



‘Greennovation’ meets skills anticipation: policy lessons for making the green transition happen

14th Cedefop Brussels seminar
Monday 19 June 2023, 10.00-13.00 (CET)
Virtual event

Concept note

General information

Organiser	Cedefop
In cooperation with	The Swedish Presidency of the Council of the EU
Format	Online
Participant profile	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

Event rationale

Cedefop, together with the Swedish Presidency of the Council of the EU, have the pleasure to invite you to the 14th Cedefop Brussels seminar. These seminars, organised in cooperation with the rotating EU Presidencies, build on the research carried out by Cedefop and address issues relevant to European debates on education, training and employment.

The June 2023 seminar will address the skills necessary to boost innovation, and the role of vocational education and training (VET) and skills anticipation approaches in meeting the goals of the [European Green Deal](#) (EGD) and of the [Green Deal Industrial Plan](#). In parallel to ‘green’ technological innovation, the just transition puts social innovation in the spotlight. This concerns, for example, efforts supporting the inclusion of vulnerable groups, and raising awareness of sustainable modes of consumption and businesses. The Brussels seminar aims at addressing two questions:

- (a) What are the expected skill needs relevant to green technological and social innovation and how can VET best address them?
- (b) What is the role of skills governance and innovative skills anticipation in supporting policy-making to make the green transition happen?

The role of vocational education and training in skills for the green transition

Vocational education and training (VET) plays a key role in addressing the skill demands of European labour markets and societies. Cedefop’s skill forecasts predict increasing demand for high-level skills. Occupations with small employment shares, such as science and engineering professionals, will be fundamental for the ‘greening’ industrial sectors, because they support the conceptualisation, design,



and implementation of green technologies. At the same time, medium-level and elementary core green occupations will be crucial in key green sectors, such as energy and waste management. VET is a major green transition skills provider: for adults who need up- or reskilling, and for younger learners with an ambition to contribute to the green transition.

To be labour-market-relevant and in tune with current trends, VET programmes at any level need to reflect skills intelligence based on sound skills anticipation methods (such as skill forecasts, skill foresights, employee and employer surveys, big data analysis). Skills anticipation approaches need to reflect and incorporate the needs and aspirations of a wide range of actors in the sector, particularly in times of transition, increased volatility, and economic pressures. Identifying stakeholders and placing them at the driver’s seat of designing and implementing skills anticipation, and translating the outcomes into feasible policy actions calls for a holistic and skills-ecosystem-based skills governance approach across sectors.

In recent years, many Member States have widened the number and scope of their skills anticipation methods and approaches. To improve VET responsiveness to emerging needs and future labour market changes, stakeholders and other key players must place more emphasis on strengthening the feedback loops between VET and the world of work, in line with the realities of their national or regional setting. This is important in the context of the green transition and helps strengthen resilience against any future socioeconomic or political shocks.

The seminar

The 14th Brussels seminar will present Cedefop research on trends and developments in skills and jobs for the green transition, and its work on skills anticipation approaches that facilitate the transition to the new ‘green’ paradigm in European economies and societies.

Cedefop experts and external experts will present, discuss and debate the interaction between VET and skills in the context of technological and social innovation, and the contribution of innovative skills anticipation and governance approaches.

The seminar will conclude with a panel discussion.



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Programme

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Moderator: Antonio Ranieri

10.00-10.10 Welcome and scene setting

- Åsa Petri, *Chair of the Education Committee, Swedish Presidency of the Council of the European Union*
- Juergen Siebel, *Executive Director, Cedefop*

Moderator: Jiri Branka

10.10-11.00 Skills for boosting ‘greenovation’

- Skills for the green transition – realising VET’s potential
Stelina Chatzichristou, *Expert, Cedefop*
- Simone Schirru, *RREUSE*
- Anders Norberg and Jakub Stolfa, *ERASMUS+ ALBATTs and Automotive Skills Alliance*
- Q&A

11.00-12.00 Anticipating and matching skills: promising practices

- Stelina Chatzichristou, *Expert, Cedefop*
- Joanna Sabat, *Reboost – a Boost for Rural Lignite Regions initiative, EIT-KIC*
- Iván Pineda, *Director of Innovation, WindEurope*
- Aoife O’Sullivan, *Skillnet Ireland*
- Q&A

12.00-12.10 Break

12.10-12.55 Panel discussion

Moderator: Jasper van Loo

A panel discussion followed by Q&A and discussion involving the audience

- Alfonso Alcolea, *Policy officer, European Commission, DG ENV*
- Tim Schreiber, *Policy officer, European Commission, DG EMPL*
- Daniel Wetzel, *Head of Tracking Sustainable Transitions Unit, International Energy Agency*
- Christer Bergqvist, *Deputy Director General, Swedish National Agency for Higher Vocational Education*

12.55-13.00 Cedefop closing remarks

Mara Brugia, *Cedefop Deputy Director*