Annual Report 2020

GLOBAL PANDEMIC

TVET IS HEART & HAND

# ESSENTIAL WORKERS

BLENDED LEARNING

NEW NORMAL

HIGH TECH

LOW TECH

NO TECH

WE NEED

DIVERSITY, EQUALITY, INCLUSION

DEVELOP NEW STRATEGIES

WE NEED TO BE ADAPTABLE

DIVERSE, INCLUSIVE, ADAPTABLE, RECOGNIZE ESSENTIAL SKILLS THAT KEPT THE WORLD MOVING

TAKE POSITIVES WITH US
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In memory of Jos de Goey

Jos de Goey’s immense contribution to skills and vocational training cannot be measured by the tragically short time he held the Presidency and Chair of WorldSkills International.

His sudden passing on 21 February 2020, left us all deeply shocked and with the realization of just how much he had achieved in the past and what might have been achieved in the future.

To lose Jos at the age of 56 was devastating for his family, friends, and the WorldSkills community, and our thoughts of love and support continue to with his wife Anouschka and their children Charlotte and Torsten.

As CEO of WorldSkills Netherlands, Jos was a charismatic, passionate, and highly committed leader, who was instrumental in the creation of the national organization, putting skills competitions on the map in the country.

His wider vision was defined by an ambition to give young people everywhere the chance to perfect their skills and build on their talents. He believed everyone, regardless of race, gender, or background, deserved the opportunity to be uplifted through the power of skills.

It was a path he followed in Europe as a leading figure in the creation of WorldSkills Europe and the EuroSkills Competition, and then as a Board member of WorldSkills from 2010.

It is a measure of his leadership qualities and vision that he was elected unanimously and unopposed as President of WorldSkills in August 2019.

We hope it will be some comfort to those who loved him best to know that his achievements are so widely recognized and celebrated across the entire skills community.

In the same spirit of recognition and respect, WorldSkills is committed to continuing Jos’s work and fulling his ambitions.
President’s message

We should look back on 2020 not as arguably the most challenging in our history, but as a year that showed the strength and resilience of our Members, Partners, and the young people at the heart of our movement.

The skills we promote have never been more vital to keeping the world moving, celebrated in our campaign that paid tribute to essential skilled professionals.

Rising to the challenge, our Members found new and creative ways to continue the skills development of young people, keeping their ambitions and, most importantly, their hopes alive.

I was proud to accept the Presidency following the tragic passing of Jos de Goey, and promise to continue in the spirit of his unfinished work and ambitions for WorldSkills during the remaining period of my office.

We also extended the warmest of welcome to our three new Members, making the WorldSkills family 85 strong with the addition of Azerbaijan, Kenya, and Uzbekistan.

These international connections were further strengthened in 2020 through partnerships with the African Union, the World Bank, and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization.

And as always, we gratefully acknowledge the support of our Global Partners, joined in 2020 by Epic Games and John Bean.

November marked our 70th anniversary, when a handful of young Competitors from Spain and Portugal participated in the first international vocational skills competition. From that initial event, a movement began to take shape that would spread across the world, leading us to Shanghai, China in 2022 for our next global celebration of the power of skills.

Chris Humphries
President of WorldSkills

CEO’s message

If skills come through education, then 2020 has taught us an important lesson.

We have learned the extraordinary resilience of our organization in tackling the impact of COVID-19 and finding solutions to the many challenges it created.

We faced first the unexpected shock of the loss of our dear friend and colleague Jos de Goey, followed within weeks by a global lockdown that threatened the education of millions of young people and economic disaster for entire communities.

As an organization, we also reached out to the world, offering our network and knowledge wherever it was needed. As part of the new Global Education Coalition, we joined UNESCO and more than 140 members of the United Nations family to protect the right to education despite the disruption of the pandemic.

When travel to Dublin became impossible, we innovated our first ever online General Assembly, a forum for open discussion and decision-making that began a consultation process across our Members and the unanimous agreement to move the 46th WorldSkills Competition from 2021 to 2022.

That debate was typical of the calm and measured way in which our membership operates, even in times of crisis, but also the role of our Secretariat and working groups who continue with their essential work of making sure WorldSkills continues to stay relevant today and in the future.

All of us can take huge pride in knowing that at the end of this momentous year, WorldSkills as an organization and an idea is stronger than ever.

David Hoey
CEO of WorldSkills International
70th anniversary

WorldSkills 70th anniversary comes with a powerful reminder that skills have always shown the pathway to better times.

