

European cooperation

IN VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

News, events, publications, seminars, workshops, study visits, policy meetings, web portal

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

RAISING AWARENESS

ANALYSING SKILLS

- forecasts of skill supply and demand
- green skills
- skill mismatch

MEMBER STATES

2012-14

EVIDENCE FOR POLICY

ACTIVITIES



CEDEFOP IN BRIEF

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strengthening europe

CEDEFOP

EU Presidency, databases, cedefop web portal, policy meetings, training specialists, conferences, events, statistics, studies, workshops

SOCIAL PARTNERS

INSIGHTS

CEDEFOP PRIORITIES

- CAREERS AND TRANSITIONS**
 - role of continuing training
 - work-based learning
- SUPPORTING MODERNISATION OF VET SYSTEMS**
 - policy reporting
 - developing common European tools and priorities

RESEARCHERS AND PRACTITIONERS

ASKING



QUESTIONS

- By 2020, more jobs will require higher qualifications. Will skill supply match demand?
- Too many young people leave school without qualifications. Many other highly qualified young people have to accept jobs below their qualification level. What are the best career prospects for young people?
- The workforce is ageing. Those already in the workforce will need to develop skills for jobs that will become increasingly demanding between now and 2020. As they get older, will people be able to acquire new skills and qualifications?
- Difficulties in understanding and recognising qualifications from other European countries restrict opportunities for people to work and study abroad. How can moving within Europe become easier for students and workers?
- *Europe 2020* is the European Union's strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. How can training enable people to update, upgrade and broaden their skills to produce better goods and services while using less energy and fewer resources? How can training help ensure growth brings jobs for all?

Cedefop (*the European Centre for the Development of Vocational training*) an EU agency – is working with the European Commission, Member States and social partners to find answers to these questions and others like them.

ANSWERS

FINDING

The central aim of European vocational education and training (VET) policy is to promote excellence through training: to make training both an attractive learning option for the brightest young people and adults and an effective way of helping those with low levels of qualification to develop their skills.

Cedefop, founded in 1975 and based in Greece since 1995, provides the European Commission, Member States and social partners with evidence and insights into trends that affect training and offers advice on how European VET policy could meet the challenges we face. For 2012-14, in response to information needs, Cedefop's activities will focus on three priorities:

Supporting modernisation of vocational education and training systems

- 1 Modern training systems need to be relevant to individual and labour market needs. They should consider knowledge, skills and competences acquired in different ways (for example, through work experience) and at different times, and allow people to move between jobs, sectors and countries.

Member States decide their national training policies and Cedefop **reports** regularly on the changes they are making to their systems. Cedefop also works to improve vocational education and training **statistics** and indicators to permit comparisons across countries.

European cooperation on VET policy, led by the European Commission and Member States, with support from social partners, has agreed common objectives. Cedefop's work contributes to developing and implementing **common European tools and principles** which aim to make it easier both to work and study abroad and move between different parts of a national education and training system (for example, between general and vocational education).

Careers and transitions – Continuing VET, adult and work-based learning

- 2 Today, people are likely to change jobs more often. Cedefop is looking at how **continuing training, adult and work-based learning** can help people to manage their careers and job prospects better. Cedefop is examining how adult and work-based learning can help enterprises to deal with technological change, promote innovation and increase competitiveness.

New demands are also being made on VET. **Trainers** are crucial to meeting these demands. Cedefop is looking at their changing roles and their skill and learning needs.

PROVIDING



Analysing skill and competence needs to inform VET provision

- 3 Unemployment coexists with skill shortages when people's skills do not meet job requirements. Understanding and anticipating the skills required is a step to helping training to adapt and correspond better to labour market needs.

Cedefop's **skill forecasts** provide insights into the factors that influence skill supply and demand. They can help design policies to reduce skill imbalances in the EU and Member States. Cedefop is also finding out more about emerging demand for **'green' skills** for sustainable growth and, as the population ages, the **effects of the 'silver' economy** on jobs in health and social care.

www.cedefop.europa.eu

If you are a policy-maker, researcher on VET or employment, a teacher, trainer, or an interested citizen, visit our website for:

a News on policy developments:

- briefing notes – information on training policy developments in several languages;
- monthly newsletter.

b

Free online publications on such topics as:

- identifying skills needs;
- understanding qualifications;
- analysing policy;
- developing lifelong learning.

c

Information resources:

- VET in Europe – national reports on VET systems and developments in EU Member States, Iceland and Norway;
- statistics and indicators – latest trends and data by theme;
- bibliographical references to publications, documents and Internet sources on VET;
- European training thesaurus – controlled vocabulary in English and French for VET terms;
- multilingual glossary of key terms used in education and training policy in Europe.

d

Events and conferences:

- organised by Cedefop or other European or national bodies.

e

Working for us:

- calls for tender and job opportunities.

Cedefop's work can be followed on Facebook at www.facebook.com/cedefop and Twitter at www.twitter.com/cedefop.

