



SKILLSNET e-bulletin: January – April 2021

Next-generation skills intelligence to drive recovery in Europe



Next-generation skills intelligence to drive recovery in Europe

The coronavirus pandemic has accelerated changes that had been already underway, as the shift to digitalisation led to an increased need for upskilling and reskilling of the workforce. Cedefop's labour market and skills intelligence (LMSI) maps out these changes and future trends, providing policy-makers and practitioners with valuable insight.

The virtual conference '[Getting the future right: towards smarter and people-centred skills intelligence](#)' (#LMSInext) addressed the issue of how next-generation LMSI can contribute to understanding current challenges and prepare Europe's economies for a post-coronavirus recovery that will be fair, digital and green. Learn more [here](#).

NEWS FROM CEDEFOP

Cedefop launches reviews on upskilling pathways for adults in France and Italy



Cedefop has started a close cooperation with France and Italy to support the development and implementation of systematic, coordinated and coherent approaches to upskilling pathways for low-skilled adults in the two countries. Read more [here](#). (Image copyright: © Shutterstock/luchschenF).

Skills OVATE: online vacancy analysis tool for Europe



Cedefop presents the full release of Skill OVATE, its visualisation tool to present the results of the online job advertisements analysis. Watch the video [here](#).

Using the expanded Skills OVATE tool



The new Skills OVATE tool brings 20 visualisations, covering countries, regions, occupations, sectors and skills in 28 European countries. Check our tutorial video how to navigate the tool [here](#).

Get your skills together for Europe's green deal



Cedefop's European skills index (ESI) helps predict EU countries' success in developing green skills by linking a solid national skills development system with faster transition to a green economy. In December 2019, the European Commission announced its plan for a new European green deal (EGD), aiming to make Europe the first climate-neutral continent by 2050. Read more [here](#). (Image copyright: © Shutterstock/Shutterstock/Tamara B).

Vocational education and training system in Portugal



Watch our spotlight on the Portuguese vocational education and training (VET) system! Watch the video [here](#).

The focal role of apprenticeships for the future of work



Apprenticeships can become a driver for recovery and the green and digital transformations, provided some issues of identity and a number of ambiguities are cleared, Cedefop Executive Director Jürgen Siebel told a high-level conference of experts and policy-makers. Read more [here](#).

Vocational education and training for recovery



Cedefop's key role in helping develop VET policies that will be crucial for the post-pandemic green, digital and fair recovery was highlighted by the Agency's Executive Director, Jürgen Siebel, in two high-profile meetings, on 10 and 11 March. Read more [here](#). (Image copyright: © Cedefop/Sakis Gioumpasis).

Coronavirus impact on jobs in EU sectors and occupations: a skills forecast analysis



Cedefop **skills forecast** predicts that almost 7 million EU jobs will be lost or not created due to the coronavirus pandemic over the period 2019-22. Despite the recent rollout of vaccination schemes, the economic consequences of the pandemic are expected to last, affecting employment trends and the investment decisions of a wide range of businesses in Europe for the foreseeable future. Read more [here](#). (Image copyright: © Shutterstock).

Microcredentials: are they here to stay?



The Cedefop has launched a new study on the role of microcredentials in upskilling or reskilling in a fast-changing work environment. Read more [here](#). (Image copyright: © Shutterstock).

Digital skills: challenges and opportunities during the pandemic



Cedefop investigates how the coronavirus pandemic has accelerated digital skills demand in ICT- and non-ICT-related occupations. Read more [here](#). (Image copyright: © Shutterstock/GaudiLab).

Career guidance: current coronavirus challenges and the road ahead



The challenges to career guidance during the coronavirus pandemic, as well as the role career guidance might play during the turbulent years ahead, were highlighted on 17 February during a webinar that discussed the recently published **report** on an international survey. Read more **here**.

(Image copyright: © Shutterstock/fizkes).

