



SKILLSNET e-bulletin: August 2016

Highlight of the month



Skills Panorama: about countries

Check out the new page of the Skills Panorama devoted to countries. You will find all the information available about the different countries of the EU including both quantitative data (country data) and qualitative information such as useful resources, institutions and events.

To access quantitative data about countries simply click on the corresponding country in the country data tab. Every country dashboard contains information about employment structure and recent and expected future trends related to jobs and skills within the country. Dashboards also offer links to indicators relevant to skills, jobs and the labour market, as well as links to qualitative information on the particular country (analytical highlights, useful resources, news or blog entries). Find more on the Skills Panorama website [here](#).

News from Cedefop and the European Commission

Call for tenders: Real-time Labour Market information on Skill Requirements: Setting up the EU system for online vacancy analysis

The primary objective of this contract is to develop further Cedefop prototype for online vacancy analysis and to develop the system (tool) to enable Cedefop carrying out analysis of vacancies and emerging skill requirements across all EU Member States. The real time data collection system will be aimed at collecting relevant background characteristics of jobs, firms and the type of employee wanted (skills, qualifications and other attributes) to enable future exploration and analysis of skills demand. Deadline of submitting tenders is the **19.09.2016** while requests for additional information/clarification should be received by **09.09.2016**. Find more [here](#).

Call for tenders: TCRs and flash TCRs on Apprenticeships

The scope of this project falls under the Agency's activity on supporting countries in setting up or modernising or improving the quality of their apprenticeship systems/schemes through country specific reviews. The services to be provided are threefold: 1) a TCR on apprenticeships in two countries, which voluntarily expressed their interest in undergoing the review: Croatia and Cyprus; 2) a flash TCR on apprenticeships in two countries identified by Cedefop: Belgium and Sweden; 3) to organise a policy-learning and dissemination event. The deadline is **06.09.2016**. Find more [here](#).

Call for tenders: Apprenticeships for adults

The overall purpose of this study is to improve knowledge and understanding of apprenticeships for adults as a distinctive form of adult learning. It aims at getting a systematic overview of current concepts, policies and practices of adult apprenticeships in the EU and at international level, to assess their potential for EU Member States and to increase the evidence base which can support policy-in designing and implementing measures for setting up and/or improving apprenticeships for adults. The deadline for submitting tenders is the **22.09.2016**. Requests for additional information should be received by **13.09.2016**. Find more information [here](#).

At EU level, almost 5 million young persons aged 20-24 (or 17.3%) were in 2015 neither in employment nor in education or training - NEETs

Highest increase in NEET rate in Italy, Greece and Spain, highest drop in Germany and Bulgaria. Although the proportion of young people aged 20-24 neither in employment nor in education or training remained relatively stable in the EU between 2006 and 2015, important changes occurred over the last decade in Member States. In ten of them, the NEET rate has decreased, with the most significant reductions being in Germany (from 15.2% in 2006 to 9.3% in 2015, or -5.9%), Bulgaria (-5.3%), Sweden (-3.4%), the Czech Republic (-2.9%), Poland (-2.8%). Read more [here](#).

News from Skillsnet members

Gender gaps in emerging economies: the role of skills

Despite unprecedented progress over the past century, gender gaps in the labour market persist throughout the emerging world and are accompanied by important skill gaps. Women tend to perform worse in STEM subjects, have lower financial literacy and business knowledge than men. The OECD Employment Outlook 2016 paints an up-to-date picture of gender gaps in 16 emerging economies accounting for over half of the world's population and outlines a comprehensive set of policy recommendations. Find more [here](#).

Jobs, growth and investment for Europe



Multinational companies choose to locate to countries with greater market potential, head-start opportunities, and openness to trade, but worry less about taxes or the costs of starting a business. Attracting foreign direct investments from knowledge-intensive multinationals to Europe will help push forward the technological frontier, boost European productivity and sustain economic growth and job creation. This joint study shows the importance for Member States to coordinate labour market reforms, given their mutually-reinforcing impacts on the attraction of top international R&D investment. Read more [here](#).

Call for papers for the Journal of industrial relations: Employability: Pathways from education to work for young people

The deadline for submission of papers is the 28th November 2016. This special issue examines current theory, evidence and policy related to the notion of 'employability'. The concept of employability has become a ubiquitous one in research, public and educational policy and political rhetoric in relation to youth labour market concerns. While the specific components of the term have been variously described across academic disciplines and policy spheres, employability can be understood as the package of skills, personal attributes, knowledges and experiences that provide an individual access to employment. Read more [here](#).

