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Focus group and survey results about skills gaps

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**Analysis of skill gaps and strategies for bioeconomy,
digitalization and sustainability**

22nd June 2021

Online Workshop at the 6th ISEKI-Food Conference

WP1 Skill needs identification (ISEKI-Food Association)

Main objective: establish a general overview of the agriculture, forestry and related sectors in order to define present and future skills needs

- Task 1.1: State of the art (UNITO)
- Task 1.2: Stakeholders strategic mapping and mobilization (LLL-P)
- **Task 1.3: Country and EU focus groups (ISEKI)**
- **Task 1.4: Bottom-up surveys (ICOS)**
- Task 1.5: Future trends analysis (WUR)

Tasks 1.3 Country and EU Focus Groups

Summary of the task

Gather information about:

- Skill needs in agriculture, forestry, food industry and forest-based industry.
- Sustainability, digitalization, bio-economy and soft skills.
- Existing and missing training
- Target groups
- Training methods



Tasks 1.3 Country and EU Focus Groups

Methodology

Country	Date (2020)	Number of participants
Austria	18 May	12
Ireland	27 May	13
Italy	8 June	13
Germany	10 June	7
France	15 June	9
The Netherlands	23 June	8
Greece	25 June	6
Spain	26 June	10
Slovenia	1 July	8
EU-Policy	9 June	13
EU-Forestry	2 July	14

- ✓ Compositor of the focus groups (**at least 5 profiles**)
- ✓ Skill lists (partners input, ESCO and other sources)
- ✓ Focus group guiding questions and conduction (change to online format!)

Stakeholders
Farmers
Cooperatives
Foresters
Food industry
Forest-based industry
Education providers
Advisors
Other

BOTTOM-UP APPROACH

Skill lists (c.a. 25 skills per category)				
Sustainability	Digitalisation	Bioeconomy	Soft skills	Business-entrepreneurship

Tasks 1.4 Bottom-up survey (ICOS)

Summary of the task

- ✓ Survey to assess skills needs, training needs and training methods in the agriculture, forestry and food industry sectors
- ✓ Consider the outcomes of the Focus Groups (Task 1.3)
- ✓ Provide also input for the following task “Future trends analysis” (“Business insights” section: challenges, trends, models, tools...)

December 2020-January 2021

+ 500 respondents
most of them
from EU



fields  Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union

Use this one - FIELDS Project – addressing the current and Future skill needs for sustainability, digitalization, and the bio-Economy in agriculture: European skills agenda and Strategy

Introduction

This information is being gathered as part of a research project on current and future skill needs of workers in the Agri-food and Forestry sectors. The research project (FIELDS, ERASMUS+ SSA project) is being carried out by a consortium of 30 partners from 12 European countries.

Your views will help us to further develop training curricula in the context of the ERASMUS+ SSA project "FIELDS" which will eventually be used in training institutions in different European countries. You may, in the future, have some benefits from participating in this study as its aim is to ultimately help workers in the Agri-food and Forestry sectors to be better trained for current and future market and social demands.

The information provided below will remain totally confidential and will only be used in an aggregate manner to identify underlying trends and demands across European member states.

Please feel free to pass this survey on to as many persons within your broader value chain / stakeholder network, that operate in areas of Sustainability, Digitalisation, Bioeconomy, Soft Skills and Business/Entrepreneurship Skills.

Your time and interest in completing the survey is much appreciated.

If there is any aspect of the project that you would like to discuss further, or feel you may need support with, please do not hesitate to get in touch via email to: francesca.sanna@unito.it

For queries relating this Survey, please email: billy.goodburn@icos.ie

Project Erasmus+ FIELDS
Agreement No. 612664-EPP-1-2019-1-IT-EPPKA2-SSA-B
Task 1.4 Participating Countries & Organisations

