

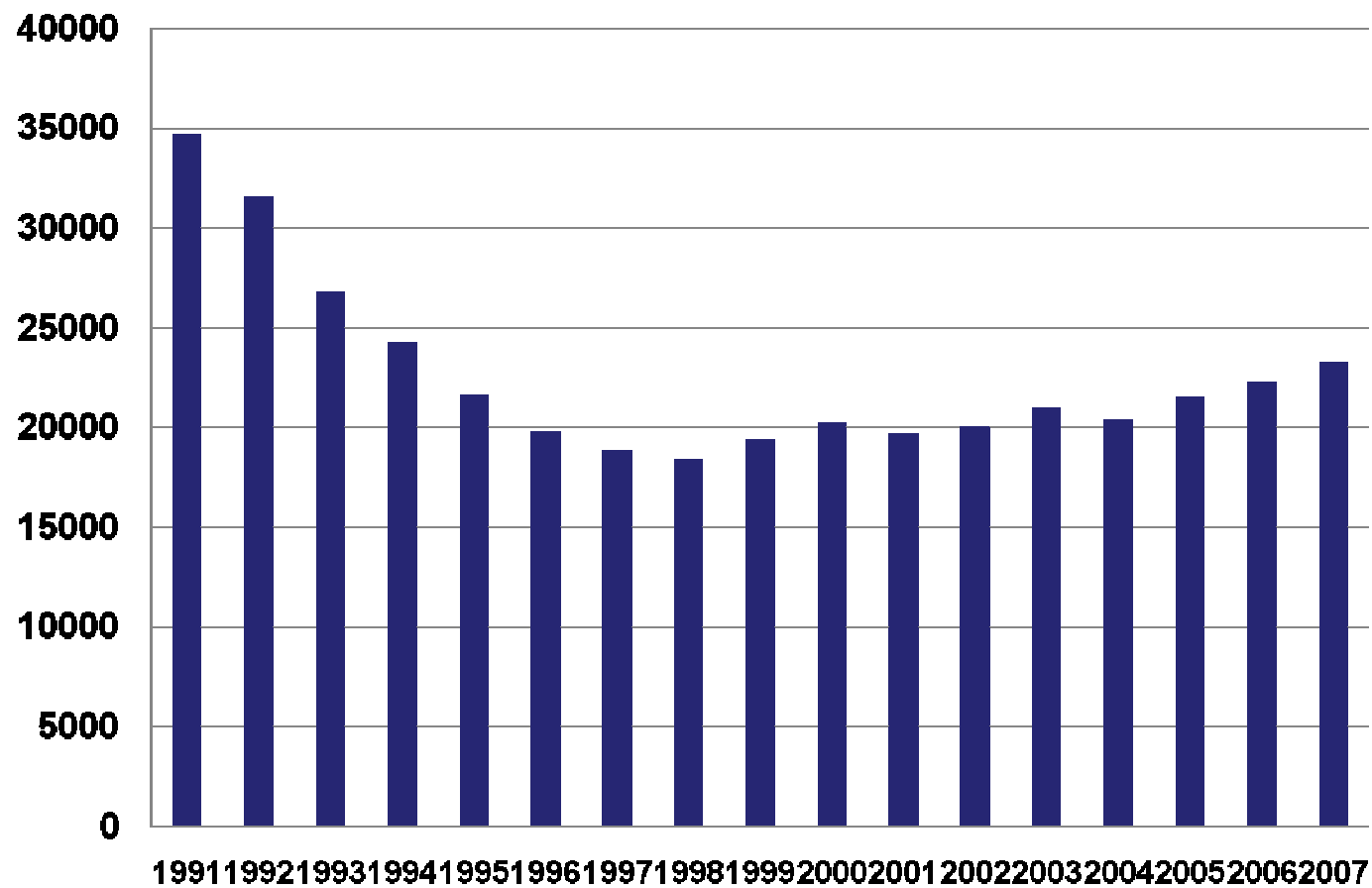


**Sharing the costs of training
in the newer EU Member States**

