Setting the Context on Digital Skills

Ms. AnaMaria Meshkurti, Programme Officer, ITU Office for Europe International Telecommunication Union



Digital Skills today

- Transformative role of digital technologies is now mainstream in all sectors.
- Technological advancements resulted in an important change in the **capacities and skills of the workforce** required today.
- The current pandemic has played a key role in accelerating the need for prioritizing digital policy.
- Digital Skills are key to achieving meaningful connectivity.



Digital Skills Assessment Guidebook

1. Designed to serve as a comprehensive, practical **step-by-step tool** for national digital skills assessments.

- 2. The guidebook can be used to:
- determine the existing supply of a digitally skilled cohort at a national level;
- to assess skills demand from industry and other sectors;
- □ to identify skills gaps;
- □ to develop policies to address future digital skills requirements.

For use by:

- policy-makers
- private sector
- non-governmental organizations

Academia

This guidebook draws on, and complements, the ITU Digital Skills Toolkit.





Digital Skills Toolkit

- Toolkit for policymakers and other stakeholders
- Provides practical information, examples, and step-by-step guidance to develop a national digital skills strategy.
- **D** Topics in the toolkit include:
 - engaging the right stakeholders
 - inventorying and assessing existing policies
 - developing strategies for varied proficiency levels
 - creating strategies for under-represented groups such as women and persons with disabilities
 - organizing campaigns and joining regional or international initiatives and monitoring and updating the strategy.
- □ The toolkit converts complexity into manageable tasks and includes examples of programmes and frameworks from around the world to serve as models and inspiration.

The toolkit was designed to help policy-makers develop national digital skills strategies and roadmaps.





Digital Skills Insights

- ITU Online publication, released annually
- Puts together scholarly articles with a focus on capacity building and skills development in the digital era
- Wide audience of specialists in the field
- Call for papers yearly

Digital Skills Insights 2021 Call for papers

In 2020, the <u>Digital Skills Insights</u> included articles addressing topics such as:

- 1. Will all jobs require programming skills in the growing digital society?
- 2. Bibliometric analysis for mapping digital skills for future jobs
- 3. Impact of AI on employment
- 4. Data citizenship frameworks
- 5. Tracking information gaps in technology using online data



ITU Regional Forum for Europe on Digital Skills Development

- Held within the framework of the ITU Regional Initiative for Europe on "Accessibility, affordability and skills development for all to ensure digital inclusion and sustainable development".
- 2. 16 March 2021
- 3. 10:00 16:00 CET
- 4. Sessions on:
 - Digital Skills Development in Europe
 - Country approaches to foster digital skills development
 - Country assessment framework presented

Deep Dive on digital skills in Europe and next steps with audience (breakouts)

5. Click here for all event info

ITUEvents

ITU Regional Forum for Europe on Digital Skills Development

16 March 2021 Online meeting

Follow us on Twitter @ITU_EUR Join us online!

Organized within the framework of the ITU Regional Initiative for Europe on accessibility, affordability and skills development for all, to ensure digital inclusion and sustainable development.





Insights: Digital Skills in South-Eastern Europe

- Launch the Outcomes document on Digital Skills in 9 South-Eastern European countries.
- The document will serve as preparation for stakeholders to undertake national skills assessment based on the ITU guidebook
- The preparatory process of this document looked at: Existing national policies and plans for digital skills development Key stakeholders playing a role in digital skills Digital skills related resources
- The document will be shared at the ITU Regional Forum for Europe on Digital Skills Development



Thank you!

For all info please contact eurregion@itu.int