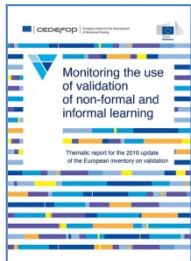
Education, employment, both or neither? What are young people doing in the EU?

The EU totals almost 90 million people aged 15-29, representing 17% of its population. These young people are in very different situations, with education and employment patterns varying considerably between Member States and by age group. Between the ages of 15 and 29, a clear and significant shift occurs from the world of education to the world of employment. While in the 15-19 age group the vast majority of people were in education in 2015, the opposite is true for those aged 25-29: most of them were in employment. Read more [here](#).

More on the Survey of Adult Skills: The outcome of investment in skills

The recently published Second International Report for the Survey of Adults Skills looks in detail at the extent to which proficiency in literacy, numeracy and problem solving in technology-rich environments matters for the well-being of individuals and nations. The answer that emerges is clear: proficiency is positively linked to a number of important economic and social outcomes. Read more [here](#).

Cedefop: Thematic report for the 2016 update of the European inventory on validation



This thematic report provides an overview of validation monitoring of non-formal and informal learning across Europe. Based on data collected for the European inventory project, the report explores the extent to which data are available on different aspects of validation in different education sectors. The results show a lack of comprehensive national statistics on validation, exacerbated in many countries by a lack of a clear regulatory framework on validation and/or

mandate for organisations responsible for validation to build up integrated databases or release annual data. Read the report [here](#).

OECD Employment Outlook 2016



This 2016 edition of the OECD Employment Outlook provides an in-depth review of recent labour market trends and short-term prospects in OECD countries. Chapter 1 examines recent labour market developments, with a special focus on vulnerable youth who are neither working nor in education or training. Chapter 2 considers skills use at work: are countries doing enough to assure that workers are able to make full use of their skills on the job? Chapter 3 looks at the short-term effects of structural

reforms on employment and identifies successful strategies for reducing transition costs. Chapter 4 looks at how to close the labour market gender gap in emerging economies, proposing a comprehensive policy response to the problem. The Outlook's analysis and recommendations are complemented by a statistical annex. Read the outlook [here](#).

Stay connected to Skills Panorama



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Upskilling, re-skilling and employing refugees

Date: 3 October 2016, **Place:** Centro Congressi Roma Eventi, Rome, Italy

Upskilling, re-skilling and employing refugees are a one day experts' forum which is co-organised by Cedefop and OECD. The forum will examine the role of VET and VET-related skill development strategies as part of pre-arrival (transition countries) and national solutions (host countries) aimed at early labour market integration of the current wave of adult people in clear need of international protection. More information can be found [here](#).

Skills, jobs and sustainable development: global trends and local challenges: CEDEFOP-UNESCO global skills conference

Date: 20-21 October 2016, **Place:** UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France

The conference will discuss the implications of global economic trends and market forces for anticipated skill needs and mismatches and the responses of education and training building on labour market intelligence. It will look at how information on global trends in skills needs is used by countries to review and renew their education and training provisions and how qualifications frameworks can facilitate coordination and dialogue between education and training as well as labour market actors across different regions of the world. More information can be found [here](#).

Human Capital in Poland – labour market research project for 2016-2023

Date: 14 - 15 November 2016, **Place:** Warsaw, Poland

The Peer Review will showcase the use of the Human Capital Survey as a tool for monitoring skills needs in Poland. According to this Survey around eight out of ten enterprises in Poland claim that they find difficulties to meet their skill needs despite significant unemployment. The event will focus on the different methods used by the Member States to monitor the demand and supply of skills and to exchange effective practices on the advantages and disadvantages of different approaches. Find more [here](#).

Registration has opened for Cedefop validation conference: how to make learning visible?

Registration has just opened for the Cedefop conference "How to make learning visible? Strategies for implementing validation of non-formal and informal learning" (Thessaloniki, 28-29 November 2016). Click [here](#) to register!

The Skillsnet network

Skillsnet members have the opportunity to inform other members of our network about new projects, events, activities or publications related to early identification of skill needs throughout the year. If you are interested to inform other members, please submit your short article / information (max of 100 words) to **Ioannis Katsikis** whenever you have any news to disseminate.

