



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
4 FEBRUARY 2010**

Forecast shows jobs in Europe becoming more skills- and knowledge-intensive

Cedefop's latest forecast on the demand and supply of skills to 2020, presented today in Brussels at the European Commission conference *New Skills for New Jobs: Action Now*, foresees a steady rise in knowledge- and skill-intensive occupations.

The total number of job openings is expected to be around 80 million by 2020, with the biggest increase in high-level managerial, professional and technical occupations.

Those with higher qualifications will clearly be in the best position to take advantage of these developments. But the European economy will continue to need a broad basis of skills at intermediate level, especially those acquired within vocational education and training.

Europe needs to make sure that its people are acquiring the right skills, that companies are using their employees' capacity to the fullest, and that employees are encouraged to keep learning throughout their working lives.

For the main **conclusions of the forecast**, please see **Briefing Note**:

<http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/EN/publications/15217.aspx>

For more on the **conference** on ***New Skills for New Jobs - Action Now***:

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=88&langId=en&eventsId=232&furtherEvents=yes>

Publication: Cedefop. *Future skill supply and demand in Europe: Medium-term forecast up to 2020*. Luxembourg: Publications Office (forthcoming, spring 2010)

Please also see our previous briefing note, available now in six languages, on Cedefop achievements 2009 and plans 2010:

<http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/EN/publications/15181.aspx>

###

Contact:

Project Manager:

Alena Zuckersteinova, tel. +30 2310 490103, E-mail: alena.zuckersteinova@cedefop.europa.eu

Press Officer:

Ioánnna Nezi, tel. +30 2310 490186, E-mail: ioanna.nezi@cedefop.europa.eu

Head of Communication and Information:

Gerd Oskar Bausewein, tel. +30 2310 490288, E-mail: gerd-oskar.bausewein@cedefop.europa.eu

About Cedefop

The European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (Cedefop), an agency of the European Union based in Thessaloniki, Greece, supports European policy-making in the field of vocational education and training. Visit our new portal: www.cedefop.europa.eu