



**ecvet**

European Credit system for  
Vocational Education & Training



# Results from the Annual ECVET Forum 2019

Rotterdam, The Netherlands, 20-21 June 2019

# Annual ECVET Forum 2019





Changing demands to VET, and how the ECVET tools and principles can help to enhance the quality, flexibility and attractiveness of VET systems and VET provisions

- **Day 1:** How are we going to be learning and working in tomorrow's labour market? What are the main challenges and success factors for specific target groups (e.g. low-skilled adults)? How can the ECVET principles help?
- **Day 2:** How can we prepare young people and adults for tomorrow's labour market concretely? What innovative concepts are there?

# Questions to explore



- How to exploit the concept of units (or groups) of learning outcomes to design innovative, up-to-date and future-proof qualifications that respond to current as well as anticipated future labour market needs?
- How to ensure options of adding learning outcomes to existing qualifications to help workers to update and enrich their qualifications?
- How to support low-skilled adults with work experiences to gain a labour-market relevant qualification by enabling validation of non-formal and informal learning?
- How to enable transfer and accumulation of units of learning outcomes between different contexts of learning and working, to enhance the flexibility of VET systems?
- How to ensure the recognition of learning outcomes from phases of work-based learning in initial VET?
- How to ensure sustainability, coherence and mainstreaming?

# Programme items



- 3 key note speeches
  - OECD,
  - Results from research on national developments in NL,
  - 'Skillman' sectoral network
- 10 workshops with 20 presentations of national examples
- One expert panel
- 9 'Idea Incubator' round table discussions