Sectors in transition – the automotive industry



The coronavirus crisis, along with automation, have had a profound impact on the automotive industry and the profile of its workers. Cedefop looks at the **severity of the impact**. Read more **here**. (Image copyright: © Cedefop/Peter Mayr).

Skill development and continuing learning in the online gig economy



New Cedefop research deepens our understanding of how platform workers improve their skills and make use of online economy opportunities. Read more **here**. (Image copyright: © Shutterstock/Prostock-studio).

Cedefop delivers support workshop on setting up a skills forecast system for Slovenia



Cedefop organised the first online workshop dedicated to sharing information and expertise on skills forecasting in Slovenia, on 4 February. Read more **here**. More information on the workshop can be found **here**.

Cedefop launches feasibility study for a survey of VET teachers and trainers



The aim of this study is to serve the long-term EU strategy for green, digital, inclusive and fair economies. Over 80 European policy-makers, social partners and invited experts took part in a Cedefop webinar on 3 February to discuss all aspects of that survey. Read more **here**. A dedicated webinar took place on 03/02/2021. See more information **here**.

Cedefop Executive Director to EP: VET is an enabler of recovery



VET is an enabler of the digital, green and fair recovery, not the repair shop of social and economic transitions. That was the key message Cedefop Executive Director Jürgen Siebel shared with the European Parliament's Committee on Employment and Social Affairs. Read more **here**, and watch our **video**.

Cedefop participates in the European School of Administration Learning and Development Awards



Check out Cedefop's participation in the European School of Administration Learning & Development Awards! The European School of Administration is launching the first interinstitutional Learning & Development Awards to celebrate with its partners its 15th anniversary. Watch more **here**.

ET2020 working group on VET reports on innovation and digitalisation



The final report of the 2018-20 ET2020 working group on vocational education and training presents insights for pioneering new approaches. Read more **here**. (Image copyright: © Shutterstock/franz12).

New Cedefop/OECD publication on the next steps for apprenticeship



The joint Cedefop/OECD publication on the **next steps for apprenticeship** looks at the future of apprenticeship from the perspective of emerging policy objectives, new approaches to education and training and external megatrends. Read more **here**.

Portuguese EU Presidency: taking the green and digital transitions further



The Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the European Union in the first half of 2021 takes place at a particularly difficult time, 'with the COVID-19 pandemic and its social and economic consequences posing an unprecedented challenge for the EU and its Member States, requiring decisive and comprehensive action'. Read more **here**.

Digital skills: Challenges and opportunities



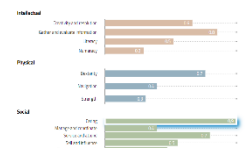
Developing digital - or ICT - skills has been a policy priority in the past years, given rapid technological change in sectors and occupations. But the contribution of digital skills goes far beyond this. Digital skills are an enabler of citizenship in societies and a driver of efficient and just green and digital transitions. Read more **here**.

Automotive industry at a crossroads



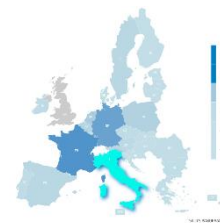
What are the skills and employment trends in the European automotive industry? New Cedefop analysis brings insights into one of the most innovative and research-oriented manufacturing industries of Europe, coping with Covid-19 pandemic and rising challenge of green and digital transformations. Read more **here**.

Update of Tasks within occupations indicator



The indicator analyses the importance of various tasks required for occupations at the 2-digit ISCO code level. The importance is measured at 0-1 scale. Access the indicator **here**.

Skills in online job advertisements



Skills Panorama brings insights on jobs and Skill requested in online job advertisements. Based on an ongoing Cedefop project, these insights now cover 28 European countries. More than 100 million of online job ads were collected and analysed, covering period of July 2018 till December 2020. Read more **here**.

