



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SHARING THE COST OF CONTINUING TRAINING CONFERENCE LOOKS AT STRATEGIES ACROSS EUROPE

Cedefop, the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training, is organising a conference with a focus on financing for continuing training. *Investing in people: Strategies for financing vocational education and training* will be held on 19-20 May at the Cedefop Conference Centre in Thessaloniki.

The need to provide continuing training for an ageing workforce has led to a proliferation of cost-sharing schemes across Europe and beyond. These include tax incentives, loans, vouchers, sectoral training funds, and individual learning accounts. Such schemes typically involve several stakeholders: companies, trade unions, the individual learner, State funds and even banks. But how effective and how equitable are they? And can they be adapted to other countries?

These questions will be examined in the upcoming Cedefop conference, part of its “Agora” series, in Thessaloniki. Topics of this conference, which is now open for registration, will include a detailed examination of sectoral training funds in several Member States, the role of the European Social Fund, and an appraisal of the various cost-sharing methods employed so far. For more information: <http://agora.cedefop.europa.eu/vetfinancing2008/>

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.

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