The origins of WorldSkills begin in November 1950, when a small group of young apprentices from Spain and Portugal came together in Madrid in a spirit of friendly competition. Those young people faced challenges at least equal to those faced in the pandemic of 2020. They lived in a world only recently released from the ravages of World War II which had killed millions and wrecked the global economy.

A Competition that shone a spotlight on the achievement of individuals mastering their craft, reaching for personal achievement, and creating international connections was a ray of hope in those dark days. What was originally an initiative to revive the economies of the Iberian Peninsula soon found a wider audience. By 1953, other European countries took part for the first time, including France, West Germany, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom. These were the founding countries, who, by 1957, had laid down the formal rules for the new Organizing Committee of the International Vocational Training Competitions, which in time would be called WorldSkills.

At that first Competition at the Virgen de la Paloma Vocational Training Institute, there were just 24 Competitors and only six skill competitions.

By our 70th anniversary, the number of Members of WorldSkills has reached 85, reaching young people on six continents, and competing in over 60 skill competitions. While the current pandemic is arguably the greatest challenge most of us will face in our lifetimes, the story of WorldSkills shows we are ready for the task ahead.

Skills have always shown the pathway to better times

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As 2020 progressed and the COVID-19 crisis deepened, it became increasingly clear that holding a major international event, like a WorldSkills Competition, in 2021 would not be possible. Following General Assembly 2020, and with the unanimous support of Members, a decision was made to move the 46th WorldSkills Competition to 2022. That postponement will only heighten the anticipation for what will be the first WorldSkills Competition in mainland China.

For China, the prospect of a celebration of vocation skills and the vision of a better future it offers to young people is best expressed in the Competition theme “Master Skills. Change the World.” As well as welcoming the world to Shanghai, China hopes the Competition will drive the message that skilled talents are essential for its own objectives of alleviating poverty, using vocational education and training to power economic growth, and creating a social climate that respects skilled people everywhere. It equates skilled talents with the continuous upgrading of its industries and developing high-quality products. Through its membership in WorldSkills, China expects to develop further its own internal competitions, which included its first national skills competition, held in December in the southern city of Guangzhou.

That event saw over 2,500 young people from all over China take part in 86 skill competitions, with the 600 metre Canton TV tower illuminated with a display that promoted both the national competition, and WorldSkills Shanghai 2022.

On the ground, Shanghai has continued to plan for the 46th WorldSkills Competition, which will be held at the city’s National Exhibition and Convention Center 12–17 October 2022. As always, the WorldSkills Conference will be a major draw for the international skills community, which will run alongside the Competition in 2022. Plans are also underway for a hybrid conference in 2021 that will bring the WorldSkills community together online to discuss the key role skills have in the world’s pandemic economic recovery.

Work continues on the world’s first museum of vocational skills — WorldSkills Museum, also due to open in time for the Competition. Activities in promotion of the event continued throughout 2020, and reached new heights in May as a team of Chinese mountaineers reached the summit of Everest, the highest place on Earth, displaying the WorldSkills flag and with a message of welcome to Shanghai.
WorldSkills Museum

The WorldSkills Museum project team made significant progress in developing this massive project in 2020.

The Museum will tell the unique story of an organization and movement that has changed the lives of people and societies around the world.

Situated on the banks of the Huangpu River in Shanghai, the Museum aims to inspire and educate young people exploring their career options.

Throughout the year, the WorldSkills Museum project team conducted extensive research, asset identification, and thematic development to create the Interpretive Plan.

The Interpretive Plan established the final narrative: zone messages, themes, and learning objectives based on an identified collection of assets that the appointed exhibition design agency used to produce the initial concept design.

The Interpretive Plan and subsequent designs aim to push the boundaries on digital storytelling and create hands-on, tactile experiences that, alongside assets from WorldSkills Members, Global Partners, and the broader WorldSkills movement, demonstrate how skills are the building blocks of our lives.

Approximately 60% of the total assets identified for the WorldSkills Museum were acquired in 2020, with the first shipment of assets leaving Madrid, the central WorldSkills asset storage facility, for Shanghai in December 2020.

In Shanghai, renovations of the building are underway to transform the 1920’s textile warehouse into a space of exploration and discovery.

The WorldSkills Museum is part of the legacy of WorldSkills Shanghai 2022, under development thanks to a partnership with the Shanghai Municipal People’s Government, the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security of China, and WorldSkills.
While the world pauses...

Thank you for keeping it moving.