NEWS FROM EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

Germany: INVITE innovation competition



Seek and you shall find. While easily said, the search for a suitable continuing professional training programme is still difficult. What tools can make a change to find a perfect fit in a huge and heterogeneous continuing education market? The **INVITE innovation competition** aims to find answers to this question, with the help of artificial intelligence. Read more **here**.

Estonia: Covid-19 impacts VET provision and objectives



As an effect of the Covid-19 crisis, demand for in-service training and retraining has surged; advanced technical and professional skills, general skills such as digital literacy, communication and teamwork skills, are becoming increasingly important, while focus has shifted to

education goal setting and learning outcomes acquisition in VET, according to a new study on the effects of Covid-19 by OSKA, the labour market monitoring and future skills forecasting system. Read more [here](#).

Poland: integrated skills strategy 2030



On 28/12/2020, the Council of Ministers adopted the Integrated **skills strategy 2030** (detailed part) (Zintegrowana Strategia Umiejętności 2030 - część szczegółowa), developed following extensive consultations. Read more [here](#).

Cyprus: cross-country cooperation for robotics curriculum development



Cyprus participated in the EU-funded RoboVET project, launched on 1 October 2018 and completed on 31 December 2020. A partnership of 10 partners from Portugal, Spain and Cyprus, the project targeted a wide range of groups: VET

learners and trainers, VET providers, public VET regulatory bodies, companies (especially SMEs). Read more [here](#).

Czechia: new education strategy 2030+



In October 2020, the Government adopted the **Strategy for education 2030+**. It includes reflections on both emerging social and technological challenges, such as fourth industrial revolution, and unsatisfactory aspects of the Czech education system, such as: the long-term declining quality of initial

education, employers' dissatisfaction by school graduates' skills, an increasing share of early leavers from education, and the growing selectivity of the Czech education system. Read more [here](#).

Greece: fostering apprenticeship through partnerships



Skills the Central Union of Chambers of Greece (KEEE) designed the project **Upgrade and expansion of apprenticeships – Apprenticeship partnerships**, contributing to the institutionalisation of apprenticeship in Greece as a key means of connecting VET with

the labour market and fighting youth unemployment. It aims to encourage companies to offer apprenticeship placements and support the implementation of the work-placed part of apprenticeship programmes. Read more [here](#).

Estonia: five years of future jobs and skills forecasting with OSKA

Estonia has invested heavily in recent years in its skills governance, mainly through the jobs and skills forecasting system OSKA. Five years ago, the Estonian Qualifications Authority began conducting research that analyses the need for skills and labour over the next decade and compares this to VET, HE and continuing education provision. Read more [here](#).

Portugal: digital training to fight youth unemployment



In October 2020, the training programme Youth + Digital (Jovem + Digital) was launched. This programme targets young unemployed people aged 18-35, who are upper-secondary or higher education graduates, aiming to improve their digital competences. It runs under the

responsibility of the Institute of Employment and Professional Training (IEFP), which is also monitoring its roll-out. Read more [here](#).

CEDEFOP PUBLICATIONS

Briefing note - Trends, transitions and transformation



The Covid-19 pandemic is changing skill needs and reshaping jobs, while challenging our understanding and analysis of them. Read and download [here](#).

Understanding technological change and skill needs: skills surveys and skills forecasting



A series of short Cedefop guides aims to inform analysts and policy-makers about available skills anticipation methods used to navigate through the uncertainty of changing technologies and skill demands. This first practical guide focuses on conventional skills intelligence methods of surveys and forecasting. Read and download [here](#).

Understanding technological change and skill needs: big data and artificial intelligence methods



A series of Cedefop guides aims to inform analysts and policy-makers about available skills anticipation methods used to navigate through the uncertainty of changing technologies and skill demands. This second practical guide focuses on automated skills intelligence methods: big data and AI-driven analyses. Read and download [here](#).

