



# Skills for a Greener Future: A Global View

High-level launch event  
Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019  
COP25, Madrid, Room 6  
15.30-16.30, Blue zone

## AGENDA

**Partners:** Government of Spain, Presidency of Chile, International Labour Organisation (ILO)

**Time:** 15.30-16.30 (60 minutes)

**Venue:** Room 6, Blue zone

**Facilitator:** Mr Vic van Vuuren, Director of Enterprises Department, ILO

**Presenter:** Ms Olga Strietska-Ilina, Senior Skills Specialist, Team Leader, ILO

**Panellists:**

- **Ms Yolanda Valdeolivas**, Secretary of State for Employment of Spain.
- **Mr Pedro Pablo Silva**, Head of International Relations Department, Ministry of Labour of Chile.
- **Mr Roberto Suárez Santos**, Secretary-General of International Organisation of Employers (IOE).
- **Mr Vesa Vuorenkoski**, Head of Political Affairs, Confederation of Unions for Professional and Managerial Staff in Finland (AKAVA).
- **Ms Margareth Solano Sanchez**, Vice-Minister of Youth, the Ministry of Culture and Youth, Costa Rica.
- **Ms Yugratna Srivastava**, YOUNGO (TBC)

*Note: Simultaneous interpretation in Spanish and English will be provided in the room.*

## BACKGROUND

Climate change and environmental degradation are among the greatest challenges of our times that reduce productivity, destroy jobs and increase inequality. Effects of climate crisis fall disproportionately and profoundly on the most vulnerable. Transition to environmental sustainability can potentially create millions of jobs but this will require bold action to invest in people's capabilities to realize their full potential and contribute to the productivity of enterprises. Just transition to environmental sustainability will require reskilling and upskilling of workers to reduce the risk of rising unemployment, poverty and inequality. Equal access to training, raising environmental awareness and climate literacy for current and potential workers will be essential for the implementation of decent work agenda and greener ways of production and service delivery.

At the 2018 Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference (COP24), support to a just transition was highlighted as a priority

area to support the workforce transitions, and the creation of decent work was declared crucial to effective, inclusive and climate-resilient development. Skills development is a cornerstone of the just transition framework (ILO (2015) "[Guidelines for a just transition towards environmentally sustainable economies and societies for all](#)"). The availability of the right skills paves the way to a productive green transformation and decent job creation.

The new ILO report "*Skills for a Greener Future: A global view*" (ILO (2019) [Skills for a greener future: Key findings](#)) analyses how skills development can underpin the green transition with documented good practices in 32 surveyed countries. It is the first global study that discusses the implications of the transition to low-carbon and resource-efficient economies for skills, gender and occupations. It is a ground-breaking piece of qualitative research and modelling, providing new insights into likely occupational skill effects in declining and growing industries by 2030 based on two global scenarios (energy sustainability and circular economy).

## OBJECTIVE OF THE SESSION

The event will launch the new ILO report "*Skills for a Greener Future: A global view*" and will discuss which skills and occupations will be most in demand, and how education and lifelong learning measures can help to implement countries' commitments to the Paris Agreement.

## FORMAT OF THE SESSION

### Duration: 60 minutes

The session will be divided into five parts:

- 1. Opening:** opening remarks and a brief outline of the overall context and objectives of the session (Mr Vic van Vuuren, Director, Enterprises Department, ILO) (3 minutes)
- 2. Short presentation of key findings** of the ILO global report "*Skills for a Greener Future*" (Ms. Olga Strietska-Illina, Team Leader, Employment Policy Department, ILO). (7 minutes)
- 3. Panel discussion:** an interactive discussion among panellists guided by the questions (see below) and moderated by Mr Vic van Vuuren. (20 minutes)
- 4. Questions and answers** and moderated **plenary discussion** among participants and the panel members. (20 minutes)
- 5. Closing remarks** (10 minutes)

#### QUESTIONS FOR THE PANEL DISCUSSION:

- How skills development can underpin the implementation of the Paris Agreement and what policies and initiatives are needed at the global, regional and national levels, and ensure that no one is left behind?
- How skills development and climate change policies can be better informed, coordinated and inclusive, and what are good practices?
- How public and private sectors can better work together to meet the scale of skills demand and support workers' transitions during labour market disruptions? What is the role of social dialogue in this process?
- What international and national financing mechanisms and partnerships could enhance green human capital and a social justice for all?

#### RESOURCES TO MAKE AVAILABLE DURING THE LAUNCH:

- *Skills for a Greener Future: Key Findings*, ILO 2019. 30 copies English, 30 copies Spanish, 20 copies French
- *Skills for a Greener Future: Infographic*. 30 copies
- Flyer of the full report *Skills for a greener future: A global view*. 40 copies
- Press release for the report. 30 copies
- Full report *Skills for a greener future: A global view*. 5-10 copies.
- 25 USB flash drives with the full report.