Building Effective Skills Strategies

Skills for shaping a better future

Skills are the key to shaping a better future. Skills are central to the capacity of countries and people to thrive in an increasingly interconnected and rapidly changing world. Fully recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic will require countries to devise coordinated interventions to help recent graduates find jobs, reactivate the skills of displaced workers and use skills effectively in workplaces. Over the longer-term, megatrends such as globalisation, climate change, technological advance and demographic change will continue to reshape work and society. Countries should take action now to develop the skills required to succeed in the world of the future and strengthen the governance of skill policies in order to make their skills systems more resilient and adaptable.

OECD Skills Strategy Projects

The OECD works collaboratively with countries to assess their skills challenges and opportunities, identify priority areas for action, and develop concrete and tailored policy recommendations for building more effective skills systems that promote employment, productivity, and social cohesion. Using the OECD Skills Strategy framework, the projects analyse skills performance along the following dimensions: i) developing relevant skills over the life course, ii) using skills effectively in work and in society, and iii) strengthening the governance of the skills system.
Where have we worked so far?

So far, 28 OECD Skills Strategy projects have been completed or are underway in the following diverse countries: Austria, Belgium (Flanders), Bulgaria, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Korea, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain and the United Kingdom (Northern Ireland).

How do we work, and what do we deliver?

Each country situation is unique: its own skills strengths, challenges and objectives. Recognising this, projects are designed and tailored in close collaboration with national project teams.

In our country work, we strive to achieve impact on the ground through the following key inputs and outputs:

- **Inputs**
  - A diverse, cross-sectoral team
  - Fostering whole-of-government collaboration
  - Mapping of the skills system
  - Engaging stakeholders
  - Identifying international good practices and facilitating peer learning

- **Outputs**
  - Identifying policy priorities
  - Developing policy recommendations
  - Providing implementation guidance
  - Raising awareness

For more information:

- Contact Andrew Bell, Head of OECD Skills Strategy Projects, OECD Centre for Skills, Andrew.BELL@oecd.org
- Consult our website: [https://www.oecd.org/skills/oecd-skills-strategies.htm](https://www.oecd.org/skills/oecd-skills-strategies.htm)