

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> Giovanni Russo, <i>Expert in skills and workplaces, 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 Käßplinger Bernd, <i>Full Professor, University Giessen</i> Advancing Quantitative Models for Measuring Adult Learning and TVET Participation in Dynamic Labour Markets Hamdy Ragb, <i>Independent Senior TVET consultant</i>
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch



12 October 2026
 13 October 2026



09:30 – 17:30 EEST
 09:30 – 14:00 EEST



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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> 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 Barruffi, 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</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, Assistant Professor of Economics, Autonomous University of Madrid</i> From Tasks to Qualifications: Advancing Adult Learning Intelligence through Online Job Postings <i>Mauro Pelucchi, Head of Global Data Science, Lightcast</i> <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 <i>Natascha Massing, Researcher, GESIS</i> <i>Verena Ortmanns, Researcher, German Institute for Adult Education</i> Making Adult Learning Visible: Methodological Lessons from the Human Capital Study (BKL) <i>Barbara Worek, Associate Professor, Jagiellonian University</i> <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 <i>Karl Daniel Klee, Researcher, Edunauk Karl Klee</i> Measuring Adult Learning Beyond Participation: Conceptual, Methodological and Policy Challenges in Lifelong Learning Research <i>Maria Sytziouki, Assistant Professor, University of Macedonia</i>
16.00 – 17.30	Session 3b Transferable Skills, Personality Traits, and Vocational Interests of Young Adults Under 30: A Quantitative Comparison of NEET and Employed Groups <i>Nina Urukovičová, Senior Testing Specialist, Digital Coalition</i> <i>Alena Minns, Project Coordinator and Education Expert, Digital Coalition</i> 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</i> <i>Amanda Butler, Quality Assurance Coordinator, Kilkenny and Carlow Education and Training Board</i> <i>Thomas Farrell, Programme Development and Data Officer, Kilkenny and Carlow Education and Training Board</i> The Automation-Training Gap Revisited: A Multi-Regime Replication and Deep-Dive into European Adult Education Systems using New PIAAC Data <i>Nate Breznau, Researcher, German Institute for Adult Education</i> <i>Alexandra Ioannidou, Postdoctoral Researcher, German Institute for Adult Education</i>
	END OF DAY 1



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

09.30 – 10.00	Participant arrival and registration
10.00 – 11.30	Session 4 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> Measuring Adult Learning Participation in Kosovo: Methodological Challenges, Data Fragmentation and Policy Interpretation <i>Teuta Danuza, Associate Professor, University of Prishtina</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> From Policy Outcomes to Policy Design: A Reverse-Analytical (Backwards-mapping) Framework for Understanding ALMP Effectiveness from a Skills-Based Perspective <i>Łukasz Sienkiewicz, Associate Professor, Gdańsk University of Technology</i> <i>Flavia Pesce, Director, IRS (Istituto per la Ricerca Sociale)</i> <i>Athina Lazou, Expert, ACRONYM Ltd</i> <i>Kari Hadjivassiliou, Principal Researcher, The Tavistock Institute of Human Relations</i>



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	What happens next? Longitudinal data infrastructures for education, training and socio-economic pathways <i>Daniele Vidoni, DG EAC, Evidence-Based Policy and Evaluation Unit</i> <i>Giovanni Lari, Independent Researcher</i>
13.30 – 14.00	Closing Session
14:00	END OF THE MEETING

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