



Europe 2020 and education and training strategies to deal with the economic crisis

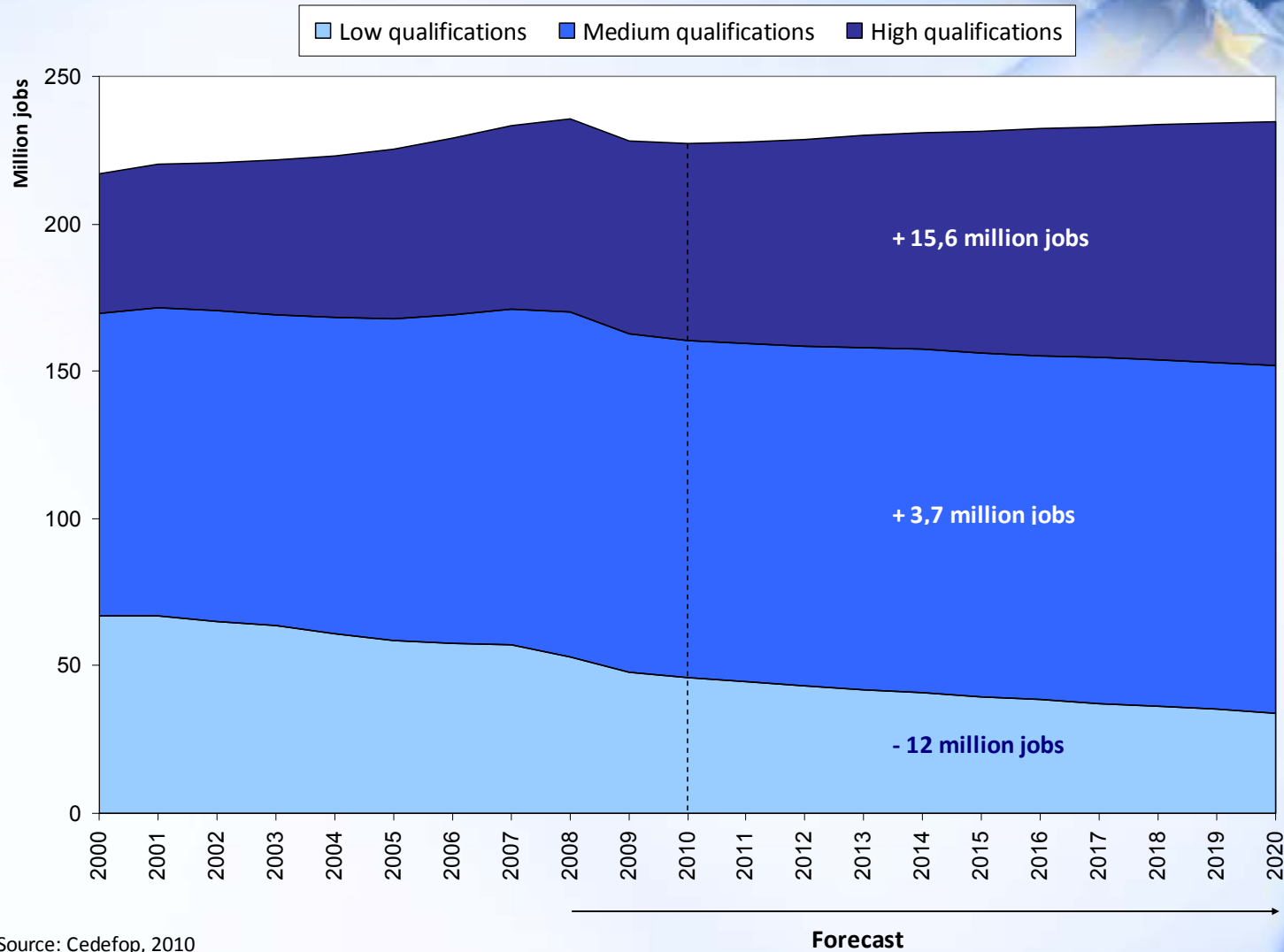
EARLALL Seminar, 29 Sept 2011
Bernhard Chabera, DG EAC, A/1

Challenges requiring urgent intervention through E&T

- Millions of low-skills jobs disappeared during crisis, low skilled youth hit hardest (more than 20% unemployment)
- Reintegration in labour market: re- & up-skilling ca 76 million low-skilled adults
- Preparing for a longer working life – as from 2012 the EU's working age population will shrink
- Adult (25-64) participation in LLL declined by 2 Mio between 2005 and 2010 (as measured by EU-benchmark)
- Providing knowledge base for future growth - by 2020 35% of all jobs will require high-level qualifications



