



European Centre for the
Development of Vocational Training



EARLY IDENTIFICATION OF SKILL NEEDS IN EUROPE

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

22 - 23 May, 2003
Thessaloniki, Greece (Cedefop)

General information

Background	The conference takes place on the occasion of the Greek Presidency
Conference venue	European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (Cedefop) * Europe 123 * 57001 Thessaloniki (Pylaia) * Greece
Organisers	European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (Cedefop) * German Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) * Fraunhofer Institute for Industrial Engineering (FhIAO) * Social Science Research Center Berlin (WZB) * The conference is supported by the Greek social partners
Conference fee	EUR 130 (late registration after 14 May 2003: EUR 140)
Service	Full conference service provided, including airport reception, meals, transport to and from conference venue, hotel reservation, info material, etc.
Target groups	Representatives of policy-makers, social partners, researchers and business with a particular interest in activities and results in the field of the 'early identification of skill needs'
Interpretation	Simultaneous interpretation to and from English, French, German and Greek (exception: for technical reasons there will be interpretation to and from English and German in only one of the workshops)
Displays and posters	There will be a 'market place' where participants will have the opportunity to learn about various initiatives and activities (i.e. via poster sessions, flyers, stands, presentation of the Internet platforms www.frequenz.net and www.trainingvillage.gr)
Press	Press information, press release, the press and TV are invited
Framework events	* Thursday, 22.05. (for those accompanying participants): guided sightseeing tour of Thessaloniki * Saturday, 24.05.: guided excursion to Mount Athos by coach and boat
Registration	www.cedefop.eu.int ('Current Activities / Early Identification of Skill Needs in Europe')

Objectives of the conference

The issue of early identification of skill and competence needs is growing in importance. In a rapidly changing environment policy-makers and practitioners need to be able to identify and respond promptly to new and changing skill and competence requirements, and this they can do only if they have reliable information. Moreover, the process of European integration and enlargement of the European Union makes exchanges of information about trends in the development of skills and competences all the more important.

The identification of skill needs in Europe is an essential precondition for the European Union 'to become the most competitive and dynamic knowledge-based economy in the world' (Lisbon process). Furthermore, in the European social partners' framework of actions for the lifelong development of competence and qualifications, agreed in spring 2002, the identification and anticipation of skills and competences is of highest priority.

The conference, which takes place on the occasion of the Greek Presidency, represents a starting point for the realisation of those objectives. It aims to gather European experiences and 'best practices' in the identification, anticipation and monitoring of changing and new emerging skills at the national, sectoral and regional levels. Likewise, the conference seeks to explore the skill needs of different target groups. It brings together policy-makers, the social partners, practitioners and researchers from various European countries, including the future member states, and intends to establish a platform for regular cooperation and networking at the European level.

The European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (Cedefop), the German Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) and the Greek social partners promote the exchange, networking and transfer of results on early identification initiatives in Europe. In this context, the BMBF is providing an important content-related input since numerous experiences within the German FreQueNz network (www.frequenz.net) are already available. Cedefop, with its diverse contacts at the European level, is helping to enrich this initiative through the exchange of international experience and practices (www.cedefop.eu.int; www.trainingvillage.gr). And the Greek social partners are supporting the initiative with a view to taking a step forward in realising the framework agreement between the European social partners.

A first expert meeting in Berlin in May 2002, jointly organised by BMBF and Cedefop, has prepared the ground for this European conference in 2003 ⁽¹⁾. The aim of the conference is to provide information about and to discuss different initiatives, to exchange examples of 'good practice', to promote networking activities, to intensify cooperation and exchanges among countries, and above all, to transfer results into policy and practice.

The proceedings of the conference will be published and made available to all participants, also on the Internet.

⁽¹⁾ The proceedings of the 2002 conference will be published by Cedefop (English version) and BMBF (German version), and made available to participants before the conference.

Agenda

Thursday 22.05.03		
08:30 – 09:00 <i>Registration of participants</i>		
Opening		
09.00 – 09.10	Address by host: <i>Johan van Rens</i> , Cedefop Director	Moderator: <i>Johan van Rens</i> , Cedefop
09.10 – 09.30	Speech of the Secretary General of the Ministry of Labour and Social Security, <i>Ioanna Panopoulou</i>	
09.30 – 09.50	Speech of <i>Sergio Corti</i> , European Commission / DG EAC	
09.50 – 10.10	Speech of <i>Christoph Ehrenberg</i> , Director General, German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)	
10.10 – 10.45	Statements by the European social partners. ETUC: <i>Peter Rigney</i> , ICTU, IRL UNICE: <i>Heikki Suomalainen</i> , TT, FIN	
10.45 – 11.15 <i>Coffee break</i>		
11.15 – 11.45	Keynote: Linking research, policy and practice. <i>George Psacharopoulos</i> , Member of the Greek Parliament	Moderator: <i>Stavros Stavrou</i> , Cedefop
11.45 – 12.30	Introduction to the theme: political relevance, activities in Europe, perspectives and cooperation 1. Presentation of the German initiative <i>Gudrun Steeger</i> , BMBF, D <i>Susanne Liane Schmidt</i> , FhIAO, D 2. European activities, perspectives and cooperation <i>Manfred Tessaring</i> , Cedefop <i>Christoph Hilbert</i> , WZB, D	
12.30 – 13.00	Discussion	
13.00 – 14.30 <i>Lunch break</i>		
14.30 – 18.00 Three parallel workshops ; each workshop will address two related issues		
Workshop I	<p>'Good practice' / 'different practice' – examples of the early identification of skill needs and policy transfer</p> <p>This workshop will discuss examples of initiatives in various European countries, their implementation and transfer into policy, and modes of cooperation in Europe</p> <p>a) Implementation of early identification approaches at different levels (e.g. regional, sectoral, occupational). Keynote: <i>Loek Nieuwenhuis</i>, STOAS, NL</p> <p>b) Skill shortages inquiry by a combined method. Keynote: <i>Olga Strietska-Ilina</i>, NO, CZ</p>	<p>Moderator: <i>Ulrich Hillenkamp</i>, ETF Rapporteur: <i>Eleonora Schmid</i>, Cedefop</p> <p>Experts: <i>Mike Coles</i>, QCA, UK <i>Mario Gatti</i>, ISFOL,I</p> <p>Experts: <i>Jordi Planas</i>, UAB, E <i>David Parkes</i>, F</p>

