

Developing coherent approaches to upskilling pathways for low-skilled adults

7th Cedefop Brussels seminar
25 June 2019, 10.00-13.30, Brussels, Belgium

General information

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| Organiser | Cedefop |
| In cooperation with | The Romanian Presidency of the Council of the EU |
| Venue | Permanent Representation of Romania to the EU Avenue de Cortenbergh 107, Brussels |
| Participant profile | Brussels-based stakeholders from the Permanent Representations of Member States to the EU, European Commission, the European Parliament, European business and sector associations, trade union and employee organisations |
| Working language | English |

Cedefop, together with the Romanian Presidency of the Council of the EU, has the pleasure to invite you to the 7th Cedefop Brussels-based seminar. Organised in cooperation with the rotating EU Presidency, these seminars build on Cedefop's research and analyses and address issues relevant to European debates on vocational education and training (VET) and employment.

The seminar

The 7th Brussels seminar will present Cedefop's research activities on empowering low-skilled adults by developing coordinated approaches to upskilling pathways.

Focus of the June 2019 seminar

The ubiquity of low skills and the economic and social cost associated with them ⁽¹⁾ call for a renewed approach to upskilling adults, both comprehensive and strategic: it should allow pulling together various resources and creating synergies from different measures and policies already in place across European countries. A coordinated and coherent approach to upskilling adults also needs to be part of a system acknowledging the heterogeneity of the low-skilled population, its varied needs and characteristics.

Such an approach, however, is still not enough to tackle the skills challenge ahead, unless it can reach those most at need of upskilling and engage them in the process. Apart from tailored outreaching measures, work-based learning (WBL) may play a key role in providing every adult with an opportunity to fulfil his/her potential.

⁽¹⁾ Cedefop (2017). *Investing in skills pays off: the economic and social cost of low-skilled adults in the EU*. Luxembourg: Publications Office. Cedefop research paper; No 60. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2801/23250>

Seminar objectives

This seminar aims to share evidence on the extent and heterogeneity of low skills among adults, and to stimulate the debate on coordinated and strategic approaches to developing upskilling pathways for low-skilled adults.

Drawing on Cedefop's latest research on the potential of WBL in developing upskilling pathways for adults, participants will discuss:

- latest evidence on the extent of the low-skilled adult population, as well as priority target groups most in need of upskilling;
- how to develop strategic, coherent and coordinated approaches to pave the way for developing upskilling pathways grounded in lifelong learning and with the individual at heart, and built around the idea of easily accessible pathways based on the three steps described in the *Recommendation on upskilling pathways: new opportunity for adults*.

Seminar outcomes

- Increased knowledge of population subsets in need of upskilling in the EU-28 Member States, Iceland and Norway, and how best to support them.
- Increased awareness of the importance of a shared vision for upskilling adults and understanding of the different visions across and within countries.
- An analytical framework for designing and implementing upskilling pathways for adults, which countries may customise to address national priorities and challenges.

For more information see [Cedefop's analytical framework for developing upskilling pathways for adults](#) and the briefing note [Preventing low skills through lifelong learning](#)

More information on Cedefop research and access to publications:

[Adult learning and continuing vocational training](#)

[Lifelong guidance](#)

[Early leaving from education and training](#)

[Financing training](#)

[Validation of non-formal and informal learning](#)

[Apprenticeships in work-based learning](#)

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AGENDA
Tuesday, 25 June 2019

9.30-10.00 *Arrival and registration of participants*

10.00-10.15 **Welcome and setting the scene**

- Augustin Mihalache, *Romanian Presidency of the Council of the EU*
- Antonio Ranieri, *Head of Department, Cedefop*
- Dana Bachmann, *Head of Unit, DG EMPL E3, European Commission*

10.15-10.45 **Mapping low-skilled adults in the EU: identifying target groups and addressing their needs**

- Lidia Salvatore, *Cedefop expert*

10.45-11.15 *Tea/coffee break*

11.15-12.30 **Developing coordinated and coherent approaches to upskilling pathways**

Presentation of Cedefop's analytical framework and national cases followed by Q&A and discussion involving the whole audience.

Moderator: Alessandro Cenderello, EY Managing Partner for EU Institutions

- Lidia Salvatore and Irene Psifidou, *Cedefop experts*
- Claudio Vitali, *INAPP, Italy*
- Ana Rădulescu, *Ministry of Labour, Romania*

12.30-13.00 **Panel discussion with European stakeholders: the way ahead**

Moderator: Antonio Ranieri, Head of Department, Cedefop

- Anna Nikowska, *European Commission*
- Ludovic Voet, *ETUC*
- Robert Plummer, *BusinessEurope*

13.00-13.30 *Light lunch*