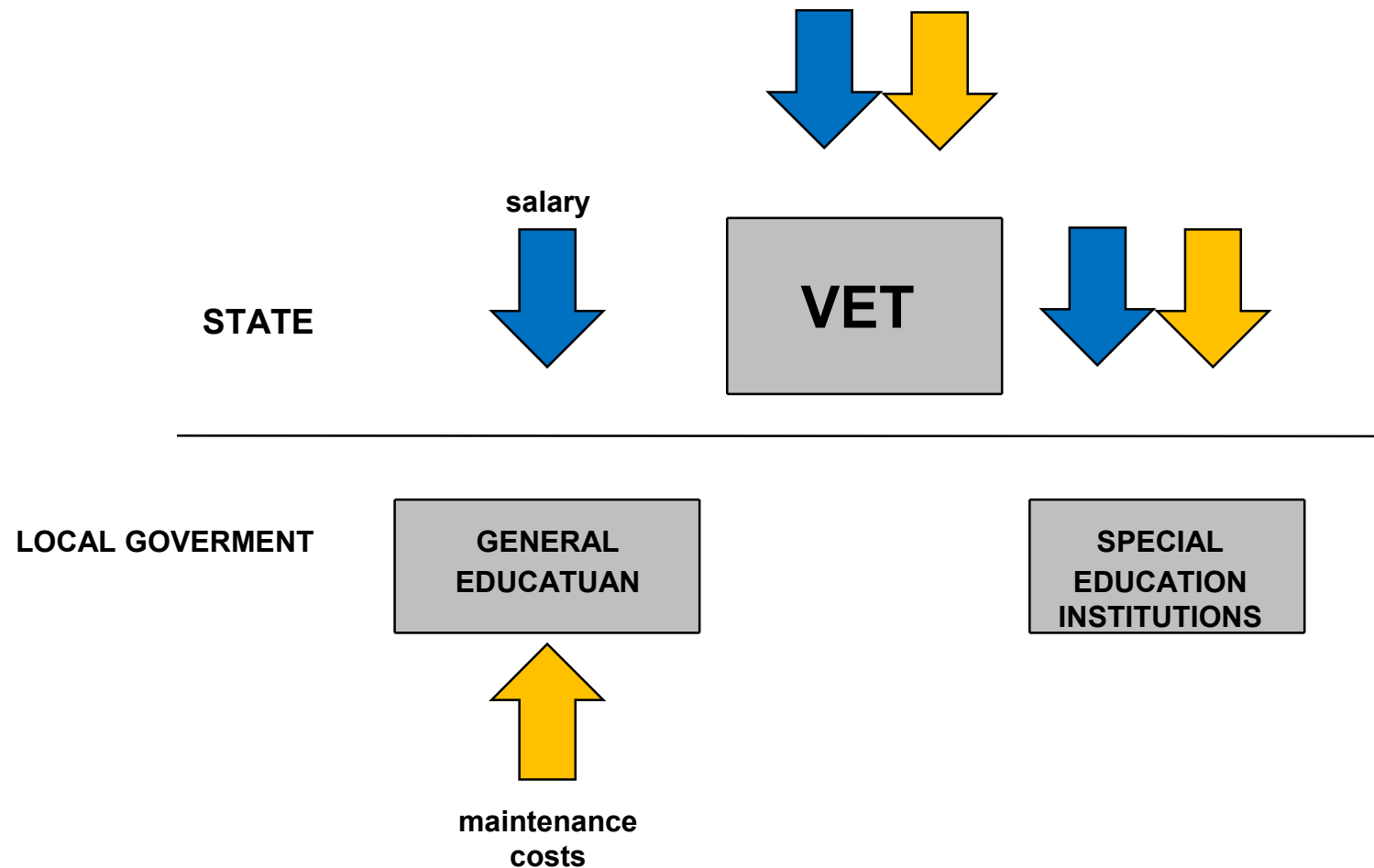
VET financing in Latvia in times of change

