



Advancing research on adult learning

Using and innovating quantitative approaches to support effective policies

Programme

DAY 1 – 12 October 2026 (all times are EEST)

09.30 – 10.00	Participant arrival and registration
10.00 – 10.15	Welcome and opening Antonio Ranieri, <i>Head of Department VET & Skills, CEDEFOP</i>
10.15 – 11.00	Setting the scene Marco Serafini, <i>Expert in VET and Skills Statistics and Indicators, CEDEFOP</i>
11.00 – 11.30	Coffee break
11.30 – 13.00	Session 1 Measuring Attitudes and Opportunities to Adult Learning and Education: Bridging the Theoretical and Measurement Gap Jan Kalenda, <i>Associate Professor, Tomas Bata University</i> Ellen Boeren, <i>Professor, University of Glasgow</i> Informal learning: four measurement shortcomings and potential ways forward Ellen Boeren, <i>Professor, University of Glasgow</i> Jan Kalenda, <i>Associate Professor, Tomas Bata University</i> Vignette studies as a third way to shed light on decision-making for lifelong learning Käpplinger Bernd, <i>Full Professor, University Giessen</i> Advancing Quantitative Models for Measuring Adult Learning and TVET Participation in Dynamic Labour Markets Hamdy Ragb, <i>TVET advisor, College of Excellence</i>



12 October 2026
13 October 2026



09:30 – 17:30 EEST
09:30 – 14:00 EEST



Thessaloniki,
Greece



13.00 – 14.00	Lunch
14.00 – 15.30	Session 2a Measuring competences as relational affordances: a methodological proposal for assessing adult learning in innovation contexts <i>Gianluca Abbruzzese, Researcher/Innovation Manager, Lascò srl</i> Methodological Challenges in Researching Adult Participation in Lifelong Learning: Between Standardisation and Cultural Conditionality <i>Anamarija Delić, Full Professor, University of Osijek</i> <i>Visnja Perin, PhD Psychologist, Rast i savjetovanje Ltd.</i> Measuring Adult Participation in Dual VET for Policy Development <i>Silvia Toneva, Postdoctoral Researcher, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski"</i> <i>Mariana Dimitrova, PhD student, New Bulgarian University</i> The Atlas of Work and Qualifications and the National System of Skills Certification in Italy: Territorial Dynamics and Initial Quantitative Analyses <i>Angela Barruffi, Researcher, INAPP</i> <i>Sonia Cinti, Research Assistant, INAPP</i>
14.00 – 15.30	Session 2b Labour Market Information Systems for Skills Anticipation: A Comparative Benchmark of Tools and Institutional Landscapes <i>Andrés Cordero, Senior Consultant, Human Capital Consulting Agency</i> Beyond Surveys: Towards Integrated Data Infrastructures for Adult Education Providers <i>Kerstin Hoenig, Head of Department "Research Infrastructures", German Institute for Adult Education (tbc)</i> <i>Verena Ortmanns, Researcher, German Institute for Adult Education</i> Restricting Temporary Contracts Increases Firm-Provided Training: Evidence from Spain <i>Pawel Adrjan, Senior Director, Indeed</i> <i>Jonas Jessen, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, WZB</i> <i>Carlos Victoria Lanzón, Assistant Professor of Economics, Autonomous University of Madrid</i>





	From Tasks to Qualifications: Advancing Adult Learning Intelligence through Online Job Postings Mauro Pelucchi, Head of Global Data Science, Lightcast Simone Perego, <i>Data Engineer, Lightcast</i> Anna Clara Gatti, <i>Principal Statistician, Lightcast</i> Sophia Gvasalia, <i>Data Science Manager, Lightcast</i> Elena Magrini, <i>Head of Global Research, Lightcast</i>
15.30 – 16.00	Coffee break
16.00 – 17.30	Session 3a Developing Internationally Comparable Questions for Measuring Non-Formal Adult Education: Towards Better Evidence for Policy Making Natascha Massing, Researcher, GESIS Verena Ortmanns, <i>Researcher, German Institute for Adult Education</i> Making Adult Learning Visible: Methodological Lessons from the Human Capital Study (BKL) Barbara Worek, Associate Professor, Jagiellonian University Magdalena Jelonek, <i>Associate Professor of Sociology, Cracow University of Economics</i> Marcin Kocór, <i>Associate Professor of Sociology, Jagiellonian University</i> Beyond Certification Counts: Rethinking the Measurement of Operational Competence in Adult Learning Systems Daniel Karl Klee, Researcher, Edunauk Measuring Adult Learning Beyond Participation: Conceptual, Methodological and Policy Challenges in Lifelong Learning Research Maria Sytziouki, Assistant Professor, University of Macedonia
16.00 – 17.30	Session 3b Rethinking Adult Learning in the Age of AI: Digital Competence, Didactic Change and Inclusive Learning Design Giedre Kvieskiene, <i>Professor, Kazimieras Simonavičiaus Universitetas</i>





