





United Nations . International Centre Educational, Scientific and · for Technical and Vocational Cultural Organization . Education and Training

# **Key Competencies in VET beyond Europe**

### **Shyamal Majumdar**

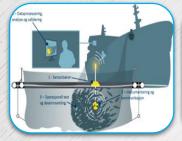
Head, UNESCO-UNEVOC, International Centre



### The UNEVOC Network World-wide network of TVET institutions



# The world is changing and changing the way we work and live





Fish farming

Sustainable production consumption & waste management









Agricultural and green technology

Additive manufacturing











Hospital and health care

Automotive transport and service sector













# Major trends impacting the workplace

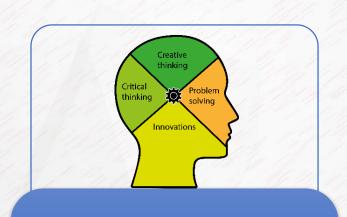
Trends Moving from Moving to Technological & **Divergent Technology** digital innovation Greener economy & Fossil based economy society Mobility **Voluntary migration** 

# Common characteristics of jobs



# Mere occupational skill is not enough to survive Demand for a new set of transversal skills – in addition to foundation and occupational skills?

Foundation skills



Transversal skills

Occupational skills

Named in different ways

# Key Features of Transversal Skills /Key Competencies

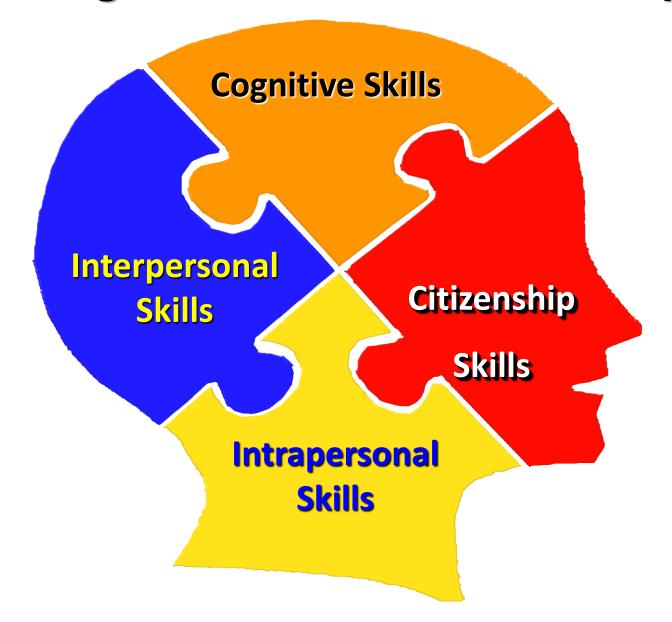
- > Domain independent transversal skills that ensure flexible, adaptable and improved work performance across occupations.
- ➤ Key competencies are not only essential for effective participation in work but also essential for effective participation in further education and in adult life.
- Domain dependent transversal skill ensure confidence and adaptability in content development

# First Challenge

# Different Terms are used for Transversal Competencies

Country	Terms Used
Australia	Core skills for work
New Zealand	Essential skills
United States	Workplace know-how
Many countries(Asia & Africa)	Generic Skills/Basic Competencies/Transferable Skills
Canada	Workplace Essential Skills

## **Broad Clustering of Transversal Skills/Competencies**



### **Self Management Skills**

- Time management
- Flexibility
- Self motivation
- Accountability
- Tolerance
- Literacy

Intrapersonnel Clusters

Cognitive

Clusters

Interpersonal Clusters

### **Organization Skills**

- Communication
- Presentation
- Collaboration
- Social skills
- Leadership

# Skills set per cluster

### **Critical and Innovative**

- Creativity
- Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking
- Innovative Thinking
- Emotional intelligence

Citizenship Clusters

### **Global Citizenship**

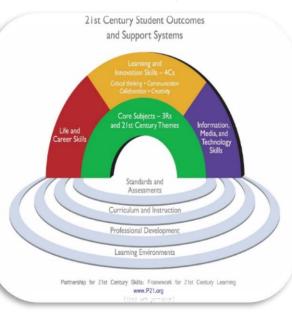
- Digital and Media
- Learning to learn and LLL
- Adaptability & risk taking
- Entrepreneurial Skills
- Multilinguals & Cross cultural
- Sustainability

# Major frameworks

### **World Economic forum**

# Poundational Literacies How students apply core skills to everyday tasks AC 1. Literacy 3. Scientific literacy 4. ICT literacy 5. Financial literacy 6. Cultural and civic literacy Lifelong Learning Character Qualities How students approach to everyday tasks Character Qualities How students approach their changing environment 1. Literacy 1. Literacy 1. Literacy 1. Literacy 1. Corlical trinking/ problem-solving 1. Corlical trinking/ problem-solving 1. Literacy 1. Lite

