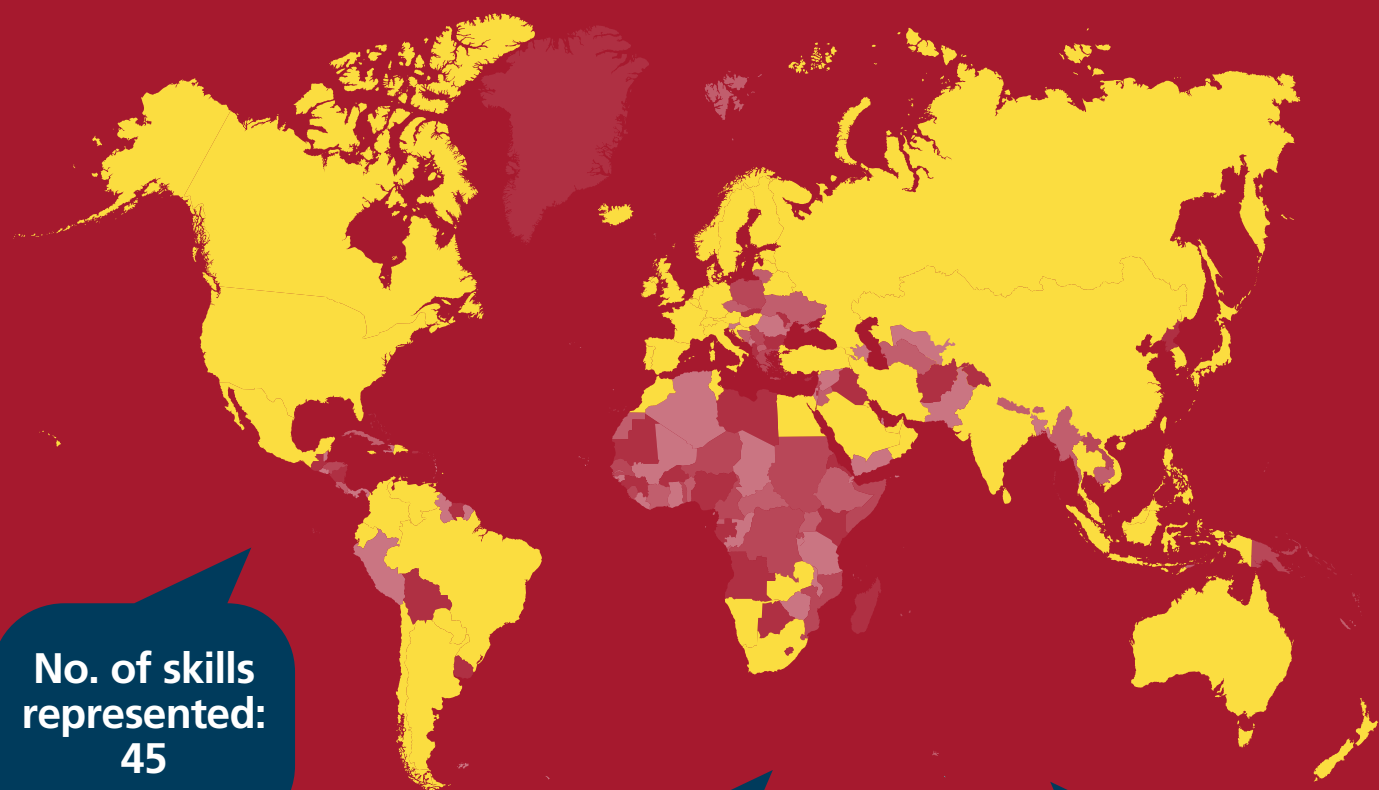


# FACT SHEET: WORLDSKILLS



Founded in 1950, WorldSkills is a global organization that promotes vocational, technological and service oriented education and training. We promote skilled careers in 72 Member countries and regions, all working with youth, educators, governments, and industries to help prepare the workforce and talent of today for the jobs of the future. WorldSkills brings youth, industries, and educators together to give youth the chance to compete, experience, and learn how to become the best in their skill of choice. From the traditional trades to multi-skilled technology careers in the industry and service sectors, supported by partners, industries, governments, volunteers, and educational institutions, WorldSkills is making a direct impact on raising the level of skills throughout the world.

