



INTRODUCTION

As skills matching becomes a more relevant aspect of the recovery from the COVID-19 crisis and its impact, Brittany Region and EARLALL are hosting an online conference on 6 November to identify best practices in European regions regarding resilience and skills matching policies and practices, during which the Stride4Stride project will be kicked-off.

In a labour market heavily impacted by Industry 4.0 and SDG commitment (2 million employments will be created by the latter), and the rise of soft skills as a new area of interest in terms of qualifications, differences between skills offer and demand have widened, affected also by the COVID-19 outbreak and crisis.

As the European Commission has already stated, upskilling and reskilling programmes to protect workers from unemployment and loss of income to avoid permanent effect will be an essential tool to mitigate the effects of the crisis, with 59 million jobs at stake and those without university degrees in a higher risk. Therefore, there is a crucial need for education and training systems to identify, anticipate and teach skills that are suitable for future needs, rather than to catch up with technological, demographic and environmental changes after they have happened.

For all these reasons and with the objective of aligning the education and training provision with regional smart specialisation strategies (S3), the Stride for Stride project (funded by Erasmus+ and led by Brittany Region) will work on building up the concept of Regional Skills Ecosystems. The project will be kicked-off at the "Resilience and skills matching in European regions" conference, during which best practices and challenges identified by six European regions will be introduced: Basque Country, Brittany, Catalonia, Tuscany, Varaždin and Vestland.



AGENDA

11.00 - 11.10 **Welcome** and short introduction to the workshop by the project coordinator

11.10 - 11.20 **From pandemic to recovery: Local employment and economic development**

OECD **Jonathan Barr**, Head of the Employment and Skills Unit, Local Employment, Skills, and Social Innovation Division, Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions, and Cities (CFE), OECD:

11.20 - 12.25 **Case study presentations by Stride4Stride partner regions:**

BASQUE COUNTRY **Inge Gorostiaga**, Head of Unit, Directorate of Advanced Learning and Technologies of the Basque Vice-ministry for VET

BRITTANY **Tangi de Rochefort**, Project Manager, Innovation, Employment and Business, Directorate for Employment and Lifelong Learning, Brittany Region

CATALONIA **Maria Pascual**, Head of Unit of International and Cooperation Projects for VET, Department of Education, Government of Catalonia, and **Irma Núñez**, Project manager of International and Cooperation Projects for VET, Department of Education, Government of Catalonia

TUSCANY **Miriana Bucalossi**, Head of the VET Policies and European Project Management Unit at Tuscany Region, and **Silvia Duranti**, Researcher, Istituto Regionale per la Programmazione Economia della Toscana (IRPET)

VARAŽDIN **Nikolina Vlahek**, Srednja strukovna škola Varaždin, Varaždin County

VESTLAND **Kjell Helge Kleppestø**, Senior Manager, Career Guidance Centers, Vestland County Council, and **Jostein Eitrheim**, GM Hardanger Council

12.25 - 12.30 **Final remarks and closing**

MODERATOR Noelia Cantero, EARLALL Director | **VISUAL FACILITATION** Christopher Malapitan

USEFUL INFORMATION

- **Date:** 6 November 2020.
- **Time and duration:** 11 - 12.30 h (CET).
- **Registration link:** <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/resilience-and-skills-matching-in-european-regions-registration-126067666785>.
- **Deadline to register:** 5 November 2020 noon (CET).
- The event will take place online via **Zoom**. Workshop **access link** will be sent via e-mail to registered participants.

- Participants will be able to **ask questions to speakers via chat**, a selection of which will be answered after each presentation.
- A **report** about the event will be published.
- The workshop **recording** will be available after it takes place for internal use of EARLALL Member Regions.

PARTICIPANTS

This conference is aimed at EARLALL Member Regions, Stride4Stride project partners, and their regional and local stakeholders, including but not limited to:

- Policy and project officers in the **regional and local administration**.
- Stakeholders at **local, regional, national and European level**.

Please take into account that this invitation is only for EARLALL Member Regions and Stride4Stride project partners, who can forward it to their regional/local partners and stakeholders that might be interested in attending the workshop.

This event is free of charge.