

# WORLD SKILLS CROATIA CONFERENCE 2025

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**GOAL 1**  
Human capital development knowledge hub

**GOAL 2**  
Asset for EU and Member States

**GOAL 3**  
Long term reference and support to partner countries

**GOAL 4**  
A reference EU agency



EU strategies  
UN SDGs  
Country developments  
Skills agenda



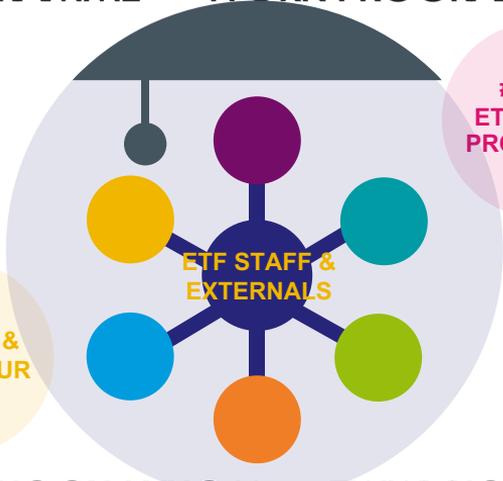
**ULTIMATE GOALS**

**FOCUS AREAS 2024 - 25**



WORK PROGRAMME

VALUES & BEHAVIOUR



#UP4IT  
ETF WAY & PROCESSES

WORK PROGRAMME

WORK PROGRAMME

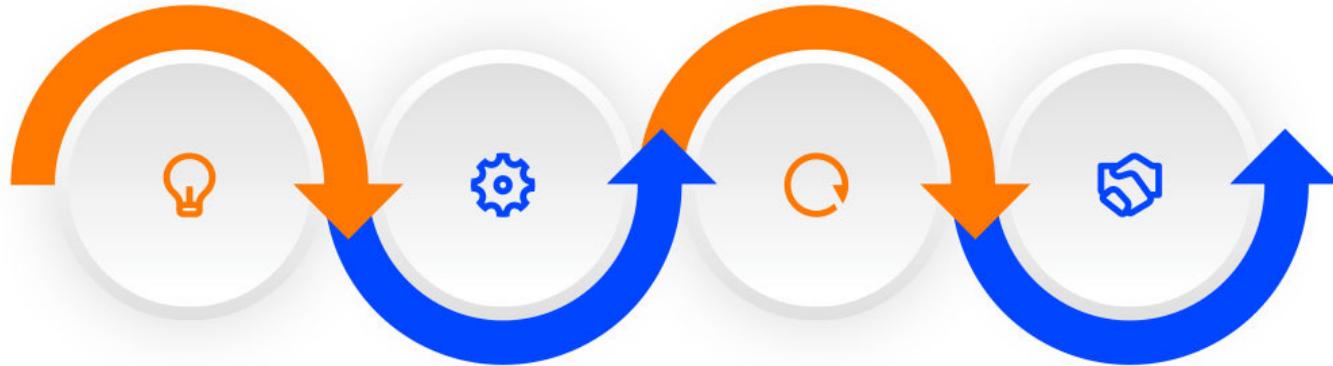
**OUR SERVICES**



WORK PROGRAMME



# Union of Skills



**Build skills**

for quality  
lives and  
jobs

**Upskill and  
reskills**

for the digital &  
green transition

**Circulate skills**

across the EU  
for  
competitiveness

**Attract, develop  
and retain  
talent**

for Europe's  
future

**INVESTMENT**

**GOVERNANCE**

# Unlocking synergies for skills

The **disjointed evolution of education and skills** strategies in many ETF partner countries, and for sure in most countries in the world, reveals **systemic inefficiencies** and fragmented policymaking.

To unlock synergies, it is crucial to intentionally **work on the articulation** of these agendas through **policy design, institutional cooperation, and shared monitoring frameworks**.

This means **co-creating integrated national strategies** that unify general education, VET, higher education, and labour market policies.

Concrete steps can be taken to make this happen; they include:

- **Governance:** establishing joint implementation and financing mechanisms.
- **Strategy:** embedding skills intelligence and social inclusion goals across the full learning and employment continuum.
- **Intelligence:** comparing datasets and investing in analysing mismatches.
- **Advocacy:** Promoting this articulation in global fora and international cooperation frameworks—such as the Global Gateway and the Union of Skills—can help scale this vision and make it a shared priority for human capital development.