Workshop II	Early identification of skill needs in selected sectors This workshop addresses changing skill needs in selected key sectors in Europe a) Service sector: tourism and other areas Keynote: <i>Lothar Abicht</i> , ISW, D b) Technological innovations and new sectors. Keynote: <i>Richard Pearson</i> , IES, UK	Moderators: <i>Susanne Liane Schmidt, Bernd Dworschak</i> , IAO, D Rapporteur: <i>Ralf Mytzek</i> , WZB, D Experts: <i>Sibylle Hermann</i> , IAO, D <i>Olympia Kaminioti</i> , PAEP, GR Experts: <i>Theo Reubsaet</i> , REVICE, NL <i>Friedrich Hubert Esser</i> , FBH, D
Workshop III	Identification of transversal competences and qualifications This workshop discusses cross-occupational and –sectoral skills and the needs of target groups a) E-skills: new skill requirements for the linked world/highly qualified people Keynote: <i>Veli-Pekka Niitamo</i> , Nokia, FIN b) New challenges for low-skilled people Keynote: <i>Hilary Steedman</i> , LSE, UK	Moderator: <i>Werner P. Herrmann</i> , DG EAC/Cedefop Rapporteur: <i>Tiina Annus</i> , NO, EE Experts: <i>Peter Bott</i> , BIBB, D <i>Elissaveta Gurova</i> , IPTS Experts: <i>Gery Coomans</i> , ISMEA, B <i>Teresa Oliveira</i> , Uni. Lisbon, P
19.00 Reception, dinner		

Friday 23.05.03		
09.00 – 10.30	Reports on the results of the workshops of the previous day: rapporteurs of the three workshops Discussion	Moderator: <i>Manfred Tessaring</i> , Cedefop
10.30 – 11.00 <i>Coffee break</i>		
11.00 – 11.20	Keynote: Necessity and establishment of a European network on activities related to the early identification of skill needs. <i>Ulrich Mittag</i> , BMBF, D	Moderator: <i>Stavros Stavrou</i> , Cedefop
11.20 – 12.45	Round-Table Discussion European cooperation on 'Early identification of skill needs': requirements and implications for policy, practice and research Discussants: <i>Martin Curley</i> , Intel, IRL <i>Helen Diedrich-Fuhs</i> , KWB/UNICE, D <i>Christoph Ehrenberg</i> , BMBF, D <i>Hans Heijke</i> , ROA, NL <i>K. Ioannis Koukiadis</i> , MEP <i>Rupert Maclean</i> , Unesco/UNEVOC <i>Sergio Corti</i> , European Commission (DG EAC) <i>Jochen Laux</i> , DGB / ETUC <i>Claude Sauvageot</i> , National Ministry for Education, F	
12.45 – 13.30 13.30	Plenary discussion <i>Close of conference; lunch</i>	

Registration and contact

Number of participants max. 150

Registration to the conference is made by duly completing and sending by fax or e-mail to ARTION Conferences & Events the registration form.

Registration fee

Participant	early registration by 13 th May 2003	late registration after 14 th May 2003
Invited speaker	FREE	FREE
Delegate	130 EURO	140 EURO

Registration fee includes: airport welcome desk, conference material, 3 coffee breaks, 2 lunches, 1 dinner and transportation from & to Cedefop from city centre hotels on Thursday 22 and Friday 23 May 2003.

ARTION Conferences & Events * Ag. Sofias 24 * 54622 Thessaloniki, Greece

Tel.: (30) 2310 250928 (conference line) * (30) 2310 252330

Fax: (30) 2310 277964 * (30) 2310 272276

E-mail: early.id@artion.com.gr

☛ **Registration forms and other information** can be accessed through Cedefop's Homepage: www.cedefop.eu.int ('Current activities / Conference on Early Identification of Skill Needs in Europe, 22-23 May 2003')

Secretariat and information desk during the conference

The Secretariat desk will be located at the conference venue, and will operate:

Thursday, 22nd May 2003 08:30 - 19:00

Friday, 23rd May 2003 08:45 - 13:30

Tel.: (30) 2310 490 068 / Fax: (30) 2310 490 240

Organisers

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