

EUROPEAN COMMISSION PACT FOR SKILLS IN THE CONTEXT OF EDDIE PROJECT

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The European Commission (EC) launched the <u>Pact for Skills</u>, as a leading action for the European Skills Agenda (ESA), where national, regional, and local authorities, social partners, crossindustry and sectoral organizations, education and training providers and, employment services have a key role to play. The aim and objectives of The Pact are for concrete actions and join forces to upskill and reskill people in Europe in the context of supporting the goals of the Green Deal and digital transitions of the EU Industrial and SMEs strategies. The Erasmus+ funded project EDucation for DIgitalisation of Energy (EDDIE) has the main objective to develop a longdriven Blueprint for the digitalization of the European Energy sector to enable the matching between the current and future demand of skills necessary for the digitalization of the Energy sector. Within this context EDDIE consortium will translate its engagement into concrete commitments on upskilling and reskilling by bringing to reality the key principles of the Pact.

Officially launched in November 2020, The Pact promotes a culture of lifelong learning for all, building strong skills partnerships, monitoring skills demand, and anticipating skills needs but it also stands for working against discrimination and for gender equality and equal opportunities. The pact aims to mobilize and incentivize private and public stakeholders to actively contribute to the upskilling and reskilling of individuals and when appropriate and feasible using pool efforts in partnerships. Pathway to achieve sustainability in energy transition including societal decisions such as European Green Deal, digital economy of today and supporting industrial and SMEs strategies led to firmly believe that skills are key for both people and companies to unlock competitiveness, social fairness, and resilience. The Pact was created based on other EU initiatives for cooperation including the reinforced <u>European Alliance for Apprenticeships</u> but also on the <u>Blueprint for Sectoral Cooperation of Skills</u>.

The Blueprint for Sectoral Cooperation of Skills is also the initiative that guides EDDIE project, with the objectives of creating a Sector Skills Alliance by bringing together all the relevant stakeholders in the Energy value chain to address skills gaps. The EDDIE project envisages an exhaustive analysis of the educational context that addresses the field of energy, for substantiating the necessary structural changes and the plan for their effective implementation, to respond efficiently, with concrete measures, to this demanding context of digitalization of the energy sector. An essential starting point in this process is raising awareness at all levels of learning about the importance of adapting the curricula and the learning system in general from academic to professional and training on the job, capturing the needs for digital skills, to respond effectively to the needs of the energy labor market in this new and dynamic context. The major challenge of the EDDIE project is the early definition and consequent implementation of a dedicated network of stakeholders, able to provide relevant input for the definition of the European Union (EU) policy and industry-driven strategy that will meet and anticipate the skills' demands for the sustainable growth and digitalization of the European Energy sector.

EDDIE project will join the Pact with the aim of creating the proper a proper tool and framework for upskilling and reskilling of people in the energy sector. Our project will highlight the important role of all the actors in identifying skills needs and supporting development of relevant sills in the paradigm of digitalization of the energy sector.