Thessaloniki, 15 – 16 October 2009

demographic trend

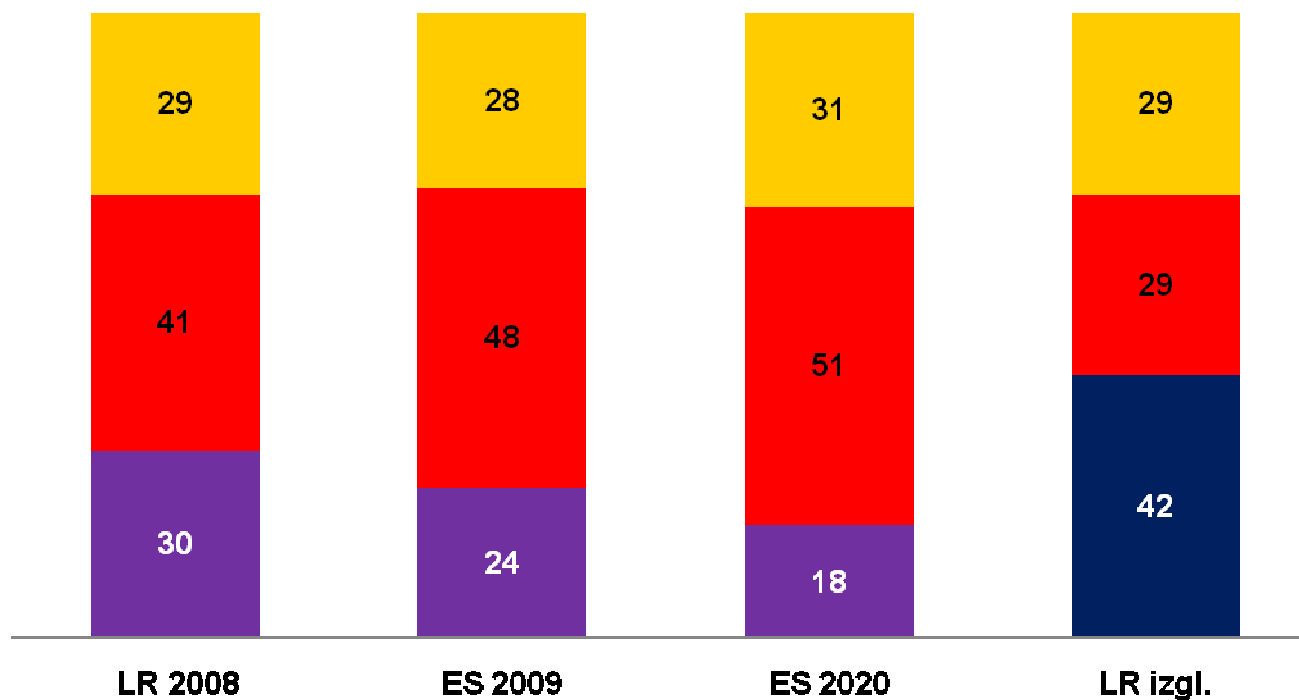