### Partnership 21



### **UNESCO-Bangkok**

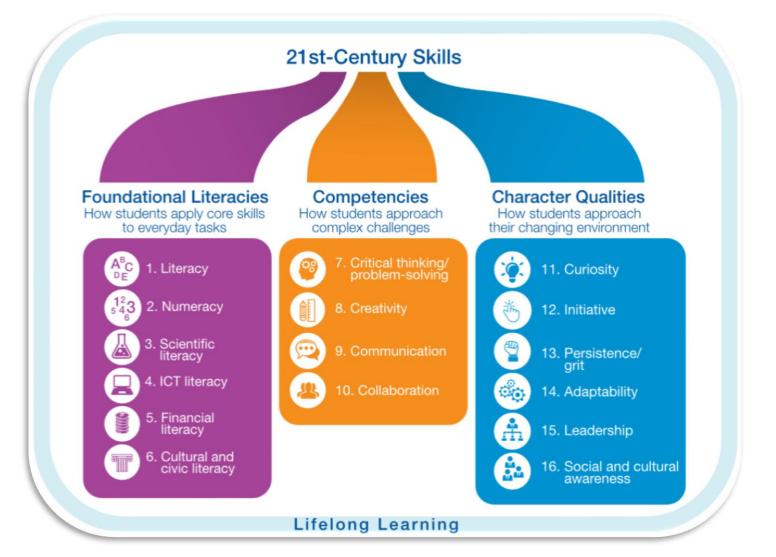
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Learning Domains	Examples of key skills and competencies
Critical and innovative thinking	Creativity, entrepreneurship, resourcefulness, application skills, reflective thinking, reasoned decision-making
Inter- personal skills	Communication skills, organizational skills, teamwork, collaboration, sociability, collegiality, empathy, compassion
Intra- personal skills	Self-discipline, ability to learn independently, flexibility and adaptability, self-awareness, perseverance, self-motivation, compassion, integrity, risk-taking, self-respect
Global citizenship	Awareness, tolerance, openness, responsibility, respect for diversity, ethical and intercultural understanding, ability to resolve conflicts, democratic participation, conflict resolution, respect for the environment, national identity, sense of belonging
Media and informatio n literacy	Ability to locate and access information through ICT, media, libraries and archives, express and communicate idea through ICT, use media and ICT to participate in democratic processes, ability to analyse and evaluate media content.

Source: https://widgets.weforum.org/nve-2015/chapter1.html; http://www.p21.org; http://unesdoc.unesco.org

# WEF-framework

# World Economic Forum





## P21-framework

# Partnership 21 Puts 4 broad sets.

- Key subjects & 21<sup>st</sup>
   Century Themes
- Learning and Innovation Skills
- Information, Media& Technology Skills
- Life & Career Skills

21st Century Student Outcomes and Support Systems Learning and Innovation Skills – 4Cs Core Subjects – 3Rs and 21st Century Themes Information, Life and Media, and Career Skills **Technology** Skills Standards and Assessments Curriculum and Instruction Professional Development Learning Environments Partnership for 21st Century Skills: Framework for 21st Century Learning www.P21.org (Used with permission)

Source: https://widgets.weforum.org/nve-2015/chapter1.html; http://www.p21.org; http://unesdoc.unesco.org

### **P21 Framework: Other Broad Sets**

### **Learning and Innovation Skills:**

- Creativity and Innovation
- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
- Communication
- Collaboration

### **Information, Media & Technology Skills:**

- Information Literacy
- Media Literacy
- ICT Literacy

#### **Life and Career Skills**

- Flexibility & Adaptability
- Initiative & Self Direction
- Social & Cross-Cultural Skills
- Productivity & Accountability
- Leadership & Responsibility

### **P21 Framework Support Systems**

- 21st Century Standards
- Assessments of 21st Century Skills
- 21st Century Curriculum & Instruction
- 21st Century Professional Development
- 21st Century Learning Environments

# **UNESCO-BKK** framework in VET

**Foundation Skills** 

**Transversal Skills** 

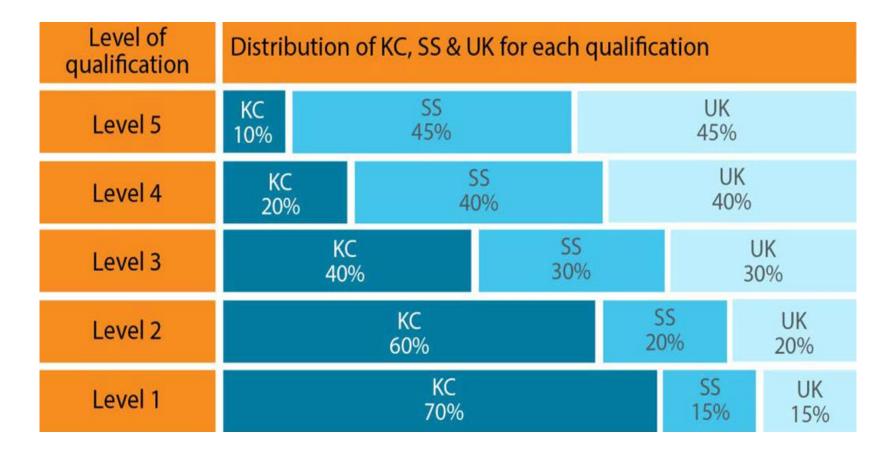
**Specialized Skills** 

Learning Domain	Examples of key skills and competencies
Critical and innovative thinking	Creativity, entrepreneurship, learning to learn, resourcefulness, application skills, reflective thinking, reasoned decision-making
Inter-personal skills	Communication skills, organizational skills, teamwork, collaboration, sociability, collegiality, empathy, compassion
Intra-personal skills	Self-discipline, ability to learn independently, flexibility and adaptability, self-awareness, perseverance, self-motivation, compassion, integrity, risk-taking, self-respect
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# **Major Challenges and Issues**

- Lack of clarity and consistency in the term used
- Key competencies can not be understood in isolation
- Need to maintain a flexible definition of TC or Key competencies
- No one size fits all, needs contextualization-Scope for adaptability
- Pedagogy is crucial, capacity development of VET teachers is key
- Assessment mechanism of TC in VET needs further research

### Distribution of component on key competences (KC) for VET qualifications at levels 1-5



NB: (SS) Sectoral Skills; (UK) underpinning knowledge

Source: MQC, 2012

