

EDDIE PROJECT PARTICIPATED AT THE "SECTORAL SKILLS INTELLIGENCE AND STRATEGIES AS DRIVERS OF THE JUST TRANSITION" EVENT.

10th October 2023, EDDIE Consortium

EDDIE representatives participated at the "Sectoral skills intelligence and strategies as drivers of the just transition" event on the 26th of September 2023. The event has been organized by European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (CEDEFOP), to address the need of having a skilled workforce to accelerate the just transition.



Sectoral skills intelligence and strategies as drivers of the just transition
Supporting frontline actors

Cedefop virtual get-together

26 September 2023
10.00-12.00 CET



The main objective of the Cedefop’s 3rd virtual get-together welcomed sectoral actors, VET providers, guidance practitioners and other actors to exchange experience with sectoral skills intelligence stemming from skills anticipation methods and identify opportunities and challenges for using it “in the front line”. The role of sectoral skills intelligence in supporting the design and improvements of sectoral skill strategies has also been discussed.

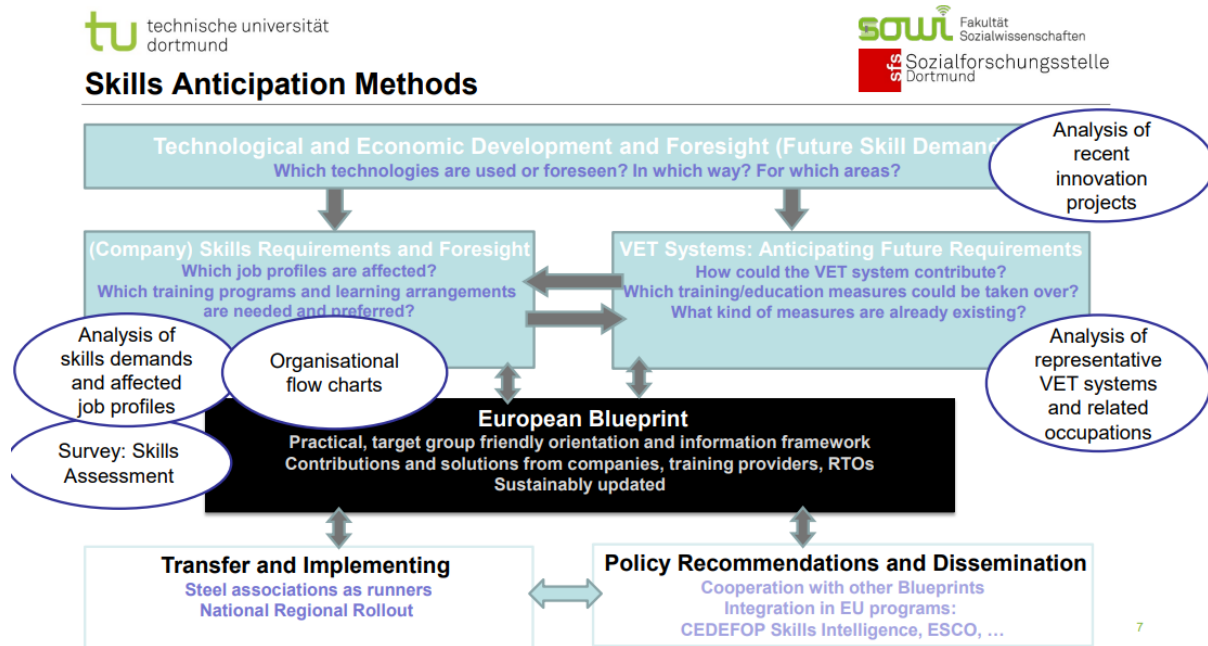
Relevant and targeted vocational education and training (VET) programmes need to reflect insights of skills anticipation methods (such as skills forecasts, skill foresights, employee and employer surveys, big data analysis). Particularly in times of increased volatility and economic pressures, economic sectors are the hubs of change and innovation that can enable a just twin transition. A mix of suitable skills anticipation tools and methods, availability of data, capacity to handle and “translate” the data into actionable and policy steps are crucial. Sectoral skill strategies, built on high quality sectoral skills intelligence, place relevant stakeholders at the driver’s seat and call for a holistic skills governance approach, founded on comprehensive skills ecosystems.

The first topic of the meeting targeted “Skills anticipation practices in times of transitions: trends in EU Member States” and has been detailed by Stelina Chatzichristou, Cedefop expert. Ms Chatzichristou explained that *Skills intelligence* means the outcome of an expert-driven process of identifying, analysing, synthesising and presenting quantitative and/or qualitative information on skills and labour market. Additionally, Steliana spoke about Cedefop’s blending insights to develop skills intelligence, practical guides on understanding technological change and impact on skill needs and the key elements of well-functioning systems.

Further, Rino Vitelli - Head of EU Projects and Partnerships at Federturismo Confindustria, talked about “How skills intelligence can support the just transition. The European Tourism Industry Perspective”. Tourism is a capital saving and labour-intensive sector, contributing (directly and indirectly) to around 10% of the total EU GDP and 12% of overall employment. Moreover, new business models and creative solutions are needed, as well as radical changes in the way education, policies shaping and preparation for future challenges are executed. Mr Vitelli mentioned that skills development is crucial to promote growth, innovation and competitiveness. One of the main issues of the tourism sector is the fact that over 90% of tourism enterprises employ less than 10 people and the training for employees is often left behind.

Towards the end of the presentations section, Antonius Shroeder, Senior researcher, TU Dortmund University presented the “Sectoral Blueprints ESSA and SPIRE-SAIS”. Mr. Shroeder presented the lessons learned of two Sectoral Blueprint initiatives, namely A Cross-sectoral Blueprint for a Sustainable Process Industry (SPIRE-SAIS) and Industry-driven Sustainable European Steel Skills Agenda and Strategy (ESSA). He also enumerated the main objectives of a blueprint for an industry driven long-term skills strategy like proactive skills adjustments, new training and curricula requirements, political support measures, successful sectoral upskilling schemes, efficient management of knowledge, improve recruitment and retention, key performance indicators.

The skills anticipation methods proposed can be seen in the image below:



The event concluded with a panel discussion moderated by Jasper van Loo, Department Coordinator at Cedefop concerning the labour market and related aspects.

EDDIE Project is dedicated to identifying the skills needed for the digitalisation of the energy sector in its transition, either through re-skilling, up-skilling, or long-life learning at all levels of education.