#skillskeepmoving
#essentialworkers

Keeping the World Moving

Schools and colleges closed. The education and training of millions of young people were put on hold. Industries and economies faced ruin. Essential services pushed to the point of collapse.

As the world paused, skilled people continued their work, becoming essential, if often hidden, heroes of the pandemic.

To recognize their essential role, WorldSkills created the “Keeping the World Moving” campaign to celebrate skilled heroes whose talents ensured that life could go on, even though that meant often placing themselves at risk.

From healthcare and power workers to bakers, delivery drivers, and many others, the pandemic showed just how much we depend on skilled professionals, a message conveyed through the campaign in a series of powerful messages using the themes #EssentialWorkers and #SkillsKeepMoving.

It was a timely reminder of occupations that underpin everyday life, that keep water flowing, the lights on, and the world connected.

The campaign pointed out, “Thanks to these essential skilled workers, doing their jobs behind the scenes, the world has not completely shut down.”

Key features of the campaign were profiles of skilled Champions sharing their uplifting stories of resilience amongst the challenges they and other young people face.

Members united behind the campaign, with nearly 40 countries and regions, sharing their stories of support on the impact skilled workers have on their national response to the pandemic.
WorldSkills Conference Talks

For the first time WorldSkills presented Conference Talks online — lively discussions that put pressing issues of our time and young people’s voices on centre stage.

Held throughout June and July, and ending on World Youth Skills Day, the four talks attracted a large audience for discussions focused on key issues raised by the pandemic and how skills are central to the global recovery.

WorldSkills brought together Champions, Experts, Members, and Global Partners, moderated by WorldSkills Acting President, Chris Humphries, and Board members, Laurence Gates and Ekaterina Loshkareva.

The Conference Talks featured distinguished voices from organizations like Festo, the World Bank, Lincoln Electric, Colleges and Institutes Canada, Mastercam, Coca-Cola, and UNESCO.

The overreaching objective was to give all our stakeholders the chance to discuss their views on the challenges of the pandemic.

The sessions focused on the WorldSkills message of “Keeping the World Moving” through skills.

The key aspects of the second talk were transitioning competitions, education, online platforms training, and its effectiveness.

The third talk focused on ensuring that skills reflect societies, with diversity and inclusion as a clear priority for the entire WorldSkills community.

In the final Conference Talk, representatives of the Champions Trust provided perspectives as young, skilled people on the resiliency required to navigate their education and careers within a pandemic.

The full WorldSkills Conference Talks series can be viewed at worldskillsconference.com/2020.
Champions Trust

Amelia Addis
New Zealand
WorldSkills São Paulo 2015
Graphic Design
Technology

Leo Rodrigues
Brazil
WorldSkills São Paulo 2015
Floristry

Jacqueline Tanzer
Austria
WorldSkills São Paulo 2015
Visual Merchandising and Window Dressing

Yousra Assali
Morocco
WorldSkills Kazan 2019
Electronics

Ivy Chen
China
WorldSkills Abu Dhabi 2017
Restaurant Service (absent)

Euphrasia Mulenga
Zambia
WorldSkills Abu Dhabi 2017
Aircraft Maintenance

Pearl So
Hong Kong, China
WorldSkills São Paulo 2015
Visual Merchandising and Window Dressing

Shae White
Botswana
WorldSkills Kazan 2019
Cooking

Dan McCabe
United Kingdom
WorldSkills Abu Dhabi 2017
3D Digital Game Art

Lee Hee Dong
Korea
WorldSkills São Paulo 2015
CNC Milling

Daniel Christophersen
Germany
WorldSkills São Paulo 2015
Web Design

In 2020, it was the fifth anniversary of the establishment of the Champions Trust, which launched in 2015, with 5 representatives, and has now grown to 11.

A new group of WorldSkills Champions Trust representatives gathered in London, United Kingdom, in February 2020 for a training camp. Their role as ambassadors to inspire youth to take up skills, extended in 2020 to include how not only to survive but also to adapt and thrive in the face of a global lockdown.

Champions participated in a collection of important online events, including the 2020 Vocational and Professional Education and Training (VPET) International Conference, and the UN High-level Political Forum, and the OECD’s Education at a Glance 2020. As well as sharing their personal stories for our Keeping the World Moving campaign, Trust representatives played a key role in the WorldSkills Conference Talks.

For the second year in a row, a Champions Trust representative took part in the official United National Headquarters event for World Youth Skills Day. The 2020 event focused on “Skills for a resilient youth in the era of COVID-19 and beyond”.