WorldSkills is not just a Competition though, it is a movement. By working within the six focus areas of Research, Advocacy, Career, Education and Training, International Cooperation and Development, and Competitions and Projects, WorldSkills will be the global hub for skills excellence and development with ongoing activities nationally, regionally and globally. The WorldSkills Foundation contributes with projects and initiatives that demonstrate the capacity for innovation and collaboration with partners, in order to leverage and build self-sustaining activities.



**No. of skills  
represented:  
45**

**No. of Member  
countries/  
regions: 72**  
(representing more  
than 70% of the  
world's population)

**32 new  
Member  
countries/  
regions since  
2005**

[www.worldskills.org](http://www.worldskills.org)

# WORLDSKILLS TIMELINE:

- 1950** FIRST INTERNATIONAL SKILLS COMPETITION
- 1953** 6 MEMBER COUNTRIES AND REGIONS FROM EUROPE
- 1961** 1ST ASIAN COUNTRY JOINS — JAPAN
- 1970** FIRST TIME COMPETITION HELD OUTSIDE EUROPE
- 1973** 1ST NORTH AMERICAN COUNTRY JOINS — UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
- 1980** 17 MEMBER COUNTRIES AND REGIONS
- 1981** 1ST SOUTH AMERICAN COUNTRY JOINS — BRAZIL
- 1981** 1ST OCEANIA COUNTRY JOINS — AUSTRALIA
- 1990** 22 MEMBER COUNTRIES AND REGIONS
- 1990** 1ST AFRICAN COUNTRY JOINS — SOUTH AFRICA
- 1995** 1ST ASEAN REGIONAL SKILLS COMPETITION — MALAYSIA
- 1997** 1ST MIDDLE EAST COUNTRY JOINS — UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
- 1998** 1ST EUROPEAN REGIONAL SKILLS COMPETITION — NETHERLANDS
- 2000** ORGANIZATION REBRANDED AS WORLDSKILLS
- 2000** 36 MEMBER COUNTRIES AND REGIONS
- 2001** FIRST WORLDSKILLS LEADERS FORUM HELD IN SEOUL, KOREA
- 2003** FIRST GLOBAL INDUSTRY PARTNERS SUPPORT THE CONTINUOUS WORK OF ORGANIZATION
- 2005** FULL TIME SECRETARIAT TO PROFESSIONALLY MANAGE THE ORGANIZATION
- 2005** FIRST CONFERENCE PROGRAMME HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH WORLDSKILLS COMPETITION
- 2005** 42 MEMBER COUNTRIES AND REGIONS
- 2006** FIRST WORLDSKILLS YOUTH FORUM HELD IN MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA
- 2007** 47 MEMBER COUNTRIES AND REGIONS
- 2008** FIRST WORLDSKILLS AMBASSADOR
- 2008** 1ST GCC REGIONAL SKILLS COMPETITION — UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
- 2009** 52 MEMBER COUNTRIES AND REGIONS
- 2010** 1ST AMERICAS REGIONAL SKILLS COMPETITION — BRAZIL
- 2011** WORLDSKILLS FOUNDATION CREATED
- 2011** 58 MEMBER COUNTRIES AND REGIONS
- 2012** FIRST INNOVATION LAB HELD IN SINGAPORE
- 2014** 72 MEMBER COUNTRIES AND REGIONS
- 2015** FIRST WORLDSKILLS COMPETITION TO BE HOSTED IN SOUTH AMERICA
- 2017** FIRST WORLDSKILLS COMPETITION TO BE HOSTED IN THE MIDDLE EAST