

A photograph of a smiling woman with blonde hair, wearing a white shirt, holding a large green sign. The sign contains the text "Match Skills to Labour Market Needs".

# Match Skills to Labour Market Needs



Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme

The **NEW SKILLS NETWORK** is coordinated by the Icelandic National Agency for the European Union's Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP).

The network currently comprises National Agencies from 14 partner countries: AT, BG, BE, DK, EE, FI, HU, IS, LT, NL, NO, PL, SE & SK

The planned lifetime of the **NEW SKILLS NETWORK** is 36 months

The **NEW SKILLS NETWORK** focuses on a range of funded (centralised and decentralised) activities within the Lifelong Learning Programme

## THE CHALLENGE

The European labour market, and the skills people need for active labour market participation, are evolving fast. Future jobs will demand higher levels of education alongside a differing mix of skills and qualifications.

The policy initiative, "New Skills for New Jobs" developed at EU level is intended to build stronger bridges between the world of education and the world of work. The New Skills Network is supporting that initiative by focusing on funded LLP activities to encourage greater commitment to skills upgrading in an attempt to match people's skills better with the needs of the future labour market.

## MAIN AIMS

- to help ensure that the Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP) adequately supports EU Member States, and other countries participating in the LLP, in skills-upgrading and skills-matching through the mobilisation of existing Community policies and funds
- to facilitate the development of more and better projects supporting the development of relevant processes, methods and tools able to assist Europe in closing the current skills gap and in more generally facilitating the upgrade of citizens' skills
- to impact upon future, related policy developments and upon the setting of long-term strategic priorities at national and European level



## **IMPACT**

The expected impact of the New Skills Network is to draw the attention of key stakeholders, at different policy levels (local, national, international), to some of the high quality outputs resulting from LLP funding, in particular those focusing upon skills development or skills forecasting and those having future transfer potential. An additional, and no less important, goal is that of creating increased awareness amongst relevant national, sectoral and European-level stakeholders as regards their role in increasing participation in Lifelong Learning and in ensuring adequate skills levels amongst Europe's citizens, able to meet the demands of the future European labour market.

## **BEST PRACTICES**

Best practices, identified as a part of New Skills Network activity, expect to influence the development of future LLP projects with a focus upon adaptation and transfer – the same can be said for any gaps in provision that are identified during the lifetime of the New Skills Network.

Encouraging the mainstreaming of identified best practice, into national education and/or employment systems and influencing future national and European policy development, confirm the broader goals of the New Skills Network.

[www.newskillsnetwork.eu](http://www.newskillsnetwork.eu)

## EVENTS

- **Facilitating Cooperation between Different Stakeholders on the New Skills for New Jobs Agenda:** Seminar  
(Iceland, June 2010)
- **A Journey of Skills: Skills Acquisition through Transnational Placement:** Seminar  
(Belgium, November 2010)
- **Sectors and Skills:** Seminar  
(Hungary, June 2011)
- **Networking and Skills:** Contact Seminar  
(November 2011)
- **Final Conference and Project Fair**  
(Denmark, May 2012)
- **Follow-up Seminars**  
(all Partner Countries 2011-2012)

**Further information also available at:**  
[www.newskillsnetwork.eu](http://www.newskillsnetwork.eu)

AT | BE | BG | DK | EE | FI | HU | IS | LT | NL | NO | PO | SE | SK



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