Transferable Skills, Personality Traits, and Vocational Interests of Young Adults Under 30: A Quantitative Comparison of NEET and Employed Groups

Nina Urukovičová, *Senior Testing Specialist, Digital Coalition (tbc)*

Alena Minns, *Project Coordinator and Education Expert, Digital Coalition*

The Automation-Training Gap Revisited: A Multi-Regime Replication and Deep-Dive into European Adult Education Systems using New PIAAC Data

Nate Breznau, *Researcher, German Institute for Adult Education*

Alexandra Ioannidou, *Postdoctoral Researcher, German Institute for Adult Education*

END OF DAY 1



12 October 2026
13 October 2026



09:30 – 17:30 EEST
09:30 – 14:00 EEST



Thessaloniki,
Greece



DAY 2 – 13 October 2026 (all times are EEST)

09.30 – 10.00	Participant arrival and registration
10.00 – 11.30	Session 4 Enhancing Data-Driven Programme Provision in Further Education and Training (FET) Sarah Barron, Tertiary Manager - FET Strategic Project Lead, Kilkenny and Carlow Education and Training Board <i>Amanda Butler, Quality Assurance Coordinator, Kilkenny and Carlow Education and Training Board</i> <i>Thomas Farrell, Programme Development and Data Officer, Kilkenny and Carlow Education and Training Board</i> Academic Stress, Cognitive Rumination, and Study Avoidance in Adult Learners Blerona Sojeva, Independent Researcher Invisible Learners: Adult Migrant Illiteracy and Innovative Approaches to Second Language Education Annamaria Cacchione, Researcher, INDIRE Using verifiable credentials as data for measuring credit-bearing adult learning: insights from issuers for policy and systems <i>Katerina Zourou, Managing Director, Web2Learn</i> Stefania Oikonomou, Research Collaborator, Web2Learn Panagiota Fabrikanou, Research Collaborator, Web2Learn
11.30 – 12.00	Coffee break
12.00 – 13.30	Session 5 A Skills Observatory for the TCLF Sector: A Scalable Quantitative System for Continuous Skills Intelligence and Policy Support <i>Alexandra Cardoso, Project Manager, CITEVE</i> Paulo Mendes, Project Manager, CITEVE Heterogeneous Difference-in-Differences Models for Evaluating Education Policies and Interventions: An Exemplary Study of Online Platforms in German Adult Education Centres Julian Hemmerich, PhD student, German Institute for Adult Education



12 October 2026
13 October 2026



09:30 – 17:30 EEST
09:30 – 14:00 EEST



Thessaloniki,
Greece



	Fabian Rüter, <i>Researcher, German Institute for Adult Education</i> Measuring Adult Learning Participation in Kosovo: Methodological Challenges, Data Fragmentation and Policy Interpretation Teuta Danuza, <i>Associate Professor, University of Prishtina</i> From Policy Outcomes to Policy Design: A Reverse-Analytical (Backwards-mapping) Framework for Understanding ALMP Effectiveness from a Skills-Based Perspective Łukasz Sienkiewicz, <i>Associate Professor, Gdańsk University of Technology</i> Flavia Pesce, <i>Director, IRS (Istituto per la Ricerca Sociale)</i> Athina Lazou, <i>Expert, ACRONYM Ltd</i> Kari Hadjivassiliou, <i>Principal Researcher, The Tavistock Institute of Human Relations</i> What happens next? Longitudinal data infrastructures for education, training and socio-economic pathways Daniele Vidoni, <i>DG EAC, Evidence-Based Policy and Evaluation Unit</i> Giovanni Lari, <i>Independent Researcher</i>
13.30 – 14.00	Closing Session
14:00	END OF THE MEETING

Follow us on social media:



12 October 2026
13 October 2026



09:30 – 17:30 EEST
09:30 – 14:00 EEST



Thessaloniki,
Greece