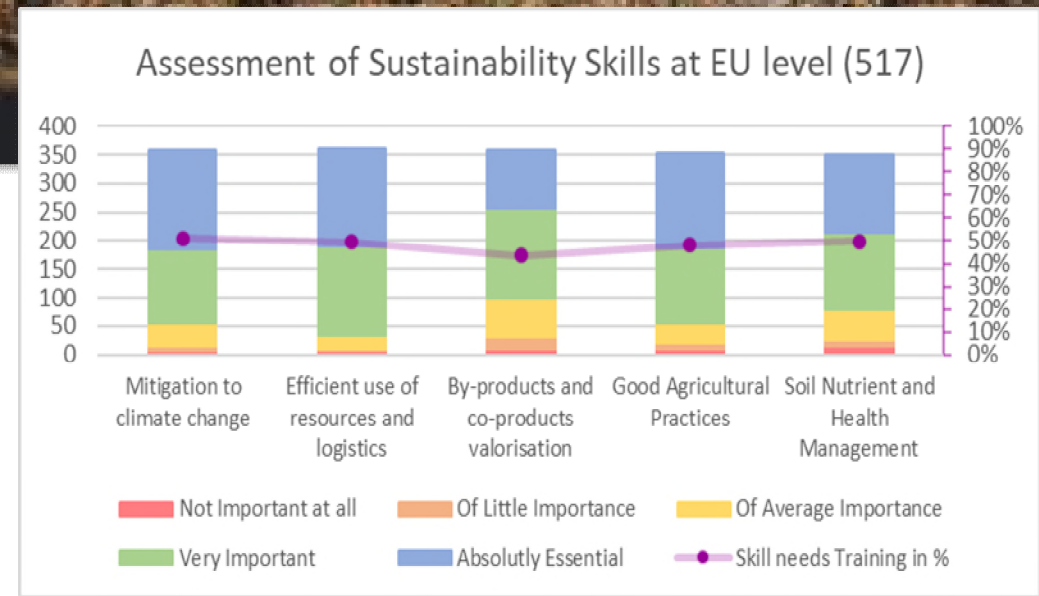
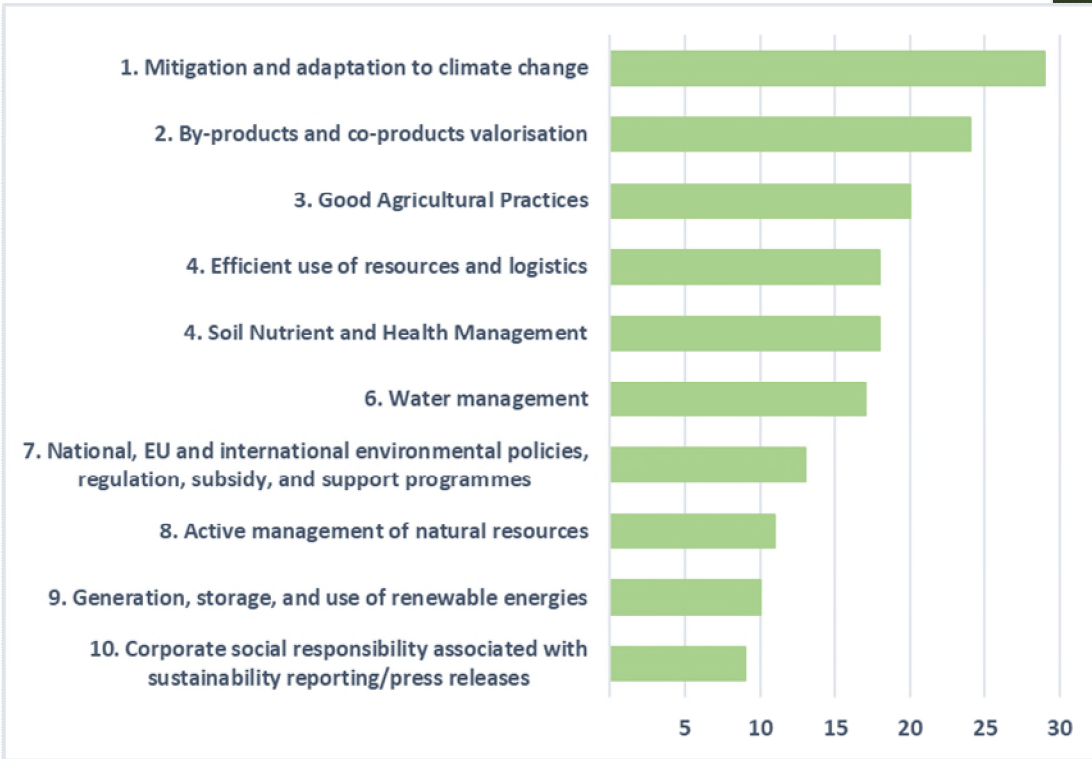
Skill needs analysis in Focus Groups and Survey