Understanding technological change and skill needs: technology and skills foresight



A series of Cedefop guides aims to inform analysts and policy-makers about available skills anticipation methods used to navigate through the uncertainty of changing technologies and skill demands. This third practical guide focuses on technology and skills foresight methods. Read and download [here](#).

Digital, greener and more resilient



Megatrends such as automation, greening and population ageing, along with the coronavirus pandemic, are reshaping the European labour market. Providing a long-term perspective to changes in skills and jobs, skills forecasts can make a useful contribution to decisions by policy-makers, experts, and social partners. Read and download [here](#).

Perspectives on policy and practice



This publication has been prepared by the interagency technical vocational education and training (TVET) group on skill mismatch in digitised labour markets, to support experts and policy-makers who wish to engage in discussion on the potential of web-based big data for skills policy. Read and download [here](#).



Briefing note - Apprenticeship: a pill for every ill?



Following the financial crisis and the ensuing economic downturn in the past decade, apprenticeship sparked renewed interest among policy-makers both in Brussels and the EU Member States. Read and download [here](#).

How many apprentices are there in the EU?



This paper aims at contributing to the discussion about the need for EU-wide comparable statistics that capture precisely how many apprentices there are in a country in a particular year. Read and download from [here](#).

EFQEA implementation: a Cedefop analysis and main findings



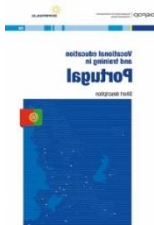
The Council recommendation on the European framework for quality and effective apprenticeships (EFQEA) invites Member States to ensure that their apprenticeships are responsive to labour market needs and provide benefits to employers and apprentices, by building on a well-defined set of criteria. Read and download [here](#).

Spotlight on VET Portugal



The current VET system in Portugal is the result of a 2007 large-scale reform, which reorganised VET into a single system (Sistema Nacional de Qualificações, SNQ). Read and download [here](#).

Vocational education and training in Portugal



This short description contributes to better understanding of vocational education and training (VET) in Portugal, by providing insight into its distinctive features and highlighting system developments and current challenges. Read and download [here](#).

The role of work-based learning in VET and tertiary education



Work-based learning (WBL) has risen rapidly in the policy agenda over recent years in the European Union. Efforts to strengthen WBL, particularly in VET, are increasingly common throughout European countries. Read and download [here](#).

Briefing note - The EU's port of call for VET



Supporting vocational education and training, skills and qualification policies from concept to implementation: Cedefop highlights 2020-21. Read and download [here](#).

Rising to the coronavirus challenge



Cedefop responded to the coronavirus pandemic, adapting to the pressing needs of an unprecedented emergency and managing to deliver the added value that is expected when it is most needed. Read and download [here](#).

Skillset and match – January 2021 issue 21



The January 2021 issue of Skillset and match, Cedefop's magazine promoting learning for work, is now available to [read](#) and download.

The next steps for apprenticeship



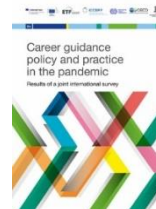
In a context of interest in apprenticeship in recent years, Cedefop and the OECD decided to explore its future from the perspective of a number of megatrends, including sociodemographic changes, the accelerated adoption of emerging technologies and new forms of work organisation. Read and download [here](#).

Overview of national qualifications framework developments in Europe 2020



Cedefop's concise guide to national qualifications framework developments in 38 European countries (27 EU Member States as well as Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Kosovo, Montenegro, Norway, Serbia, Switzerland and Turkey) in 2020. Read and download [here](#). The NQF developments in Europe 2019 is available [here](#).

Career guidance policy and practice in the pandemic



In light of the growing negative impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on national labour markets and people's lives and livelihoods, the role of career guidance has become ever more important to individuals, families, communities, the workforce, employers and society. Read and download [here](#).

Financing apprenticeships in the EU



Cedefop's study Financing apprenticeships in the EU is a first-time effort in systematically collecting and analysing information on financing arrangements for apprenticeship schemes in EU countries and the UK. Read and download [here](#).

