

Concept Note
Professional Development Workshop
Lower Secondary, Upper Secondary Level and IVET
Bratislava (28-30 September 2023)

“Advancing learning and innovation with future-proof skills”

Background

According to [OECD’s annual Education at a Glance report \(2022\)](#), modern economies rely heavily on having a skilled workforce, and individuals with high skills benefit from improved employment prospects. This, coupled with an increased access to education, has resulted in a larger pool of skilled individuals across countries. As the demand for skills continues to rise, labour markets can absorb the growing number of highly skilled workers and provide them with better job opportunities. However, the prospects in the labour market are more challenging for adults with lower levels of qualifications. These individuals earn lower incomes and face a higher risk of unemployment. Additionally, their risk of unemployment is expected to increase further as many jobs requiring lower qualifications could be automated in the near future. It is estimated that 14% of existing jobs could disappear due to automation in the next 15-20 years, and another 32% are likely to undergo significant changes as specific tasks become automated.

In light of these labour-market challenges, education systems must adapt and prepare students for the changing demands of the future workforce. The outcomes of individuals in the labour market, categorised by their educational attainment levels, are crucial indicators of the relationship between education and economic opportunities. These outcomes highlight the qualifications that employers value and can assist in understanding global trends and anticipating the future evolution of the economy. Namely, there is an **increasing demand for digital and soft skills in the workplace**, which subsequently creates the need for innovative teaching in secondary education, including vocational education and training ([OECD, 2021](#)).

Goal and objectives

The onsite Professional Development Workshop aims to equip teachers working in secondary education and initial vocational education and training (IVET) with innovative teaching methods, pedagogical approaches, and technological tools to enhance the quality of their teaching and meet the changing demands of the labour market. The workshop will emphasise the need for secondary and IVET education to embrace innovation and promote transversal skills, entrepreneurship, and inclusivity and how eTwinning can support this. In specific, the objectives of the online workshop entail:

- understanding the importance of innovation in secondary education and IVET and its potential impact on learners and the labour market.
- learning about new teaching methods, pedagogical approaches, and technological tools that can enhance the quality of secondary education and IVET.
- gaining practical skills and knowledge and exploring concrete steps to enhance innovation in secondary and IVET teaching and learning.
- exchanging ideas and experiences with other secondary and IVET teachers and experts in the field.

Format and target audience

The workshop will host a combination of keynotes, workshops, and interactive activities to engage participants and promote peer learning. The workshop will be conducted in English.

The workshop is addressed to teachers, trainers and school leaders working in secondary education and initial vocational education and training (IVET), who are interested in enhancing the quality of their teaching and their learners' experiences through innovation and technology.

Draft agenda

Day 1 (28 Sept)

<u>15h00</u> <u>15h30</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal opening: CSS, NSO, SK MoE • Keynote 1: Inspiring innovative cultures and future-proof skills (emphasis on life skills) - <u>Olivia Hurbanova</u>
16h00	Prize Ceremony
16h45	Break
17h15	Networking Activity
19h30	Dinner

Day 2 (29 Sept)

09h30 – 11h00	Workshop Slot 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WS1: Mastering the Art of Communication: Unlocking Career Success in the Labor Market (Rute Baptista) • WS2: Career guidance for future-proof skills (Nikolaos Mouratoglou) • WS3: Design Thinking for Teachers: Fostering Innovation and Creativity • WS4: AI and Data Analytics for Teachers: Improving Learning Outcomes (Natalia Tzitzzi)
11h00	Break
11h30 – 13h00	Workshop Slot 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WS5: Workshop by Prize Winners

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WS6: Workshop by Prize Winners • WS7: Workshop by Prize Winners
13h00-14h30	Lunch
14h30- 16h00	Workshop Slot 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WS8: Mastering the Art of Communication: Unlocking Career Success in the Labor Market (Rute Baptista) • WS9: Career guidance for future-proof skills (Nikolaos Mouratoglou) • WS10 Transversal Skills – Maria Lorenza Campanella and colleagues • WS11: AI and Data Analytics in eTwinning for Improved Learning Outcomes
16h00	Break
16h30 – 17h30	Networking
19h30	Dinner

Day 3 (30 Sept)

09h30-10h00	Keynote 2: Empowering Youth through Guidance to Prevent Early School Leaving (Nikos Mouratoglou)
10h00-10h30	Keynote 3: Transversal Skills for the 21st Century: Importance and Integration in secondary education and IVET
10h30	Break
11h00– 12h00	Practices Sharing/Networking Activity
12h00	Closing
12h30	Lunch