Keeping the World Moving campaign

World Youth Skills Day campaign

International Women’s Day campaign

WorldSkills Conference Talks
Launched just four years ago, BeChangeMaker, a WorldSkills and HP Foundation social entrepreneurship training programme, attracted over 800 applicants in 2020.

Making its debut this year was BeChangeMaker Africa thanks to additional support from the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, The German Corporation for International Cooperation, and partnership with the African Union.

The figures speak for themselves. There were 475 applications for the global programme, and an additional 315 for the African programme.

Together they represented 100 countries — even more than WorldSkills Members, with 42 from Africa alone.

BeChangeMaker offers support in the shape of free online coaching, mentoring, and courses on HP LIFE. The training helps the budding entrepreneurs turn their ideas into great businesses that have strong social impact. Each team brought forward inspirational ideas aiming to solve pressing issues in their communities.

Following the online coaching and training process five teams and a wild card team made the finals, with the winning teams receiving financial aid and further mentoring.

This year’s big ideas ranged from tackling pollution to improving health and well-being, to developing renewable energy.

The first place of the global programme, was EZDiabetes, a team from France, India, and the USA, with their diabetes health management system, with second place going to Eat Everything, a project aimed at creating sustainable eating habits from Chinese Taipei.

The remaining top four were: Roshe from Costa Rica, whose focus is protecting women from violence and sexual harassment, Eco Energy from Cameroon, creating energy from coconut waste, the menstrual health education project by Aurat Raaj from Pakistan and Chasesol, a jobseekers platform from the Philippines.

Team Invicta from Ethiopia won the first-ever BeChangeMaker Africa, with their business mission to connect skilled refugees with decent job opportunities around the world.

The other incredible top teams from Africa included Hand Speaks from Egypt, developing innovative technology for people with hearing impairment, Rural Water Filtration Kit from Uganda, creating easy to use and affordable access to clean water across Africa, and Glarina from Tunisia, developing healthy products to support those with Celiac disease.

The additional two teams were Local Female Guides from Uganda, who empower women by providing skills training and job opportunities through offering unique and sustainable travel experiences, and Steer Analytics from Cameroon, improving the economic condition for the minorities through better financial inclusion.

Watch the BeChangeMaker live pitches at bechangemaker.worldskills.org.
UNESCO Global Education Coalition

WorldSkills has brought its voice and experience to a new United Nations initiative to protect the right to education during the pandemic.

The Global Education Coalition sees the education, science, and cultural organization UNESCO, bring together more than 140 members of the UN family, including the International Labor Organization, the World Bank, the Global Partnership for Education, UNICEF, and the UN Children’s Fund.

Joining them are leading names from the private sector like Festo, Microsoft, Google, Facebook, and Zoom.

The objective is to provide resources and support to students, parents, and teachers to minimize what the coalition calls “unparalleled educational disruption” and to make sure vocational education remains a priority for governments.

WorldSkills Experts Faculty

The WorldSkills Experts Faculty began in 2018 primarily for former WorldSkills Experts who demonstrate the ethos of WorldSkills, to continue their passion for skills development, and to share their expertise and exchange knowledge through projects and activities.

The Expert Faculty supported the WorldSkills Africa Capacity Building programme in 2020 as Chief and Deputy Chief Experts to mentor the VET teachers from Africa.

The members of the Experts Faculty also participated in a mentorship programme initiated by WorldSkills Costa Rica, which included providing technology, solutions, tips and resources to help people work and learn remotely while staying safe and connected in this present and post-pandemic world.

Through the partnership with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the Experts Faculty started working with UNIDO in Sudan on developing curricula as part of their competency-based training for unemployed youth, migrants, and refugees in Khartoum State.

The people managing the development of the Experts Faculty are:

Adriana Lucia Dueñas Garzón
Colombia

Carla De Bona
Brazil

Devin Flor
Australia

Etienne Nell
South Africa

Mark Bramer
Canada

Meera Jayaraman
India

Vesa Iltola
Finland
While the pandemic has made the work of the WorldSkills Capacity Building Centres (CBC) all the more challenging, it has also made them even more vital. The first WorldSkills Capacity Building Centre was established in Korea in 2018, followed a year later by Chinese Taipei and Russia. The objective of this strategic alliance is to share the power of skills through support and training with vocational training in the developing world even for non-Members of WorldSkills. Many of the programmes and activities by the WorldSkills Capacity Building Centres would have seen face-to-face training offered to both Experts and Competitors but within a few weeks of 2020, it became clear that the spread of COVID-19 would make this impossible. Instead, the Capacity Building Centres have successfully transitioned to virtual training, despite the challenges, which included multiple time zones and the frequently less than ideal digital infrastructure and equipment resources in some developing countries. Despite these obstacles, Experts from the WorldSkills Capacity Building Centres have operated training programmes during 2020. These include working with WorldSkills Brazil and producing training videos in Automobile Technology, Mechatronics, and Restaurant Service produced by Experts from the WorldSkills Chinese Taipei, which is supported by the Workforce Development Agency. The Capacity Building Centre in Korea, which is supported by the country’s Global Institute for Transferring Skills (GIFTS) has worked with a number of Members, including Zambia and Costa Rica. WorldSkills Russia also provided virtual training and support to many CIS countries during 2020, such as Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan. In addition, all three Capacity Building Centres are actively supporting the capacity building programme for WorldSkills Africa and many other ongoing and ready-to-launch webinars, with the hope that they will be able to offer in-person training for both Experts and Competitors once global travel restrictions ease.
Skill development in Africa

Africa has been historically under-represented in the WorldSkills movement, but there were many encouraging signs of change in 2020. This year, Kenya became a Member, taking the number of sub-Saharan countries in WorldSkills to six, and bringing the total number of membership in Africa to nine. Following a small-scale pilot in Kigali, Rwanda in 2018, WorldSkills Namibia was selected to host a regional skills competition in the city of Swakopmund in October 2020, as part of the overall capacity building programme of WorldSkills Africa. Sadly, the pandemic has meant the Competition has been postponed until March 2022, but it will be greatly expanded both in terms of skill competitions and countries taking part, with invitations extended to all members of the African Union, a partner with WorldSkills International for WorldSkills Africa. The overall capacity building programme of WorldSkills Africa was not affected by the postponement of the skills competition and continued to support the participating countries with a series of online training workshops commenced in September, involving 21 countries and regions. These Experts acted as mentors for 192 VET trainers from 13 African countries.

A great success story of 2020 was the launch of BeChangeMaker Africa, supported by the African Union, the HP Foundation, UNIDO, and GIZ. The programme for young social entrepreneurs offers mentoring and online support to develop potential business projects and attracted a remarkable 315 applications from 42 nations. Congratulations to all those who made it through the final stages and especially to the winners, Team Invicta from Ethiopia, whose concept of connecting the skills of refugees to job vacancies is already in the initial stages of operation.
Global Partners

The steadfast support of the Global Partners in 2020 reflects the strong commitment they have to the WorldSkills community. In 2020, we were proud to welcome two new Global Partners to WorldSkills, Epic Games and John Bean.

Epic Games, is probably best known for Fortnite, Rocket League, and the Gears of War video games, but it also produces the Unreal Engine. Unreal Engine, along with Epic Games’ other cutting edge tools used by the world’s top developers, is available as a free download for classroom computers, students, and faculty interested in creating games, real-time interactive experiences, and technical simulations.

With computer based skills playing an ever-increasing role in WorldSkills Competitions, the addition of Unreal Engine adds an essential dimension to our work. The newest Global Partner is John Bean, a long-established name with some very new ideas. The original John Bean was a retired inventor from California who developed the world’s first wheel aligner in 1904. John Bean now uses 3D technology in its latest garage equipment, supporting Automobile Technology, ensuring the skill competition, and its Competitors are at the forefront of innovation in this field.

Like all our Global Partners, they share our passion for vocational training and education and promoting the value of skills to industry, education, government, and policymakers.

Global Premium Partners

Samsung

For all of us, 2020 must be recalled as “the year of challenges” as we were facing unprecedented challenges caused by the pandemic. We are still going through a long tunnel but we dauntlessly stood up and faced them by all means available — including skills.

And we will cooperate with our WorldSkills Members and Partners to make 2021 “a Year of Innovation”.

Let’s move on!

Dr. DS Jang
Secretary General of Samsung Skills and Vice President for Samsung Electronics

Stanley Black & Decker

At Stanley Black & Decker, we’re for those who make the world. We are helping our employees and the makers of tomorrow master the skills and expertise needed to secure productive jobs and revitalize communities, now and well into the future, even as the nature of jobs and work itself rapidly evolves.

For more than a decade, we’ve proudly supported WorldSkills in the effort to celebrate the skilled trades of the future. And we work hard to bring the innovative tools needed for them to build and maintain our world.