Financing mechanisms

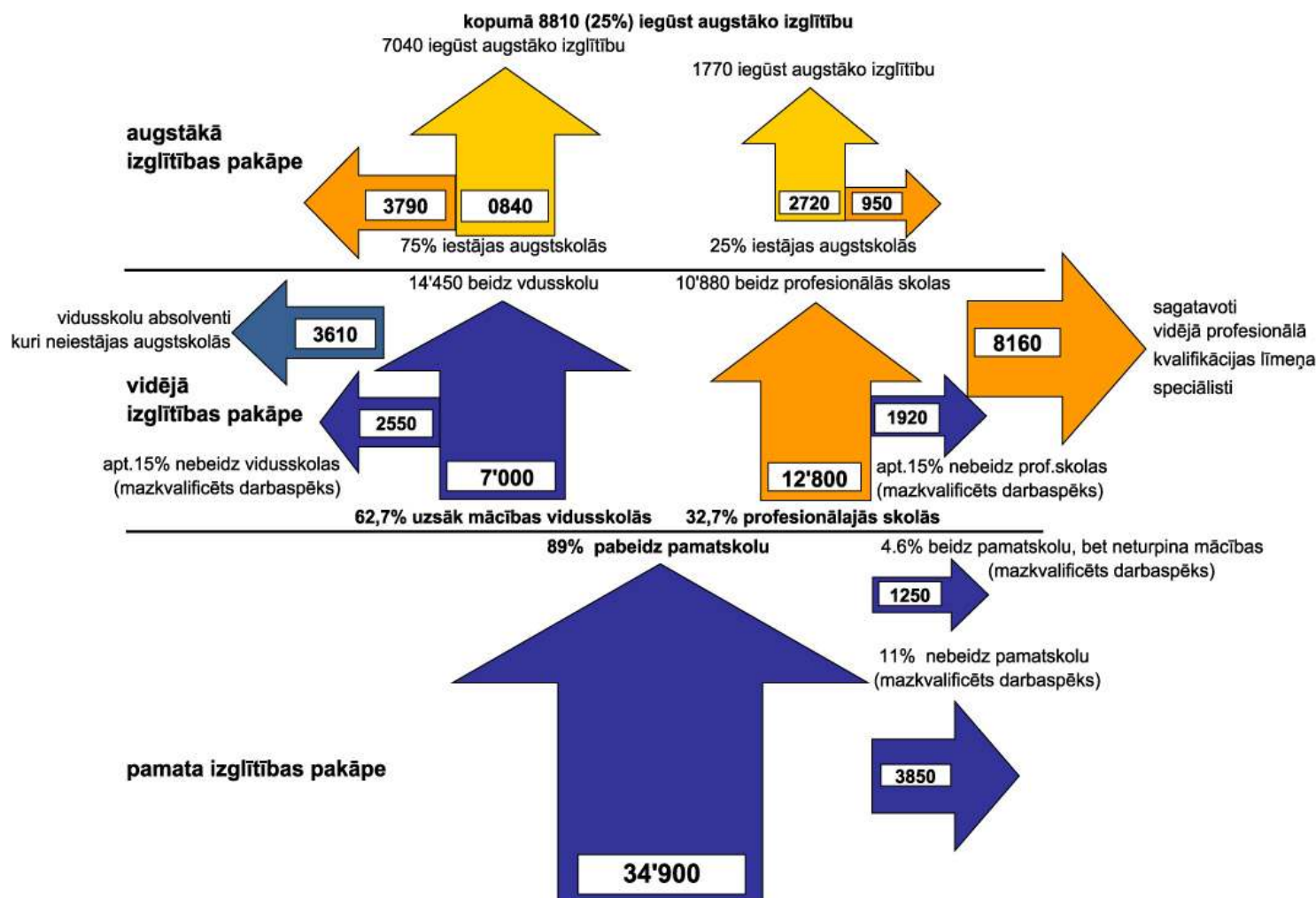


employment structure

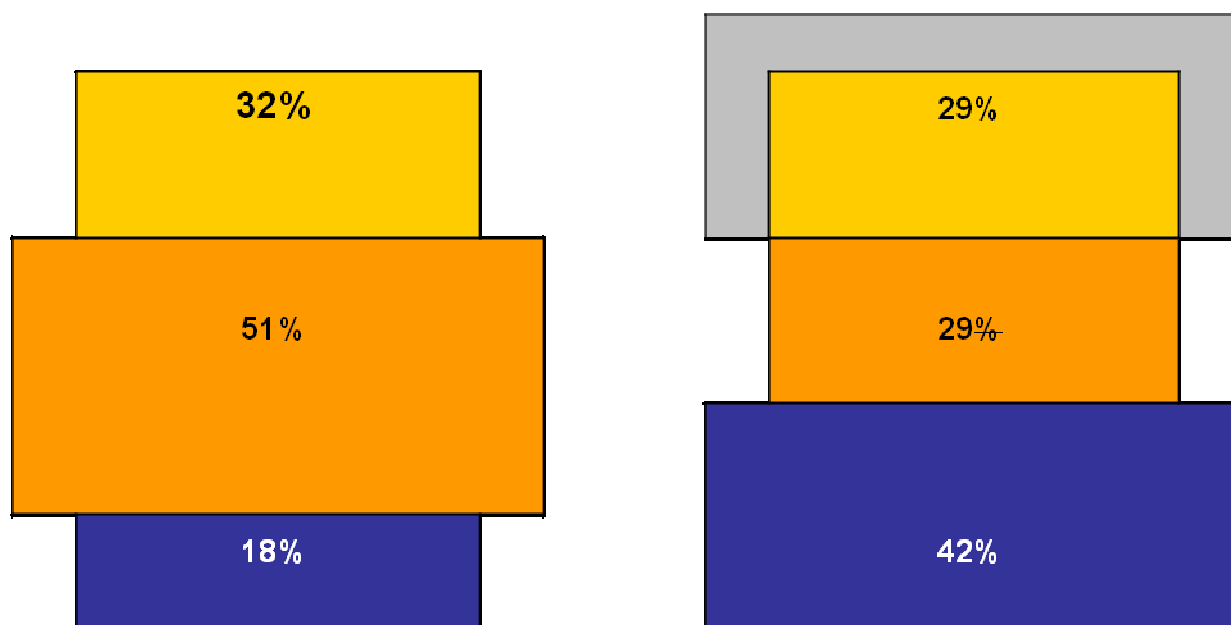
■ mazkvalificēts darbaspēks ■ vidēja profesinālā kvalifikācija
■ augsti kvalificēts darbaspēks



