



Working group II: Training funds

Chair: Peter Szovics, Cedefop
Rapporteur: Kasia Jurczak, Eurofound

Presentations:

Sectoral training funds in Europe

Peter Szovics, Cedefop and Iñigo Isusi, IKEI, Spain

Overview of training funds in Italy: a new approach to lifelong learning

Bruno Scazzocchio, Confindustria, Italy

Financing vocational training in French companies: a sophisticated but controversial scheme

Jean-Louis Dayan, Centre d'analyse stratégique, France

Contribution and control by companies for successful vocational training

Tamás Köpeczi Bócz, National Development Agency, Hungary

Training funds, based on levies on enterprises' payroll, are often used by countries to stimulate training activities and raise additional financial resources. Although some European countries have used training funds for many years, relatively little is known about their effectiveness. To fill this information gap, Cedefop launched a study to examine the structures, efficiency and impact of sectoral training funds, managed by the social partners (in cooperation with government), in eight EU Member States.

This working session will outline the outcomes of the study, look at selected country examples (including some countries not covered by the study) and address the following questions:

1. What models of (sectoral) training funds exist in Europe? What role can the funds play?
2. What are the strengths and weaknesses of (sectoral) training funds? Which specific groups do (sectoral) training funds find it difficult to reach?
3. How can (sectoral) training funds increase efficiency and promote equity? How to reduce deadweight loss? How to increase participation and investment in training by underrepresented groups?