Jaime Ramirez
Executive Vice President & President of Global Tools & Storage, Stanley Black & Decker
Global Industry Partners

3M
As a global science, technology and manufacturing company, 3M has the unique capabilities and passionate employees in place help introduce young people to STEM and skilled trades career paths.

Our new global, education-focused goal to advance economic equity is to create five million unique STEM and skilled trades learning experiences for underrepresented individuals by the end of 2025. We are thrilled to partner with WorldSkills on this shared vision to empower communities.

Denise Rutherford
Senior Vice President and Chief Corporate Affairs Officer, 3M

Amazon Web Services Educate (AWS)
The COVID-19 pandemic has greatly affected people’s life and some key industries, including telecommuting, online education, travel and hospitality, life science, and more. In the meantime, we are also seeing cloud computing is playing an important role in supporting these key industries, making companies become more agile, save cost, and accelerate digital transformation. AWS is committed to cultivating future cloud talents through its world-leading cloud technology and various education programs. We are happy to work with WorldSkills International in developing the next generation of skilled professionals.

George Ling
General Manager, Enterprise Business Development, AWS Greater China Region

American Welding Society
The American Welding Society and WorldSkills share a commitment to developing the next generation of skilled trade professionals across the globe. Our partnership provides AWS the opportunity to engage and collaborate with students, educators, and industry partners in an exciting, competitive platform.

As we strive to make the world a safer place by bringing more highly-qualified young people into skilled trades, AWS is proud to continue as a WorldSkills Global Industry Partner.

Monica Pfarr
Executive Director, AWS Foundation American Welding Society

Autodesk
Autodesk is committed to empower young people around the world to imagine, design, and make a better world. We are honoured to provide the latest advanced manufacturing, construction, and entertainment solutions, used by leading professionals globally, to all WorldSkills Competitors and Experts for free via www.autodesk.com/worldskills.

Economies of the world will need young skilled talent to solve environmental and social challenges. We are excited to partner with WorldSkills and support the next generation of designers, innovators, and creators to make the new possible.

Philipp Mueller
Head of Global Strategic Alliances, Autodesk Education Experiences

BASF
As a Global Industry Partner of WorldSkills International, BASF’s sponsorship is one of our leading initiatives to motivate and develop young spray paint technicians in the coatings industry worldwide.

Through the WorldSkills Competition, with our Glasurt brand, we will help the next generation of spray paint technicians master new skills, with a focus on sustainable practices, digital business management, and training solutions for the modern bodyshops of the future.

We are committed to drive diversity and passion to support industry growth.

Fabien Boschetti
Director, Global Marketing Automotive Refinish Coatings Solutions, BASF

Car-O-Liner
In 2020 our customers, partners, and associates all experienced a situation none of us ever had witnessed before. After the initial shock, agility and resilience became essential to navigate the pandemic and keep the world running.

Skilled workers, have demonstrated what a difference they make in helping people address the challenges imposed upon them. Transportation is one of the backbones of modern societies and ensuring the functionality of supply chains became essential. In this situation, being able to rely on skilled professionals made all the difference.

Roger Marti
Director of Marketing, Car-O-Liner Group

DHL
With the rise of the global COVID-19 pandemic, the last year marked a particularly challenging one for the world and also the WorldSkills community.

This year perfectly showed the ever increasing demand of skilled and trained people to overcome global challenges, and the value of skills for economic growth and personal success.

At DHL we aim to connect people and improve lives. A goal that perfectly aligns with the vision of WorldSkills International — we are therefore proud to continue our engagement as a Global Industry Partner.

Patrick Drexheimer
Global Event Logistics Head of Events, DHL

DMG MORI
The world has changed rapidly within a very short time. At DMG MORI, we are actively advancing the expansion of our strategic future fields, especially automation, digitization, and sustainability. Consequently, we are developing more and more from a machine builder into an integrated solution provider in the manufacturing environment.

No doubt that Hilong, digital learning is more important than ever in these times. Together with WorldSkills, we continue to transfer the speed of innovation into vocational training — worldwide.

