



Advancing research on adult learning

Using and innovating quantitative approaches to support effective policies

Programme

DAY 1 – 12 October 2026 (all times are EEST)

09.30 – 10.00	Participant arrival and registration
10.00 – 10.15	Welcome and opening Antonio Ranieri, <i>Head of Department VET & Skills, CEDEFOP</i>
10.15 – 11.00	Setting the scene Marco Serafini, <i>Expert in VET and Skills Statistics and Indicators, CEDEFOP</i>
11.00 – 11.30	Coffee break
11.30 – 13.00	Session 1 Measuring Attitudes and Opportunities to Adult Learning and Education: Bridging the Theoretical and Measurement Gap Jan Kalenda, <i>Associate Professor, Tomas Bata University</i> Ellen Boeren, <i>Professor, University of Glasgow</i> Informal learning: four measurement shortcomings and potential ways forward Ellen Boeren, <i>Professor, University of Glasgow</i> Jan Kalenda, <i>Associate Professor, Tomas Bata University</i> Vignette studies as a third way to shed light on decision-making for lifelong learning Käpplinger Bernd, <i>Full Professor, University Giessen</i> Advancing Quantitative Models for Measuring Adult Learning and TVET Participation in Dynamic Labour Markets Hamdy Ragb, <i>TVET advisor, College of Excellence</i>



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Thessaloniki,
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13.00 – 14.00	Lunch
14.00 – 15.30	Session 2a Measuring competences as relational affordances: a methodological proposal for assessing adult learning in innovation contexts <i>Gianluca Abbruzzese, Researcher/Innovation Manager, Lascò srl</i> Methodological Challenges in Researching Adult Participation in Lifelong Learning: Between Standardisation and Cultural Conditionality <i>Anamarija Delić, Full Professor, University of Osijek</i> <i>Visnja Perin, PhD Psychologist, Rast i savjetovanje Ltd.</i> Measuring Adult Participation in Dual VET for Policy Development <i>Silvia Toneva, Postdoctoral Researcher, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski"</i> <i>Mariana Dimitrova, PhD student, New Bulgarian University</i> The Atlas of Work and Qualifications and the National System of Skills Certification in Italy: Territorial Dynamics and Initial Quantitative Analyses <i>Angela Baruffi, Researcher, INAPP</i> <i>Sonia Cinti, Research Assistant, INAPP</i>
14.00 – 15.30	Session 2b Labour Market Information Systems for Skills Anticipation: A Comparative Benchmark of Tools and Institutional Landscapes <i>Andrés Cordero, Senior Consultant, Human Capital Consulting Agency</i> Beyond Surveys: Towards Integrated Data Infrastructures for Adult Education Providers <i>Kerstin Hoenig, Head of Department "Research Infrastructures", German Institute for Adult Education (tbc)</i> <i>Verena Ortmanns, Researcher, German Institute for Adult Education</i> Restricting Temporary Contracts Increases Firm-Provided Training: Evidence from Spain <i>Pawel Adrjan, Senior Director, Indeed</i> <i>Jonas Jessen, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, WZB</i> <i>Carlos Victoria Lanzón, Associate Professor, Universidad Complutense de Madrid</i>





	From Tasks to Qualifications: Advancing Adult Learning Intelligence through Online Job Postings Mauro Pelucchi, Head of Global Data Science, Lightcast <i>Simone Perego, Data Engineer, Lightcast</i> <i>Anna Clara Gatti, Principal Statistician, Lightcast</i> <i>Sophia Gvasalia, Data Science Manager, Lightcast</i> <i>Elena Magrini, Head of Global Research, Lightcast</i>
15.30 – 16.00	Coffee break
16.00 – 17.30	Session 3a Developing Internationally Comparable Questions for Measuring Non-Formal Adult Education: Towards Better Evidence for Policy Making Natascha Massing, Researcher, GESIS <i>Verena Ortmanns, Researcher, German Institute for Adult Education</i> Making Adult Learning Visible: Methodological Lessons from the Human Capital Study (BKL) Barbara Worek, Associate Professor, Jagiellonian University <i>Magdalena Jelonek, Associate Professor of Sociology, Cracow University of Economics</i> <i>Marcin Kocór, Associate Professor of Sociology, Jagiellonian University</i> Beyond Certification Counts: Rethinking the Measurement of Operational Competence in Adult Learning Systems Karl Daniel Klee, Researcher, EDUNAUK Measuring Adult Learning Beyond Participation: Conceptual, Methodological and Policy Challenges in Lifelong Learning Research Maria Sytziouki, Assistant Professor, University of Macedonia
16.00 – 17.30	Session 3b Rethinking Adult Learning in the Age of AI: Digital Competence, Didactic Change and Inclusive Learning Design Eglė Celiešienė, Senior Researcher, Vilnius Business College <i>Giedre Kvieskiene, Professor, Kazimieras Simonavičiaus Universitetas</i>





