Decent work and necessary skills

European Centre Contribution to SDG Targets 8.5 and 4.4

Anette Scoppetta & Leonard Geyer
Analysis of the Status Quo

Many challenges in achieving the goals:

• For example, 750 million adults around the globe remain illiterate and real GDP growth in least developed countries (LDCs) remains at 4.8%, well below the target of 7% (United Nations, 2019)

More advanced economies as well have ‘plenty of work to do’ (OECD, 2019):

➢ 13.7% of 15-29 year olds in OECD countries are NEET (goal 0.0%).

➢ The world is not standing still. Structural trends like the use of technology and ageing societies change the world of work and create new challenges in the fields of education and employment policy
Contributions of the European Centre

We contribute with activities in the following three areas:

A. Problem analysis
B. Proposing solutions
C. Evaluating actions
Sustainable work concept (A)

Sustainable work promotes a holistic approach that considers workers’ health, personal characteristics (education, skills and interests), and family and social responsibilities (Eurofound, 2015)

Adaptations/enlargement of the concept: Layers of sustainable work

- the **individual** (characteristics and circumstances of the individual on e.g. educational choices, work choices and parenting and caring)
- the **job** (characteristics of the job, its tasks and the workplace environment)
- the **working environment** (characteristics of the organisation and the economic sector)
- the **economic and social environment** (characteristics of the external operational environment)
Career & Age Management: Towards Ageing 4.0 (A)

Source: Riley & Riley, 2000

Source: Scoppetta, 2019 (Adapted from Leichsenring & Schmidt, 2016)

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Transitional Labour Markets (A)

Job Carving & Job Crafting (B)

Source: Scoppetta, 2019

Source: Scoppetta, Davern & Geyer, 2019
SDG forum “Leaving no one behind” (B)

- The Federal Ministry for Labour, Social Affairs, Health and Consumer Protection (BMASGK) together with the European Centre organises **five multi-stakeholder workshops** on specific topics relevant for achieving the SDGs.

- **The project aims** to raise awareness for the Agenda 2030 and the SDGs and to bring stakeholders and policy makers together to facilitate information exchange, networking and the development of solutions.

  - Workshop: SDGs and **people with disabilities**:
    27 March 2019 in Linz

  - Workshop: SDGs in the field of **decent work for young people**:
    17 June 2019 in Graz

  - Workshop **“A Society for People of All Ages”**:
    6 November 2019 in Vienna
Evaluation of ESF TO9 activities (C)

- € 274 Million between 2014 – 2020 to support social inclusion in AT

- Evaluation of the
  - Operational Programme (do the proposed solutions address the described problems?)
  - the implementation process (does the implementation proceed according to plan?)
  - identification of best-practice projects (what is going well and should be scaled up?)

The final report is due in March 2020.
Conclusions

- In the past year, the European Centre contributed to achieving SDG 8 and SDG 4 mainly in the area of problem analysis (e.g. in the area of the future of work) and by proposing context-specific solutions (e.g. SDG Multi-stakeholder Workshop series on specific SDGs).

- We see an urgent need to adapt policies to meet the needs of the most vulnerable people such as the long-term unemployed (e.g. Job Carving & Crafting) and older people (e.g. Career Management & Age Management). Such policies should follow a holistic (integrative) approach which includes a life course perspective.
Conclusions

- There is a need to
  - support labour market transitions
  - raise awareness of the sustainable work concept
  - adapt our social security schemes to safeguard against social exclusion
  - implement preventive measures
  - apply integrated approaches throughout the integration chain

- In order to meet SDG goals 4 and 8 much still remains to be done

- Our work shows that cooperation between different stakeholders is key to proactively address the challenges faced
As a teaser ...

A sustainable future of work depends on collaboration between different actors… levels of government, social partners, civil society organisations and citizens…

See tomorrow’s session from 10:30-11:00
Thank you very much for your attention!

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References