Skill needs analysis

	Focus Groups	Survey
Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participans indicated the 10 most importan skills from the lists provided • Why they selected these skills • Do they need training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants rated the top 5 most important skills, per category, obtained in the Focus Groups • Do they need training
Analysis	Category of skill: sustainability, digitalisation, bioeconomy, soft skills, bussiness-entrepreneurship	
	Working sector: farmers, cooperatives, food industry, foresters and forest-based industry	
	Country: those organising Focus Groups	
Additional data	Missing skills from the lists	Missing skills from those proposed in the questionnaire

Skill needs analysis in Focus Groups and Survey

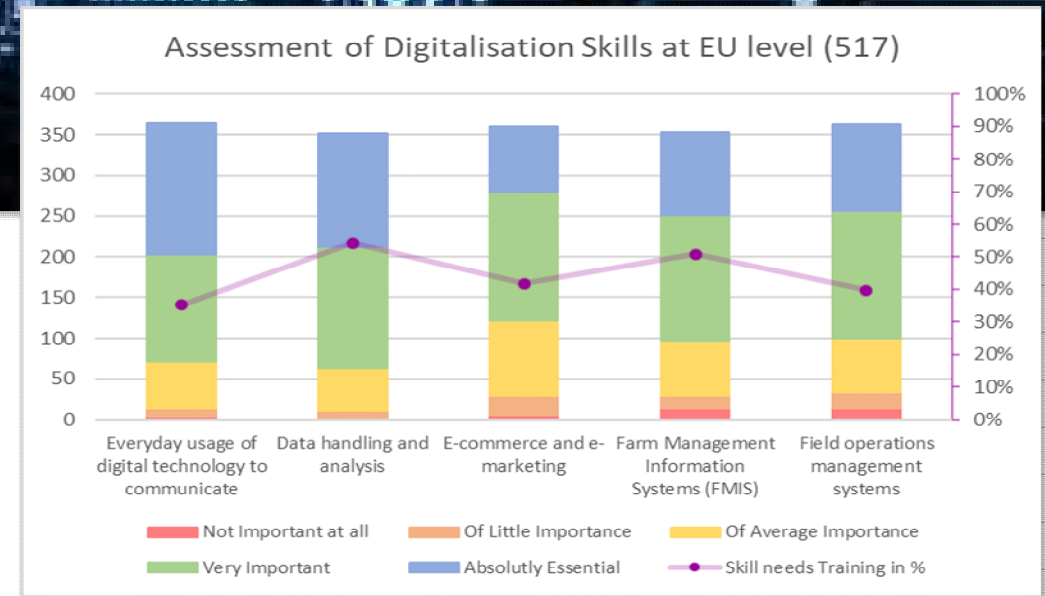
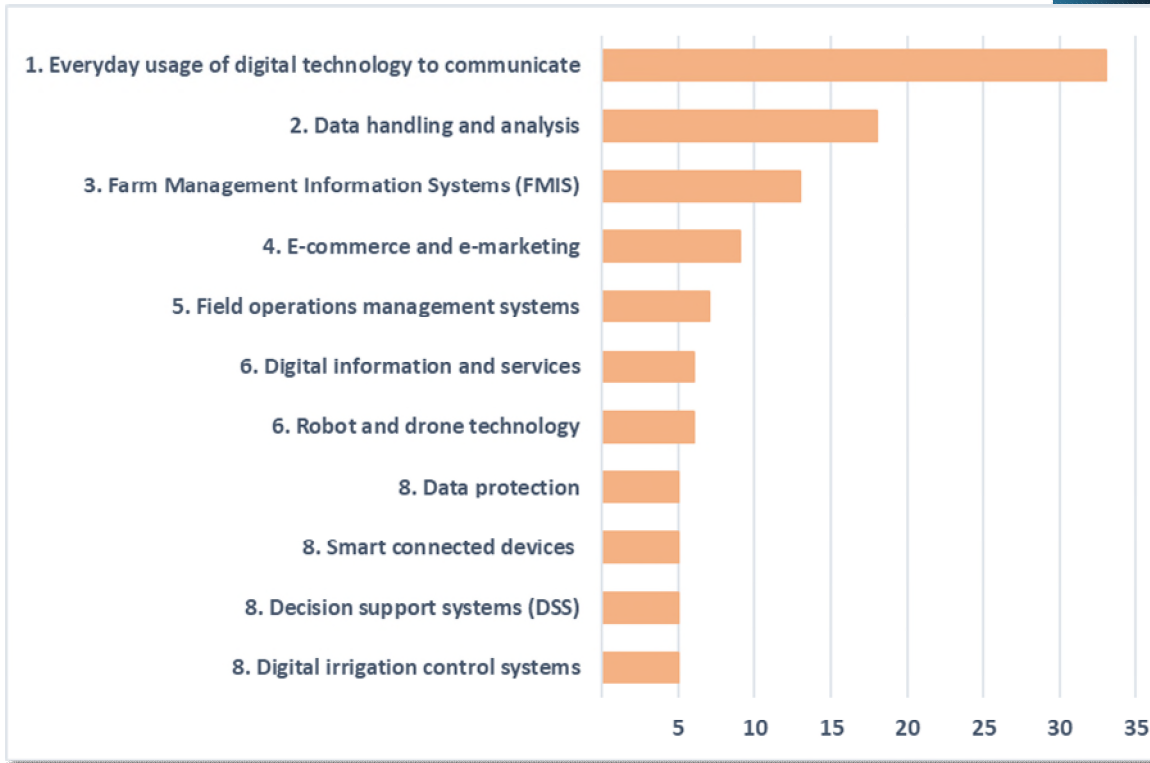
Sustainability