Jan Möllenhoff
Managing Director, DMG MORI Academy

Global Industry Partners

Adidas

American Dynamo

American Welding Society

Autodesk

BASF

Car-O-Liner

DHL

DMG MORI

Eiffage

Flamingo

General Motors

Global Events Partners

Global Marketing Partners

Hilong

Honda

Intel

Jaguar Land Rover

Johnson Controls

Kinder Morgan

Laforce

L’Oréal

Medtronic

Mercedes-Benz

Microsoft

National Grid

The Karo Group

Tutim

Unilever

Volkswagen Group

Weidmüller

WorldSkills International
Global Industry Partners

FANUC
This year FANUC manufactured its 750,000th robot, providing a key indicator of robot population growth and the need for new industry talent. As a company, we therefore implement a willing obligation to support young people in developing skills for Robot System Integration. At FANUC, we are proud to be a Global Industry Partner of WorldSkills. Today’s young engineers are excited about robotics and it’s vital that WorldSkills continues to fuel this enthusiasm. We believe this WorldSkills continues to fuel robotics and it’s vital that engineers are excited about development.

Shinichi Tanzawa
President and Chief Executive Officer, FANUC Europe Corporation

Festo
For more than one year the worldwide lockdowns have involved digital learning and closures of training centers. Vocational Education and Training is in changing mode, aiming at transferring, with high speed, the benefits of digitalization into skills development. At Festo we are strongly committed to innovations and the global transfer of knowledge. Thus, the partnership with WorldSkills is most important for us. Our aim is to support young people, the economy, society, and ecology in harnessing the benefits of the fourth Industrial Revolution and strengthening global education resilience.

Enrico Rühle
Member of the Board, Festo Didactic

Fluke
As a Global Industry Partner of WorldSkills International — Fluke Corporation benefits from the opportunity to participate in a workforce initiative that is much bigger and more impactful than what an individual brand can achieve. We value the consistency that occurs as WorldSkills standards are adopted by an increasingly large number of countries and regions, as well as the chance a WorldSkills International partner to directly assist those countries and regions, and their institutes.

Marc Tremblay
President, Fluke

IAPMO
The IAPMO Group recognizes the essential nature of vocational skills and trades, keeping people safe and keeping the world moving. The nature of the pandemic has shown the world that plumbing is essential. We are proud to be part of the WorldSkills mission and continue to target sustainable and corporate social responsibility-focused collaborations across the WorldSkills international community, particularly where those efforts connect with water, sanitation, and hygiene. We look forward to seeing everyone in Shanghai in 2022.

David Viola
CEO, The IAPMO Group

John Bean
2020 marked our first year as a Global Industry Partner of WorldSkills, demonstrating our intensified commitment to inspiring young professionals, embracing talent, and developing automobile technology skills as vehicles undergo several parallel major technological shifts. Electrification, assisted driving, or connected cars, each require new skills all while safely maintaining the existing platforms. John Bean, with its global presence in automotive workshops, is committed to restoring and ensuring the roadworthiness of all vehicles, through expertise, equipment, methods, and training.

Marciano Montovanelli
Director of Marketing, John Bean

Lincoln Electric
Practical skills development could not be more important today. Lincoln Electric and WorldSkills International have always been strategically aligned in development of skilled talent around the globe. We value our relationship with WorldSkills because they are effective in fostering career pathways in trade skills and continue to offer educational growth opportunities for our organization. We look forward to future WorldSkills events where we can continue to leverage our WorldSkills relationship as part of our education growth strategy.

Jason Scales, Ph.D
Head of Lincoln Electric Global Education

Mastercam
The future of our industry depends on the students of today. WorldSkills offers a platform for those students to engage, to compete, and to begin a lifelong relationship with manufacturing.

Meghan S. West
President and CEO, CNC Software, Inc., Mastercam

Mitutoyo
Mitutoyo’s principle is “to contribute to the wellbeing of society through precision measurement technologies”. To realize this principle, we conduct our business based on the following value, “contribute globally to the advancement of industrial measurement capability”. That’s why we have supported WorldSkills for a long time. The world continues to struggle with COVID-19, but I believe nothing can take away our enthusiasm for improving our skills and contributing to society. We’re very looking forward to seeing you all in Shanghai!!

Yukihiro Sakata
President and General Manager, Mitutoyo Corporation

Chief Executive Director, Mitutoyo Measuring Instruments (Shanghai)
Global Industry Partners

Saint-Gobain

Saint-Gobain’s commitment to “Making The World A Better Home” relies on designing and delivering innovative and high performance solutions that improve our habitat and our daily lives.

Whilst we provide training on implementation of these solutions via our network of international training centres, we continue to recognise the important role of WorldSkills in advocating for vocational skills, attracting young talents and motivating them in their chosen career — an essential ingredient to address the challenges of today and tomorrow.

Dutt Thirumalai
International Business Development Manager, Saint-Gobain

SATA

2020 was a difficult year. All school and education types were suffering from the missing personal training and the personal interchange during courses, as online trainings in some fields are working better than in others.