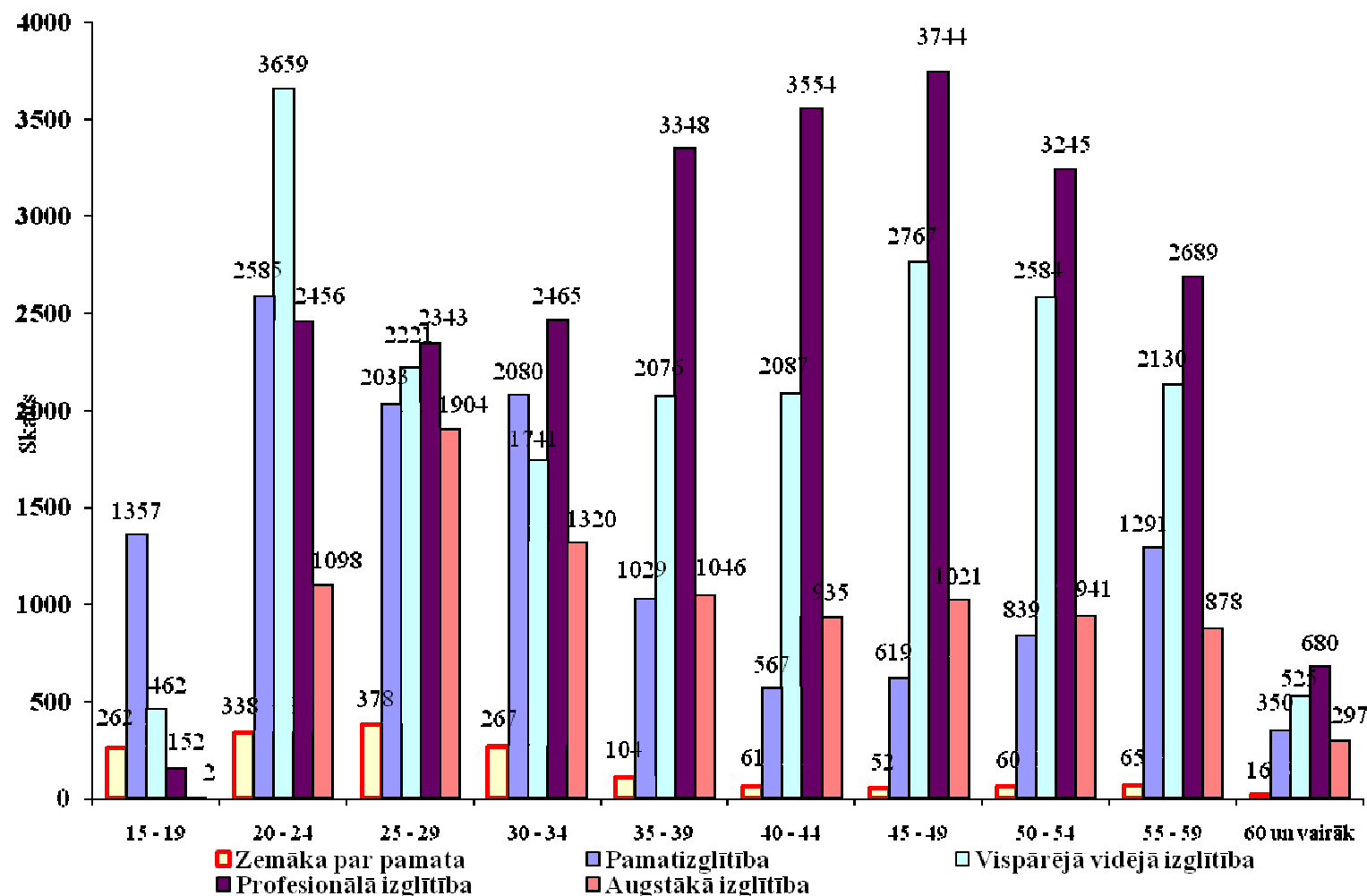
qualification structure of graduates



Employment and qualification structure



unemployment rate



Vocational Education

- The number of registered unemployed, who are 20-30 years old with a general basic or secondary education, is rapidly increasing
- Only 30% of basic education school leavers go on to vocational education institutions
- As a result of repeated “linear” state budget cuts the average funding per 1 vocational education institution student has become less than for a primary education student (including teachers’ salaries and maintenance costs!)

Vocational Education

- The estimated required number of workers with mid-level qualifications will not be trained. A low qualified labour force will increase production costs and will decrease competitiveness of Latvian enterprises
- On secondary education level the number of vocational education students will decrease under 30%
- Labour market needs will not be met, the number of unemployed will increase (especially youth unemployment) and, accordingly, social budget expenditure and social tension will increase

Vocational Education

Sector policy tasks

- To use the limited financial resources for education sectors providing a bigger return to the development of human resources
- To restructure the education system in a way that the qualification structure of graduates corresponds to the employment structure
- To train the number of workers needed for the labour market
- Each year to enrol approx. 9000-10 000 students in vocational education schools.