Transferable Skills, Personality Traits, and Vocational Interests of Young Adults Under 30: A Quantitative Comparison of NEET and Employed Groups

Nina Urukovičová, *Senior Testing Specialist, Digital Coalition (tbc)*

Alena Minns, Project Coordinator and Education Expert, Digital Coalition

The Automation-Training Gap Revisited: A Multi-Regime Replication and Deep-Dive into European Adult Education Systems using New PIAAC Data

Nate Breznau, *Researcher, German Institute for Adult Education*

Alexandra Ioannidou, Postdoctoral Researcher, German Institute for Adult Education

END OF DAY 1



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DAY 2 – 13 October 2026 (all times are EEST)

09.30 – 10.00	Participant arrival and registration
10.00 – 11.30	Session 4 Enhancing Data-Driven Programme Provision in Further Education and Training (FET) <i>Sarah Barron, Tertiary Manager - FET Strategic Project Lead, Kilkenny and Carlow Education and Training Board (tbc)</i> <i>Thomas Farrell, Programme Development and Data Officer, Kilkenny and Carlow Education and Training Board</i> Academic Stress, Cognitive Rumination, and Study Avoidance in Adult Learners <i>Blerona Sojeva, Independent Researcher</i> Invisible Learners: Adult Migrant Illiteracy and Innovative Approaches to Second Language Education <i>Annamaria Cacchione, Researcher, INDIRE</i> Using verifiable credentials as data for measuring credit-bearing adult learning: insights from issuers for policy and systems <i>Katerina Zourou, Managing Director, Web2Learn</i> <i>Stefania Oikonomou, Research Collaborator, Web2Learn</i> <i>Panagiota Fabrikanou, Research Collaborator, Web2Learn</i>
11.30 – 12.00	Coffee break
12.00 – 13.30	Session 5 A Skills Observatory for the TCLF Sector: A Scalable Quantitative System for Continuous Skills Intelligence and Policy Support <i>Alexandra Cardoso, Project Manager, CITEVE</i> <i>Paulo Mendes, Project Manager, CITEVE</i> Heterogeneous Difference-in-Differences Models for Evaluating Education Policies and Interventions: An Exemplary Study of Online Platforms in German Adult Education Centres <i>Julian Hemmerich, PhD student, German Institute for Adult Education</i> <i>Fabian Rüter, Researcher, German Institute for Adult Education</i>





	Measuring Adult Learning Participation in Kosovo: Methodological Challenges, Data Fragmentation and Policy Interpretation Teuta Danuza, Associate Professor, University of Prishtina From Policy Outcomes to Policy Design: A Reverse-Analytical (Backward-mapping) Framework for Understanding ALMP Effectiveness from a Skills-Based Perspective Łukasz Sienkiewicz, Associate Professor, Gdańsk University of Technology Flavia Pesce, Director IRS (Istituto per la Ricerca Sociale) Athina Lazou, Expert ACRONYM Ltd Kari Hadjivassiliou, Principal Researcher, The Tavistock Institute of Human Relations What happens next? Longitudinal data infrastructures for education, training and socio-economic pathways Daniele Vidoni, DG EAC, Evidence-Based Policy and Evaluation Unit
13.30 – 14.00	Closing Session
14:00	END OF THE MEETING

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