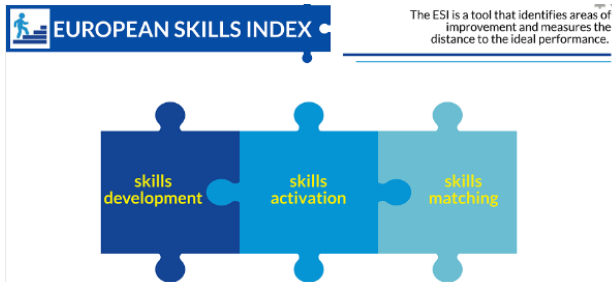




SKILLSNET e-bulletin: January – March 2020

Skills Panorama blog article - Economic and gender equality: are skills systems the answer?

Economic and gender equality: are skills systems the answer?



Achieving a balanced economic growth and promoting gender equality consist fundamental aims of the European Union. Towards this direction, the European Pillar of Social Rights calls, inter alia, for fair wages and gender equality.

At the same time, the improvement of EU Skill systems is set out as a key priority for a fair and well-functioning labour market. In support of the implementation of the Pillar, Cedefop has developed the **European Skills Index (ESI)** which aims at monitoring the performance of Europe’s skills systems, while at the same time identifying areas calling for improvement.

Learn more in our latest blog article [here](#).

NEWS FROM CEDEFOP / SKILLS PANORAMA

Shifting realities for vocational education and training



Cedefop is ready to work with the European Commission, the Member States and social partners to help develop and realise the future vocational education and training (VET) and skills agenda. Read more [here](#).

Send your children to First choice VET - Cedefop Executive Director to MEPs



Speaking to the members of the European Parliament’s EMPL Committee on 28 January in Brussels, Cedefop Executive Director Jürgen Siebel urged the MEPs and experts present to think about sending their children to VET. Read more [here](#).

Towards better skills systems – Cedefop’s 2020 European skills index release



Cedefop has released the **2020 European skills index (ESI)**, which showcases the skills systems’ improvements made since its 2018 edition, including areas that merit further attention in each country. Read

more [here](#), and watch the video [here](#).

Updated occupational analytical highlights



As part of its Digitalisation and future of work project, Cedefop estimates the risks of automation for occupations. Find this and other information in the updated occupational analytical highlights [here](#).

European inventory of guidance systems



The European inventory of lifelong guidance systems and practices is now online. The inventory is the most complete source of information on career guidance systems in Europe. Read more [here](#) and find the inventories by country [here](#).

NEWS FROM EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

Bulgaria: ICT professionals step into VET classrooms



The ICT sector and the VET system in Bulgaria are building a sustainable partnership, attracting more and more learners to ICT professions. Read more [here](#).

Croatia: new model of skills competitions launched in 2019



Over 580 VET students competed in **WorldSkills Croatia**, where they demonstrated their abilities in 43 disciplines. These included, for the first time, categories for students with disabilities and cross-sectoral disciplines in technologically progressive industries, such as robotics and mechatronics. Practical and team work tasks were at the heart of this year’s event, which attracted more than 10 000 visitors. Read more [here](#).

Czechia: VET school cooperation with employers - survey results



The second comprehensive survey of Czech VET schools in 2018 suggests that cooperation with employers is one of the top priorities and indicates that employer interest in cooperation has been increasing since the last survey in 2015/16. Read more [here](#).

Greece: certification of career guidance counsellors



A long-standing demand for raising the quality of guidance provision in Greece had finally been fulfilled. The **National Organisation for Certification of Qualifications and Vocational Guidance (EOPPEP)**, the responsible body of the education ministry, followed a specific procedure for the

certification of the profession by setting professional standards and requirements for those working as career guidance counsellors. Read more [here](#).

Iceland: industry and education authorities cooperate on new study programmes



Two new study programmes were announced in 2019 and were identified as an excellent example of innovative cooperation between industry and the education system. Read more [here](#).