Vocational Education

Sector policy tasks

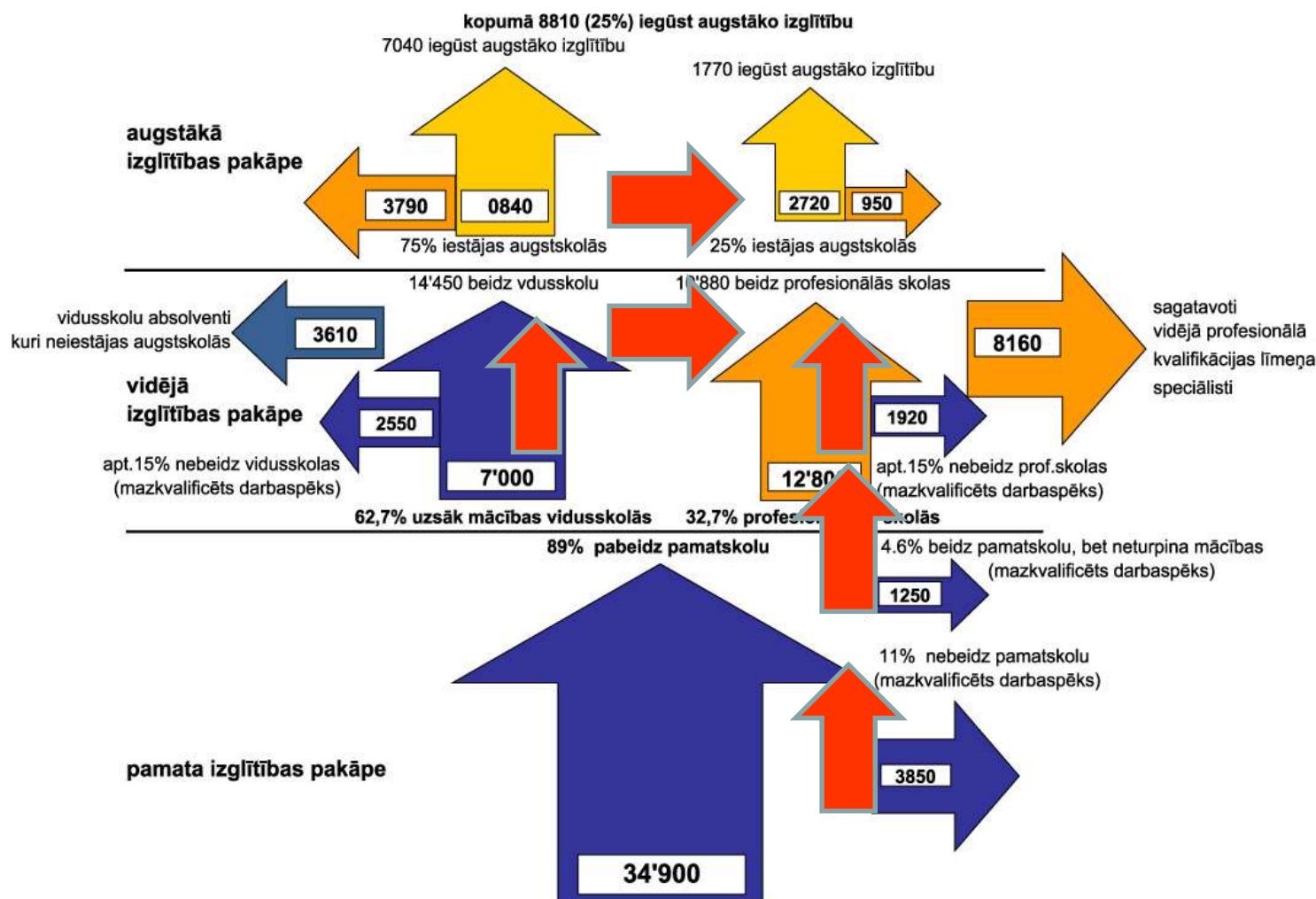
- It is essential to considerably increase the quality of vocational basic and college education. To achieve equal quality of education at the secondary level (in both general and vocational education)
- To ensure a possibility for secondary education graduates, who do not enrol in university level studies, to access 1-year vocational education programmes (with the help of EU Structural Funds)

Vocational Education

Sector policy tasks

- To gradually increase the proportion of vocational to general study at secondary education level to 50:50
- To ensure appropriate state budget funding by maintaining at least the current 30% - 70% distribution in 2010
- To ensure unified financing principles where “money follows students”, to prevent fragmentation of the budget, to provide teachers’ salaries from one earmarked subsidy

VET financing mechanisms/instruments



VET financing mechanisms/instruments

- Offer to local governments to take over regional VET schools
- To ensure unified financing principles where “money follows students”, to prevent fragmentation of the budget, to provide teachers’ salaries from one earmarked subsidy
- Primary vocational education programs
- General education programs with vocational component
- Stipendies & voucher systems (with the help of EU Structural Funds)
- To ensure a possibility for secondary education graduates, who do not enrol in university level studies, to access 1-year vocational education programmes (with the help of EU Structural Funds)



Thank you for your attention !

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