CEDEFOP | European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training

EUROPEAN YEAR OF SKILLS

Making learning progression a reality

Learners in the spotlight

21 February 2024
Virtual event

#learningoutcomes

Transparency and transferability of learning outcomes: a 20-year journey

Session 3: Exploring past and present trends and their influence on future policy developments on lifelong learning

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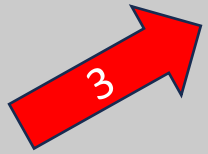
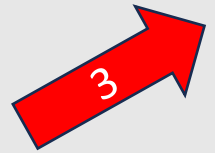
Five broad EU policy trends over last 20 years

- **Trend 1: Increased transparency and comparability of qualifications**
  - Key tools: EQF/NQF; Europass;
  - Other relevant tools: ECTS, ESCO, European Digital Credentials, European Learning Model
- **Trend 2: Increased modular approaches in education and training**
  - Key tools: ECTS; ECVET; Micro-credentials
- **Trend 3: Increased options to receive and accumulate credit for achieved learning outcomes**
  - Key tools: ECTS
  - Other tools: Europass & European Digital Credentials
- **Trend 4: Increased transferability of learning outcomes**
  - Key tool: Validation
  - Other tools: Competence frameworks, Europass, European Learning Model; Youthpass
- **Trend 5: Increased recognition of learning outcomes to enhance the learning mobility of EU citizens and third-country nationals**
  - Key tools: 2018 Recommendation, LRC, Europass, EQF/NQFs
  - Other tools: ECTS, European Digital Credentials, European Learning Model

0= No change; 1 = Weak; 2 = Medium; 3 = Strong

Trend No.	2000 – 2020 Trajectory	Future trajectory
1: Transparency		
2: Modular approaches		
3: Accumulation		
4: Transferability		
5: Recognition		

Mechanisms that explicitly or implicitly enable or support the five trends

- EU networks (such as ENQA), tools and mechanisms to increase quality assurance of learning programmes and qualifications,
- The provision of (lifelong) guidance and counselling services to help learners navigate post-16 learning choices
- The provision of funding for education and training
- EU structures and networks (such as the EQF AG) that support the implementation and coordination of relevant tools and policies.

Possible future disruptors of the five trends

- Another pandemic
- Wars or other forms of unrest
- Climate change
- Governmental changes at the national as well as EU level, resulting in funding cuts or increased nationalism that could result in reduced cooperation between EU Member States
- The increased use and proliferation of Artificial Intelligence (AI): ‘AI makes the future unpredictable’

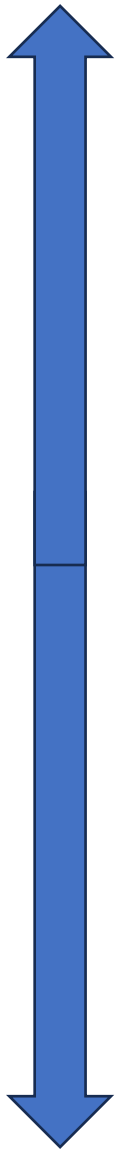
Other trends within wider E&T landscape

- A growth in new ways of learning (such as, for example, ‘authentic’ learning and online learning)
- The growth in private international qualifications (especially in IT)
- An increasingly strong emphasis on the need for education and training to meet the needs of the labour market in response to demographic and technological changes
- An increased emphasis on transversal skills both to meet the needs of the changing nature of work and to enable broader participation in society and active citizenship, and contribute to social cohesion

EU Scenario – Axis 1:

Divergent **Convergent**

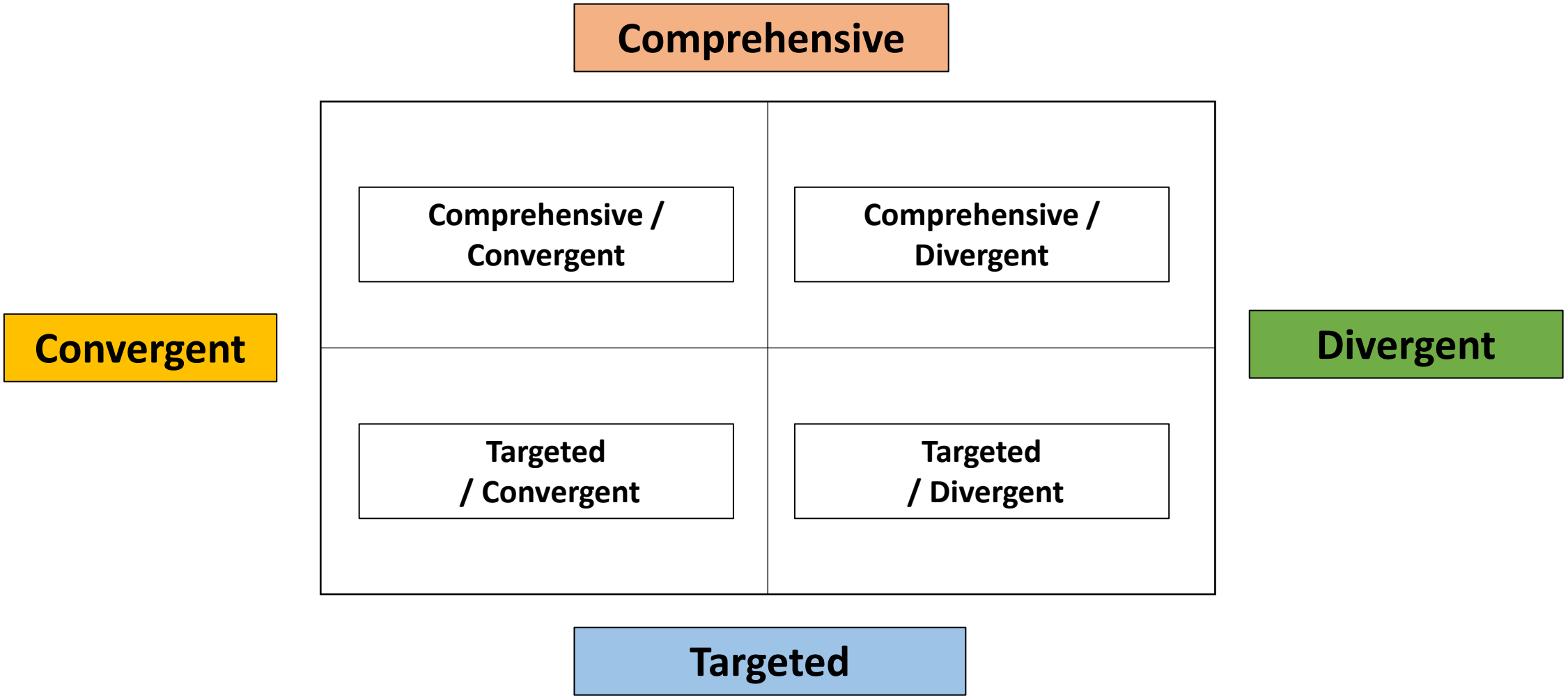
EU Scenario – Axis 2:



Comprehensive

Targeted

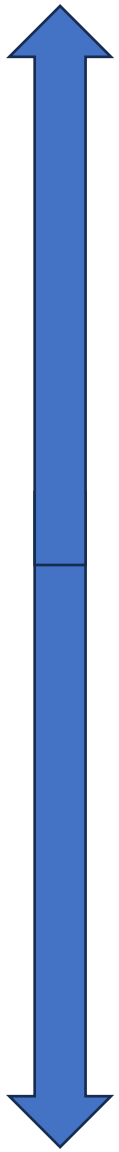
Future EU scenarios:



National Scenario – Axis 1:

Demand-led **Supply-led**

National Scenario – Axis 2:



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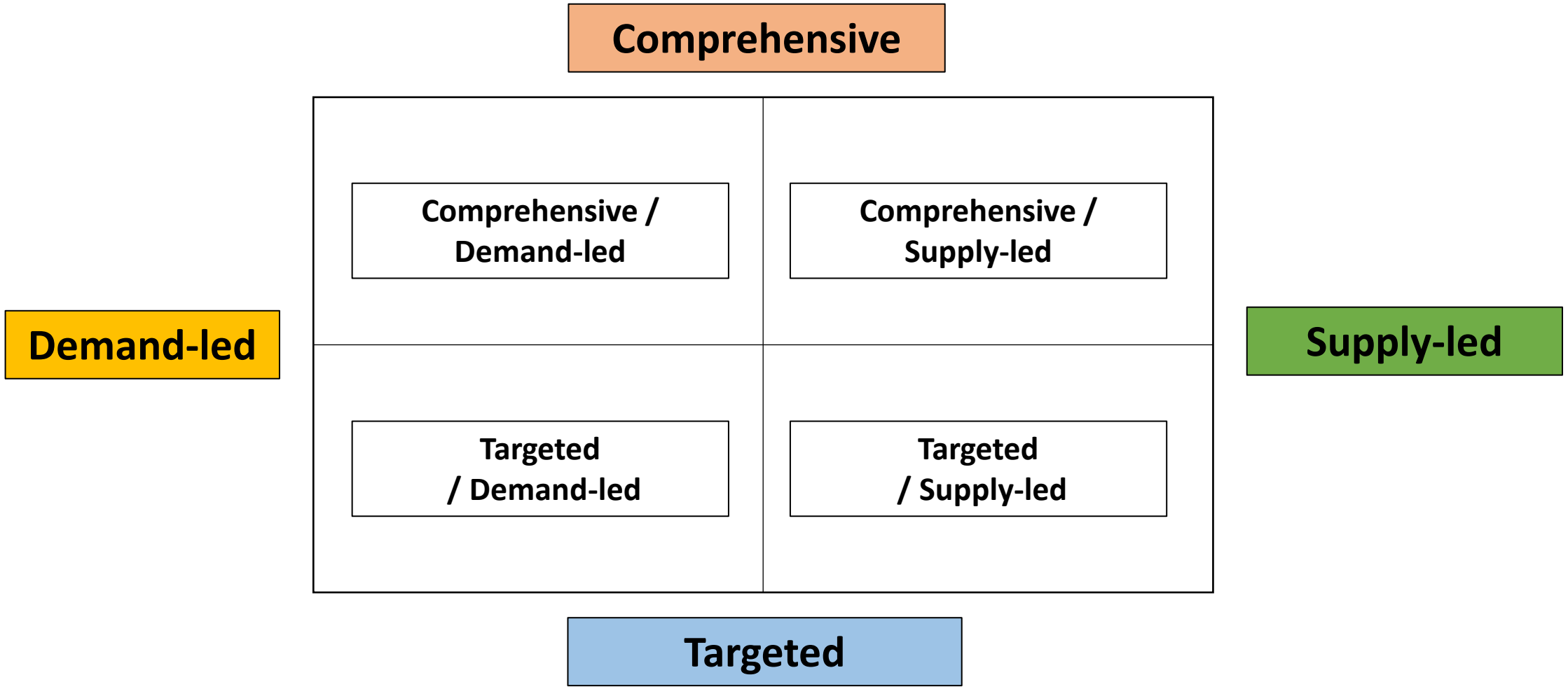
Future national scenarios:



Thank you

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