# Towards a Global TVET Agenda - Alliance of contributors

## TGVA Steering Board

UNESCO-UNEVOC, ILO, OECD, ETF, WSI, BMBF (Launch: 6 May 2025)



Agenda Focus 1  
Partnership for  
Excellence  
Facilitator: ETF

**TGVA  
Policy  
Hub**

Agenda Focus 3  
Prototyping Data  
Reporting  
Facilitator: OECD

Agenda Focus 2  
Knowledge Sharing &  
Innovation  
Facilitator: UNEVOC

Agenda Focus 4  
Global & Regional  
TVET Innovations  
Facilitator: ILO

**WorldSkills**  
Shanghai 2026

**UNESCO-UNEVOC**  
TVET Leadership-Programme  
Bridging Innovation - BILT  
UNEVOC Coaction Initiative  
UN World Youth Skills Day  
Global Awards for Innovation

**BIBB**  
Agenda Secretariat  
Institutional contributions

# The role of TVET in financial investments - The case of GESI facility of EIB

“The purpose of this Agreement is to provide a financial contribution to finance the provision of **technical support to EIB clients on gender and social inclusion aspects to reinforce the skills dimension of EFSD+ Window 1**, which provides comprehensive risk cover for sovereign operations (with **sovereign and non-commercial sub-sovereign counterparts**) totalling EUR 26 billion, including up to EUR 4.2 billion for the **Eastern Neighbourhood** and EUR 8.5 billion for the **Southern Neighbourhood**.”

*Service Agreement*

The overall objective of the GESI Facility is to contribute to the general objectives of the EIB's EPTATF and FEMIP Trust Fund, by increasing the quality and impact of the EIB IW1 operations and their contribution to human development, economic resilience and the green transition through the delivery of technical assistance services to project promoters and counterparts.

Specifically, the GESI Facility will:

- **Support investments in human development and human capital that enable women, youth and socially excluded groups to fully participate in the benefits of economic growth**
- **Improve the economic resilience of communities through design of investment components that target priority social groups, and through application of conflict and migration sensitivity approaches for sustainable results**
- **Ensure more equitable benefits from the green transition particularly in terms of skills and employment for women and socially excluded groups.**

# 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary key take aways

## Equal access to quality education and LLL for all

Including re/upskilling, teacher training & global curricula to ensure:

- i. inclusive prosperity, sustainability and participation in decisions
- ii. education is a lighthouse and LLL an engine empowering every individual learner and community for global citizenship, social well-being & mobility, connecting policy with youth dreams and hopes
- iii. education systems foster epistemic and intergenerational justice, bridging standards with cultural and unique diversity (glocal integrated education systems: formal, informal, non-formal)

**Challenge:** policies and education systems effectively tackle growing inequalities, societies stratification, distrust in public institutions, and dissemination of values and knowledge of those in power, while leveraging activation, recognition, change agents, inclusion, mobility

## Education for peace and resilience

Embed education in peace negotiation & development-peace-aid nexus to enable resilient systems, social inclusion & cohesion, flexible learning and:

- i. fragile contexts and those in situations of conflict to rebuild their socio-economic fabric & to transform, retaining talent and returning migrants
- ii. education as soft diplomacy & EU trade product/service attracting talent
- iii. education for bridging peoples and cultures, promoting shared values (incl. freedom & democracy) & systems' preparedness for emergencies

*ETF as a broker, connecting the dots and building bridges, fostering peer learning & policy dialogue, balancing anticipation & evidence, via innovation, partnerships & expertise, with a holistic & human-centric perspective to global education and skills*

## Education and collaboration for preparedness

Need for inclusive partnerships to tackle global challenges, trends & uncertainties (tech advancements, the urgency of sustainability, demographic changes incl. migration and aging, geopolitical developments, shifts in values, labour imbalances, etc), to empower dialogue and exchange via education, to adapt and to prepare for:

- i. jobs that don't yet exist, co-evolution of HCD and labour markets
- ii. youth with future skills needed to navigate uncertainties
- iii. a different EU Neighbourhood landscape (different expectations, needs, values, cultures, challenges, etc.) and glocal solutions

## Shaping future skills

Beyond green and digital skills, soft and hard skills, basic skills and STE(A)M, and those that differentiate humans from machines:

- i. cultural, media and futures literacies
- ii. civic (social cohesion) and financial/entrepreneurship skills
- iii. traditional and indigenous knowledge, and intergenerational skills
- iv. skills for sustainable living, mobility, adaptability, social intelligence

## Bridging & balancing anticipation and evidence

Participatory and inclusive approaches to build safe spaces to envisioning & preparing for the future, to integrating anticipation and evidence to enable analytical and critical thinking, which are key to:

- i. enable the Union of Skills, MS/PC investments in education, and PC alignment and integration into EU Education Area to materialize
- ii. embed innovation into policy making, curricula and teacher training
- iii. navigate geopolitical shifts and welcome uncertainty, while communicating findings, and expanding remit (Africa, Asia, LA ...)
- iv. prioritize future societies (over tech), agility & openness to change