Briefing note - Empowering people to cope with change

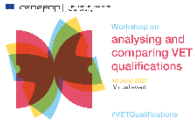


In the face of the current health crisis and the far-reaching labour market transformations it entails, the European Union and its Member States are taking action to provide all people in Europe with stronger support to employment, including upskilling and reskilling opportunities. Read and download [here](#).

EVENTS

Analysing and comparing VET qualifications

Date: 18/06/2021, Venue: Virtual workshop



The workshop will present the final findings of the Cedefop project 'Comparing vocational education and training qualifications: towards a European Comparative methodology'. Seeking to develop a robust and scalable methodology for comparing and analysing the content and profile of qualifications, the findings of the project is relevant to a wide range of purposes and stakeholders. Read more [here](#).

2021 joint Cedefop/OECD symposium: Apprenticeships for greener economies and societies

Date: 21-22/10/2021, Venue: Virtual (Paris)



The joint Cedefop/OECD symposium on apprenticeship brings together policy-makers, practitioners and researchers from around the world to consider new research or analysis of practices exploring the links between apprenticeships and the transition towards greener economies and societies, as well as the implications for policy-making. Read more [here](#).

Past events

Making skills intelligence actionable - Understanding opportunities and challenges

Date: 20/04/2021, Venue: Virtual



Even the most methodologically advanced skills intelligence is of limited value when it is not customised to user needs and communicated effectively. Taking a broader perspective and considering good practice examples, the focus in this workshop was on advancing insights into what makes skills intelligence more fit for purpose. Read more [here](#).

Digital skills post-covid19 - Shifting gears in the digital transition

Date: 20/04/2021, Venue: Virtual



There are clear signs that the coronavirus crisis and its transformative impact is making it more difficult to thrive in jobs without solid digital skills. Presenting the latest evidence, this workshop looked at how digital skills are growing in importance and reflected on how information on digital skills can be turned into digital skills intelligence. Read more [here](#).

Workshop Cedefop skills forecasts - Going beyond understanding long-term trends

Date: 15/04/2021, Venue: Virtual



Apart from gaining insights into the impact of megatrends, particularly in times of rapid change and high uncertainty, skills forecasts can also be used for scenario analysis. To contribute to shaping a more proactive approach to skills policy, this workshop presented evidence from several Cedefop skills forecast scenarios. Read more [here](#).

Workshop Online job advertisements - Gaining real-time insights into skill trends

Date: 15/04/2021, Venue: Virtual



Online job advertisement analysis can add to our understanding of skill needs and trends. This workshop was about opportunities and challenges of using online job ads for labour market and skills intelligence. It also showcased practical examples based on Cedefop's skills OVATE real-time LMSI system. Read more [here](#).

Getting the future right: Towards smarter and people-centred skills intelligence

Dates: 13/04/2021, Venue: Virtual



This high-level conference aimed to provide insight on how skills intelligence can contribute to understanding current challenges (digital, green, demography and others) and support national and regional policies in designing better VET and skills policies. It also took stock of Cedefop skills intelligence work so far and reflected on possible ways to strengthen it in the near future to make it more relevant and people-centred, in line with the ambitions stated in the 2020 Skills Agenda. Read more [here](#).

Enthusiasm in learning and success in times of pandemic

Dates: 28/01/2021, Webinar



Cedefop's [VET toolkit for tackling early leaving from education and training](#) was presented on 28 January 2021 at the webinar 'VET in Times of Lockdown and Pandemic' organised by the Assembly of European Regions (AER).. Read more [here](#).

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Published by
Department for Skills and Labour Market
Cedefop - European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training
Europe 123
GR-570 01 Thessaloniki
Tel. (+30) 23 10 490200 Fax (+30) 23 10 490117
E-mail: skillsnet@cedefop.europa.eu
<http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/skillsnet/>

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