



G20-OECD-EC Conference on Quality Apprenticeships

for Giving Youth a Better Start
in the Labour Market



Paris, 9 April 2014



Session I **Setting the scene**

Key issues:

- Can stronger apprenticeships systems do much to improve job prospects for youth?
- What other measures are required?
- What other benefits, besides smoother school-to-work transitions for youth, should be considered in the promotion of better apprenticeship systems?



Session II Ensuring access to high-quality programmes

Key issues:

- How to reach the most disadvantaged/disengaged youth?
- How to prepare them for apprenticeship and reduce dropout rates?
- How to convince employers to take them on?
- How to ensure the same quality standards as for other youth?



Session III Making apprenticeships more valuable to youth

Key issues:

- How to improve the image of apprenticeships relative to more general academic studies?
- How to improve the effectiveness of bridges to higher-level education programmes?
- How to extend apprenticeships to high value added sectors and to occupations that are likely to be of interest to both men and women?
- How to ensure high-quality standards of training and certification?



Session IV Making apprenticeships more attractive to employers

Key issues:

- What are the key barriers preventing employers from taking on apprentices?
- How to improve the flexibility of programmes while maintaining high standards of training?
- How to ensure a fair sharing of apprenticeship costs?
- How to strengthen the links between employers and the education and training system?
- How to foster more effective cooperation between the social partners?