Labour market transformation



Source: Cedefop, 2010

LLL in Europe 2020



Europe 2020 *strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth*

... clearly acknowledges the role of *lifelong learning* and *skills development* as key elements in response to:


- the current economic crisis
- the wider economic and social strategy of the EU

Spring European Council 2011: investment in education and training must be seen as “growth friendly”

5 Europe 2020 headline targets (translated into national targets)

- 75 % **employment** rate
- 3% GDP investment in **R&D**
- “20/20/20” **climate/energy** targets
- Less than 10% early school leavers & at least 40% tertiary attainment (or equivalent)
- 20 million less people at **risk of poverty**

MS have set national targets for 2020



LLL in Europe 2020: *Integrated Guidelines for reform in MS*

8. Developing a **skilled workforce** responding to labour market needs, **promoting lifelong learning**
9. Improving the performance of **education and training** systems at all levels and increasing participation in tertiary education.

*MS have set up National Reform Programmes,
implementation monitored by COM and Council*

Europe 2020 implementation: *“European Semester”* 2011



- 15 MS received ***Country Specific Recommendation*** on education and training from Council
- 11 of these CSRs specifically on role of education and training for **reducing unemployment**
- Addressed areas include: adult learning, VET and skills for the labour market
- Member States concerned: AT, CY, DK, EE, ES, FR, LU, MT, PL, SI, SK.

ET2020 - progress in LLL implementation by 2011



Preliminary findings: Cross Country Analysis 2011*

- Comprehensive *LLL strategies* only in small number of MS
- But LLL approach addressed in policy making in most MS
- Progress: establishment of NQFs; LL Guidance coordination mechanisms; validation of NF/IF learning,
- Problems: too little support for learning at workplace; weak coordination of measures between E&T, employment, social affairs + stakeholders; lack of effective financing arrangements and incentives for individuals and employers

**** To be adopted by COM in December 2011 together with draft Joint Progress Report 2012 on implementation of Strategic Framework ET2020***

Europe 2020 policy response

“Youth on the Move” flagship initiative:

- Tackling Early School Leaving and youth unemployment
- Higher skills levels through more attractive and relevant E&T, including through quality VET
- More tertiary graduates (and equivalent), more open HE institutions

→ *Bruges Communiqué (Copenhagen Process), adopted Dec 2010*

→ *Council Recommendation on reducing Early School Leaving, May 2011*

→ *Communication on modernisation of HE adopted on 21 Sept 2011*



Europe 2020 policy response



“Agenda for New Skills and Jobs”:

- Creating jobs, and improving the quality of work and working conditions
- Better functioning of EU labour markets & flexicurity: strengthen its LLL pillar
- **Providing right skills** for today’s and tomorrow’s jobs (*basic and transversal, green skills, etc*)
- **Bridging** labour market and education and training systems

How to improve levels of skills?

- High Level Expert Group on **literacy** (launched Feb 2011)
- Policy network on the **education of migrants**: from brain waste to brain gains (2011)
- Council Resolution on **renewed EU agenda for Adult Learning** (Nov 2011)
- Communication on **skills and competences** (2012)



How to strengthen LLL approach?

- Proposal for a Council Recommendation on **validation of non-formal and informal learning** (end 2011)
- Finalising **implementation of National Qualifications Frameworks** and referencing these to **EQF** (2012)
- Establishing **ECVET framework** (2012)
- **Financial support for LLL policy development (through LLP):**
 - call for proposals „ECET 2012“ (publication spring 2012)
 - call for establishment of transversal policy networks for LLL implementation (General LLP Call for Proposals 2012, deadline 1 March 2012)



How to strengthen links between LLL and labour market?



- A **Skills Panorama** to improve anticipation of skills needs (2012)
- The **European Skills Passport** – helping citizens to make better visible their skills and competences (2012)
- **ESCO** – developing a common language to bridge gap between education and labour markets (2012)
- “**Knowledge alliances**” between education & business

Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-20



- **Proposal for future programme „*Education Europe*“**
 - **budget increase** by more than **70%**
 - **key actions:** (1) mobility, (2) partnerships, (3) policy cooperation
 - Commission proposal 23 November 2011

- **Proposal for new Regulation for *Structural Funds***
 - LLL again a priority of European Social Fund and ERDF
 - Stronger „conditionality“ between financing and MS implementation of EU policies
 - Commission proposal Oct 2011



***Investment in education and training is
growth-friendly also in times of crisis***