# Data and trends



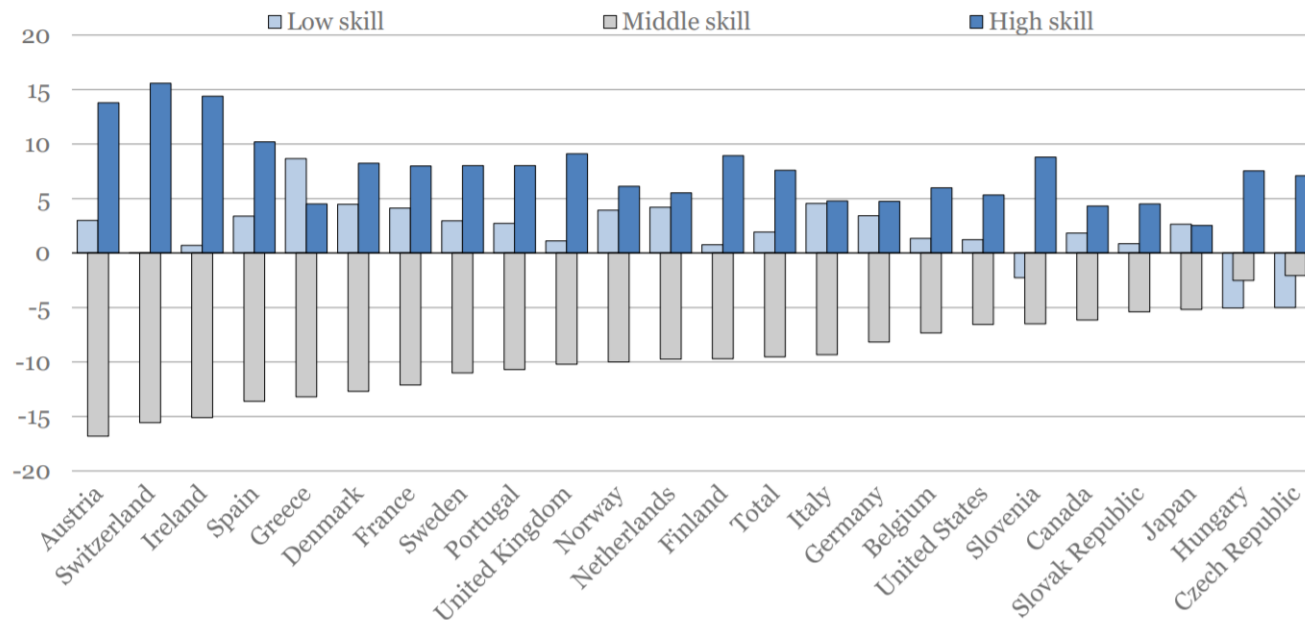
## Megatrends affect the world of work





## Labour markets have polarised

Percentage point change in share of total employment, 1995 to 2015





# High Quality VET for all



@Aline Rollin





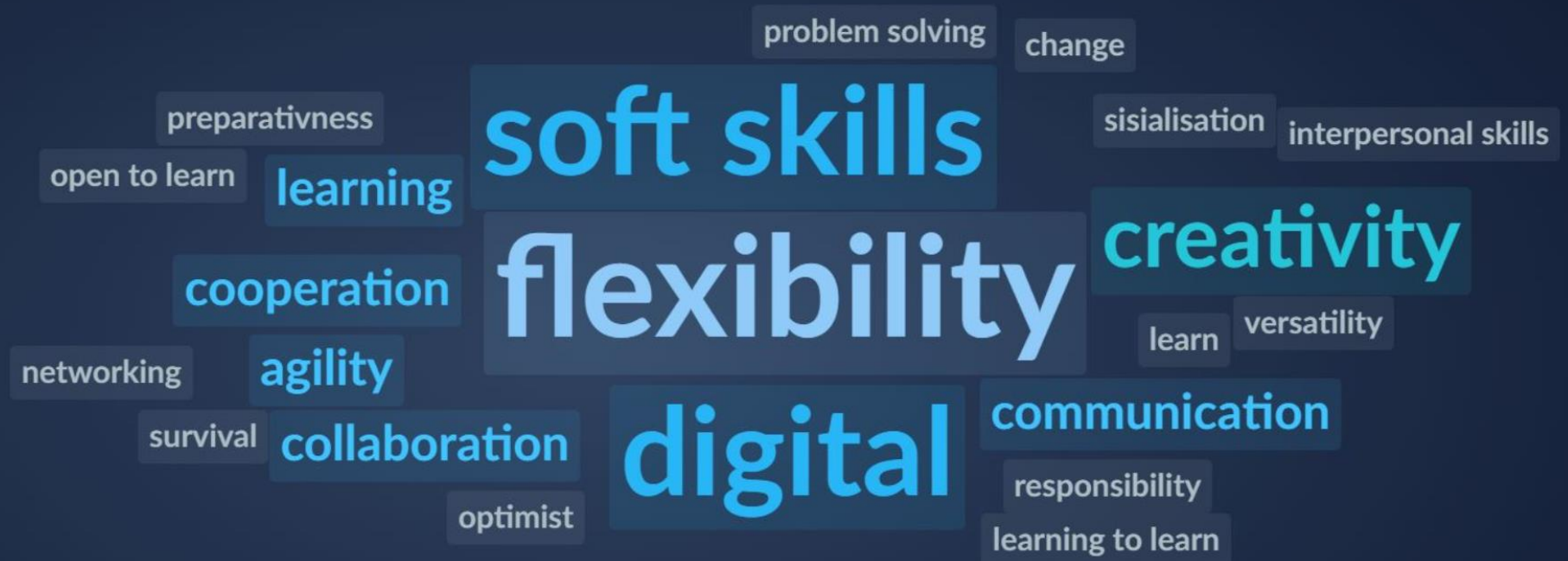
**How the ECVET principles can contribute**

# Skills of future-proof workers



Name one of the top skills required for the future labour market!

0 7 3



# Key messages: Skills demand



- Although Europe is very diverse, and the needs differ across countries and sectors, businesses commonly agree that emerging challenges for their businesses are related to robotization, automation, ageing society, climate change and sustainable development issues.
- Skills shortages relate to logistics, construction, mechanics, services and manufacturing (some of which may be replaced by new technology).
- Employers expect their future workforce to be equipped with good interpersonal, problem solving, project management, information and communication and critical thinking skills.
- Moreover employees need good digital skills and personal flexibility to adapt to changing circumstances

# Key messages: Training needs



- According to sectoral experiences students think they gained most benefits from work-based learning - besides gaining skills they also ‘learn how to work’.
- There will also be an increase in the importance of apprenticeships and work-based learning, which means their learning outcomes need to be recognisable as part of the pathway. Employers need to be closely involved.
- There will be more and more demand for continuous VET and VET qualifications at EQF levels 6 and 7.
- Yet the idea of upskilling should not be limited to achieving higher qualification levels (e.g. horizontal upskilling as qualifications become more complex and demanding).
- Boundaries between different levels and types of education and training will blur.

# Key messages: Access to training



- Training should be accessible for all.
- Individual level support is important to ensure participation in lifelong learning (ensuring well-being of workers, providing quality guidance, enabling individuals to make smart learning choices, providing safe places, and making it possible to undertake tailor-made training courses for lower-educated people).
- Individual learners could be further motivated by financial means (e.g. lump-sum support or tax reductions [individual learning accounts]).



# Key messages: The role of ECVET



- To develop a successful future VET policy, there are a few important factors to consider: system responsiveness, technological changes, the general permeability and flexibility of E&T systems using ECVET principles.
- There should be a variety of options to transfer and accumulate learning outcomes from different learning contexts.
- Generally, training systems will have to adopt the recognition of prior learning and validation of non-formal and informal learning (especially from work experiences).
- Learning outcomes should be based on concrete skills and competences, and grouped into transferrable units, so that individuals have more flexibility.

# Thank you for participating!



More info: Check the ECVET Secretariat website!

