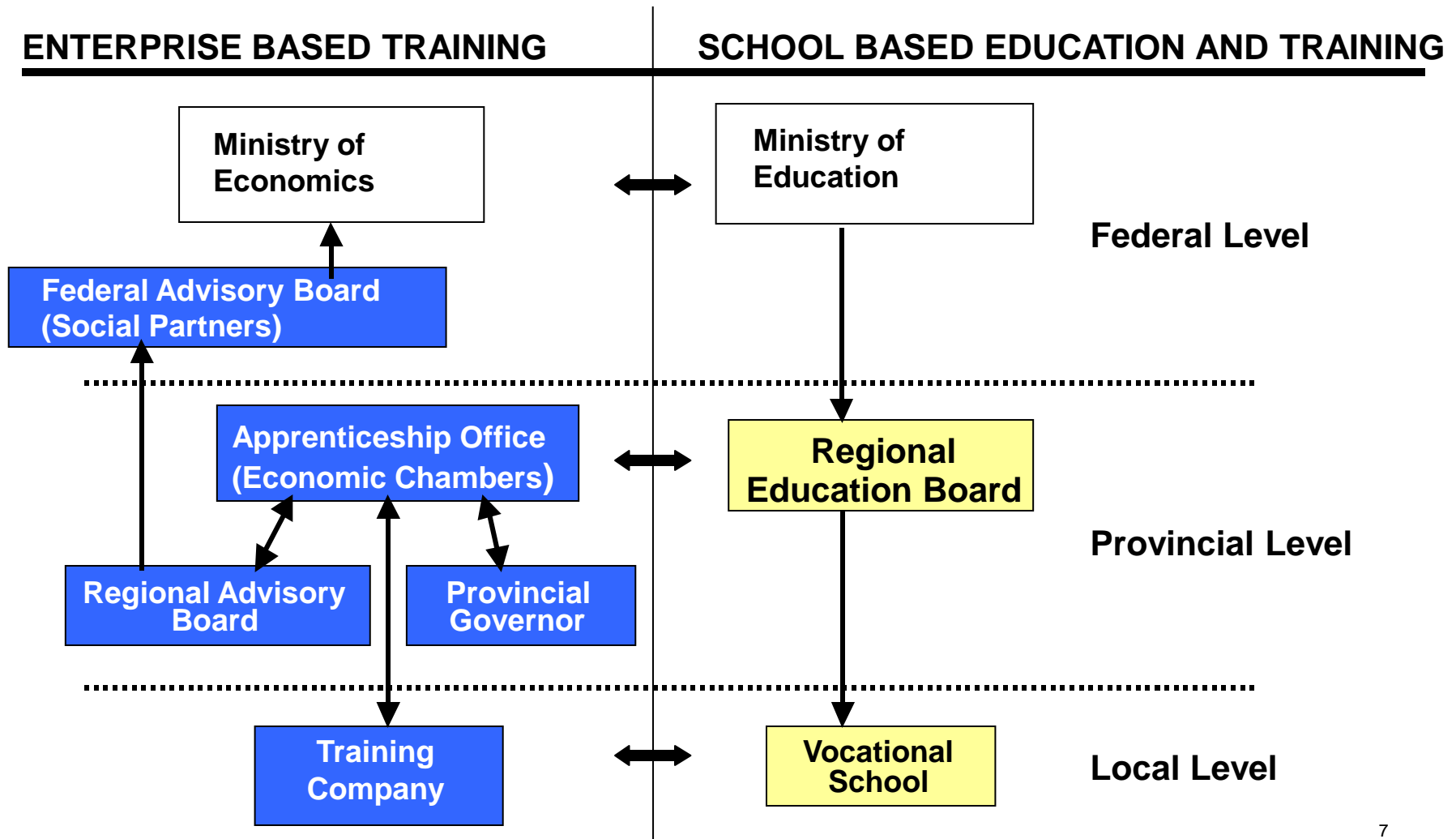


# VET College: BHS – Berufsbildende Höhere Schule



- 5-years full-time, school-based, highly specialised training
- Thorough general education
- Granting access to universities
- Granting full vocational qualifications and access to regulated professions
- Labour market relevance/  
job perspectives  
(1950: 10.000 students; 2009/10: 135.533 students)

# Governance of Apprenticeship training: overview



# Governance, quality assurance and administration of apprenticeship training

## **Federal Advisory Board on Apprenticeships**

- Legal basis in the Vocational Training Act; expert group of the Ministry of Economics
- Members are nominated by Social Partners

## **Research institutes with links to Social Partners ([www.ibw.at](http://www.ibw.at) and [www.oeibf.at](http://www.oeibf.at))**

- Preparation of drafts for new or updated training ordinances
- Evaluations and other research
- support to examination boards
- Preparation of support and study material to companies and apprentices

## **Apprenticeship offices at the regional Economic Chambers: act on delegated authority from the Ministry of Economics**

- Accreditation of training companies
- Approval and registration of apprenticeship contracts
- Organisation of examinations (the examination boards consist of representatives of the Social Partners)
- Awarding of the qualification
- Administration of financial incentives for training companies



# The introduction of new apprenticeship trades

## 1. Preparation

- Identification of specific needs by different stakeholders (usually channelled via ibw)
- First opinion by the Ministry of Economics and the Social Partners

## 2. Elaboration of the training ordinance and framework curriculum

- Preparation of draft training ordinance (mainly by ibw)
- Negotiation in the Federal Advisory Board on Apprenticeship and submission of the draft to the Ministry of Economics
- Development of a framework curriculum for the school part by the Ministry of Education
- Stakeholder consultation on the two drafts

## 3. Issuing of the two ordinances

- Training ordinance is issued by the Ministry of Economics
- School curriculum ordinance is issued by the Education Ministry

## 4. Follow-up measures

- Preparation of supportive manuals for training companies
- Training of trainers, teachers and examiners
- Continuous evaluation

# Financing of Apprenticeship training

- Training companies provide and pay for company based part of training (training infrastructure, trainer salary, apprentice remuneration, etc.)
- Federal and regional governments provide and finance the school based-part of training
- Financial support to training companies (mainly financed by employers through a fund scheme)

Basic support: three apprenticeship remunerations in the 1st, two in the 2nd and one in the 3rd and 4th year of apprenticeship

Specific quality related incentives: e.g. for training alliance and additional qualifications; CVET for trainers, international mobility, etc.

Coaching and consulting of apprentices and companies

## Quality assurance of school based VET: qibb