All stakeholders continuously try their best to overcome the lack of hands-on experiences, which are very important in our core trade of painting, and we look forward to see the closing of the educational gap in the upcoming new normal with established health protection protocols in place.

Jörn Stöver
Export Sales Manager, SATA

Siemens

As the global leader for digitalization in industry, Siemens is working hard to support motivated skilled youth and their educators in their vocational training environments to empower them for the ever increasing flexible, autonomous and intuitive industrial operations to create technology with purpose and value for customers.

My motivation for supporting WorldSkills is my firm belief that vocational training is uniquely qualified to answer the call for real-world sustainability challenges and shape the Future of Automation in the manufacturing industry.

Rainer Brehm
CEO Factory Automation, Digital Industries, Siemens

Studica

Mobile robotics in education provides arguably the best way to develop a STEM skilled workforce.

Mobile robots can be guided or autonomous, function underwater, on land, or in air. They are used in industrial, military, and security settings. Self driving vehicles, new applications are being imagined every day.

As a proud Global Partner our job is not only to help prepare Members for Competitions, it’s also to integrate Mobile Robotics and STEM in their education and skills development programs.

Frank Nanfara
CEO and President, Studica

Unreal Engine

At Epic Games, we are passionate about providing everyone with the ability to express their creativity and realize their imaginations. With inspiring programs and partnerships, WorldSkills offers the next generation of creators an inclusive space to shape the world today, and many years to come.

We are delighted to continue collaboration as a Global Industry Partner, as they continue to move us with their mission.

Julie Lottering
Director, Unreal Engine Education, Epic Games

Vcom

In such an extraordinary past year, we have slowed down the pace of life. But each of us is actively coping with the situation. Although we can’t meet face to face, we still sincerely care and keep in touch with each other remotely.

Under the leadership of WorldSkills, Vcom is honoured to contribute to VET and help youth. Through the organization, Vcom wish to act as the bridge between the school globally, engage more youth to learn standards of WorldSkills Competitions, and improve their professional skill.

Cathy Wang
CEO, Vcom

VEX Robotics

VEX Robotics is at the forefront of educational and competitive robotics globally.

With a comparable Mission and Vision, our partnership with WorldSkills is an exciting one for both organizations.

Robotics brings together many of the skills required for Industry 4.0 — critical thinking, computational thinking, and project management — and our partnership with WorldSkills allows us to help nurture the next generation of Competitors and create the problem solving industry leaders of tomorrow.

Paul McKnight
Head of Operations, VEX Robotics (EMEA)
Financial report

Operating Income 3,536,329

Hosting Fees, infrastructure and operations management contributions 445,000
Sponsorship 969,768
Admission fees 51,000
WorldSkills Museum 517,445
Membership 1,480,100
Project income 73,016
Interest and foreign exchange 4,772
Information systems 162,164
Office and general costs 145,395
WorldSkills Conference 5,286
Sponsorship, Partnership, WorldSkills Experts Faculty and Projects 46,208
Organization 46,399
Competition 222,616
Communications and marketing 90,451
Champions Engagement 44,721
WorldSkills Museum 517,445
Operating Expenses 2,726,151
Staff 1,438,696
WorldSkills Museum 517,445

Notes: Figures provided here are taken from the WorldSkills International 2020 Audited Financial Statements. The 2020 Audited Financial Statements were compiled and audited by Baker Tilly N.V. The complete financial report is available on request from the WorldSkills Secretariat.
All figures are in euros.
WorldSkills Board

(left to right)

Michael Fung (Hong Kong, China)
Board member — Competitions

Jos de Goey (Netherlands) 1963-2020
President and Chair of the Board

Chris Humphries (United Kingdom)
President and Chair of the Board

Laurence Gates (France)
Board member — Strategic Development

Terry Cooke (Canada)
Board member — Strategic Development

San-Quei Lin (Chinese Taipei)
Board member — Strategic Development

John Oates
Board member — Treasurer

Stefan Praschl (Austria)
Board member — Competitions

Ekaterina Loshkareva (Russia)
Board member — Strategic Development

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Board member — Strategic Development

John Oates
Board member — Treasurer

WorldSkills Board

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worldskills.org
What can we learn from this crisis?

# Skills Keep Moving

Join our conversation and how can we build further resilience.

Keeping the world moving.

Young people must be part of the dialogue.

Learn to transfer our skills.

How can we read for future disruption?

Champions and experts.

v1.0