



SKILLSNET e-bulletin: December 2017

Highlight of the month



Season's Greetings with 4 essential skills questions Skills Panorama has helped to answer in 2017

When you work in the field of education or labour market, you certainly have many questions about skills. In 2017, Skills Panorama continued to provide you with labour market and skills intelligence to help you finding answers. Some of these questions are "What will you be when you grow up?" or "What are the skills that employers want?" and "How are skill needs assessed and matched across the EU?".

2017 was a busy, yet rewarding, year for us. We are proud that Skills Panorama has been recognised as best practice in the European Public Sector Award. Next year we have one big 'SURPRISE' for you. Read more in the new blog article published on the Skills Panorama [here](#).

News from Cedefop

Cedefop generates knowledge to improve people's lives



Cedefop Director James Calleja highlighted the valuable role that the agency plays in improving people's lives at a debate on the role of EU agencies in the future of Europe, in Maastricht on 7 December. The event's aim was to discuss with law students, academics and practitioners: stakeholder and citizen involvement and trust in the work of EU agencies; expertise, independence and

transparency; accountability of EU agencies towards EU institutions, Member States and citizens. Read more [here](#).

ReferNet: Spain - promoting digital skills for young people

Red.es has launched a call for proposals to develop training programmes oriented to the digital industry and aimed at young people enrolled in the National youth guarantee system. The aim of the call is to develop high level digital skills for ICT professionals in all industry sectors, supporting access into jobs that boost the digital transformation of companies. Red.es is a public enterprise of the Ministry of Energy, Tourism and Digital Agenda, whose role is to promote the development of the information society in Spain. This initiative is part of the Spanish digital agenda strategy, which has 106 lines of action structured around six axes, the sixth being to promote digital inclusion and literacy and the training of new ICT professionals. Find more [here](#).

Skills publications

Cereq: Adapting skills: a challenge digital companies have to meet



Innovation is a key factor in growth in the digital sector. In order to foster innovation, digital companies must, to a greater extent than elsewhere in the economy, recruit skilled personnel and ensure that their employees' skills are maintained and updated. Considerable use is made of initial education, continuing training in its various forms and block-release programmes in a continuum that might prefigure a more general tendency. Download the magazine online [here](#).

Stay connected to Skills Panorama



Published by
Department for Skills and Labour Market
Cedefop - European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training
Europe 123, GR-570 01 Thessaloniki (Pylea)
Tel. (+30) 23 10 490079 Fax (+30) 23 10 490117
E-mail: ioannis.katsikis@cedefop.europa.eu
<http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/skillsnet/>

News from Skillsnet members

OECD: Italy should strengthen reform implementation to boost skills

Recent reforms of Italy's education system ("Buona Scuola"), labour market ("Jobs Act") and industrial policy ("Industria 4.0") have clear synergies and could reduce worrying imbalances between the supply and demand of skills on the Italian labour market, according to the new OECD report Getting Skills Right: Italy. The Italian labour minister Giuliano Poletti, Mr Scarpetta said: "Italy has done a great deal over recent years and the reforms are starting to bear fruit. There are still a number of issues which, if resolved, could lead to the effective implementation of important reforms such as a programme for alternating school and work, Industry 4.0 and active labour-market policies." Find more [here](#).

CEPS: The Impact of the Platform Economy on Job Creation

CEPS researchers have contributed a policy analysis to the Forum section of the November/December issue of Intereconomics, which is devoted to the regulation of platform economy. The article can be downloaded [here](#), along with other contributions on this question. Over the past ten years, the platform economy has become a topic of great interest in Europe. It has been cited as a force for economic growth and innovation, lower-cost goods and services, and low-barrier employment opportunities. At the same time, platforms have been criticised for potentially expanding the number of workers in precarious jobs. Thus, stakeholders – including policymakers, social partners, workers and platforms – have sought to better understand the platform economy, as evidenced by the growing body of literature surrounding platform issues. Find the more [here](#).

Forthcoming events

Policy learning forum on upskilling pathways: a vision for the future

Date: 07 – 08/02/2018, Place: Brussels, Belgium

Cedefop, together with the European Economic and Social Committee and in collaboration with the European Commission, is organising the Policy learning forum (PLF) on upskilling pathways: a vision for the future to bring together governments, social partners and civil society to help one another in the definition and implementation of the Upskilling pathways: New opportunities for adults. The PLF is the first in a series of events on the topic to create a platform for countries to come together to learn from one another and explore common challenges in upskilling adult with low level of skills. Find more [here](#).

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](mailto:ioannis.katsikis@cedefop.europa.eu) whenever you have any news to disseminate.