Lithuania: new steps to implement apprenticeships in VET



In 2019, a new regulation was approved detailing the procedure for organising VET in the form of apprenticeship. It is expected that the new system will attract more learners in training programmes to acquire new skills and a professional qualification. Read more [here](#).

Luxembourg: new platform for professional orientation and guidance



The Guidance House launched a **new web portal** in December 2019 providing information on VET and professional orientation. Read more [here](#).

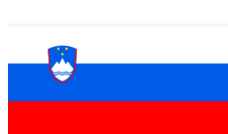
Portugal: Return on investment of work-based learning and apprenticeships



The Return on investment of work-based learning (WBL) and apprenticeships project promotes WBL and apprenticeships by making their benefits evident to SMEs. The project developed a digital online tool that enables entrepreneurs and SME decision-makers to calculate the return on their

investment after answering several questions. At the end of this procedure companies receive results supporting their future decisions. Another objective of the project was to disseminate good practices in an online and innovative environment. Read more [here](#).

Slovenia: evaluating new apprenticeship system



Employers appreciate apprenticeships, according to a report evaluating the new apprenticeship pilot phase. Companies and learners value the approach; but the report also identifies areas where improvements are needed. Read more [here](#).

Sweden: changes to Swedish VET programmes



In response to technological developments and labour market needs, the government decided in December 2019 to implement the most extensive revision of initial vocational education and training (IVET) since the **reform of upper secondary education** in

2011. Read more [here](#).

CEDEFOP PUBLICATIONS

Spotlight on VET – Croatia



VET plays a prominent role in Croatia. Overall responsibility for VET lies with the Ministry of Science and Education supported by the Agency for VET and Adult Education (ASOO). Read and download [here](#).

On the way to 2020: data for vocational education and training policies



European policy-making in vocational education and training (VET) needs to be supported by sound evidence. In this report, Cedefop has selected a set of 36 indicators to quantify some key aspects of VET and lifelong learning. Read and download [here](#).

Towards new horizons



Transition is the key word that marks the 2019 and 2020 policy framework in which Cedefop operates. Read and download [here](#).

Empowering adults through upskilling and reskilling pathways. Volume 1



This study is the first volume of Cedefop research on empowering adults through upskilling and reskilling pathways. Read and download [here](#).

Skillset and match – Issue 18



The January 2020 issue of Skillset and match, Cedefop's magazine promoting learning for work, is now available. Read and download [here](#).

International mobility in apprenticeships focus on long-term mobility. Country reports



The country reports on international mobility in apprenticeships are now available. Read and download [here](#).

EVENTS

Enhancing European cooperation in VET

Date: 04-05/06//2020, Venue: Cedefop, Thessaloniki, Greece

European cooperation in VET: one process, many steps

Developments in vocational education and training policy 2019-17



Hosted under the Croatian Presidency of the EU in cooperation with the German Presidency and the European Commission, the joint Cedefop-ETF conference, on 4/5 June in Thessaloniki, will review achievements made on the joint priorities in **European cooperation in VET** during 2015-20. It will also debate Cedefop's and ETF's overall evidence, data and intelligence on the key challenges for VET in a forward-looking perspective. Read more [here](#).

ReferNet annual plenary meeting 2019

Date: 05-07/02/2020, Venue: Cedefop, Thessaloniki, Greece



The 17th ReferNet annual Plenary meeting, planned in November 2019, was postponed to February 2020 to include the 30 new partners under the 2020-23 Framework Partnership Agreement as well as the national representatives for ReferNet. Read more [here](#).

Adult refugee legal mobility: national workshop in the Portugal

Date: 28/01/2020, Venue: Lisbon, Portugal



Cedefop's project on **Adult refugee legal mobility** seeks to conceptualize and pilot a skills-based complementary pathway that allows lawful and safe pathways to protection of adult refugees by drawing on their human capital potential and labour market needs. Read more [here](#),

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