Most important skills also need training, from the Focus Group comments

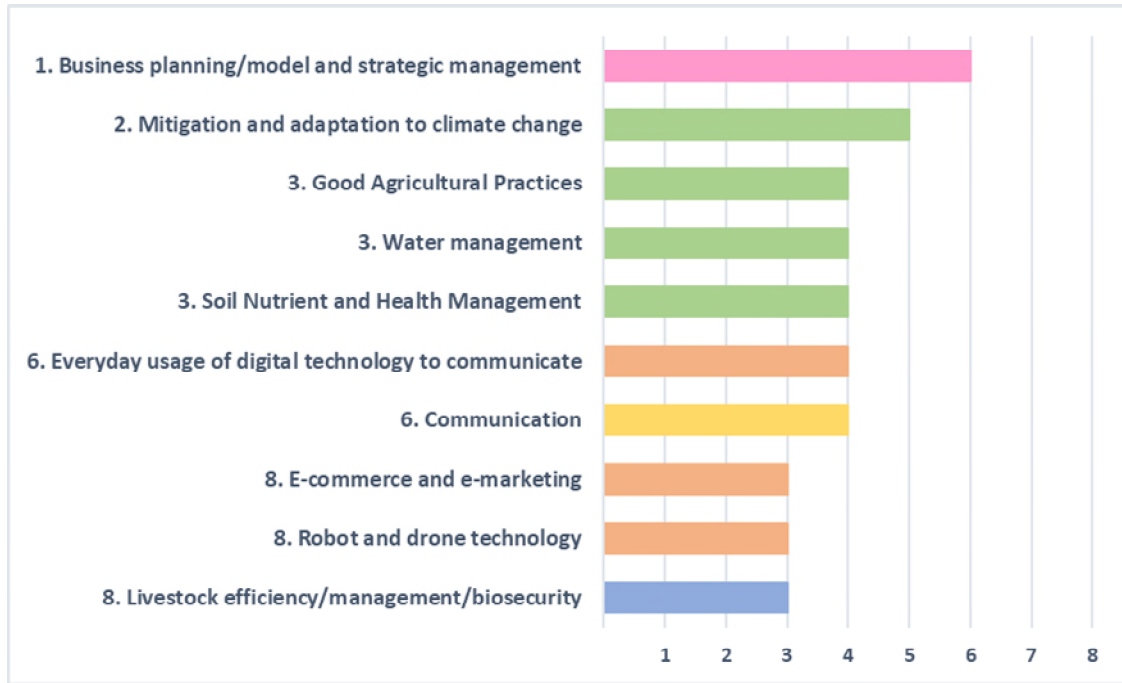
Skill needs analysis in Focus Groups and Survey

Digitallisation

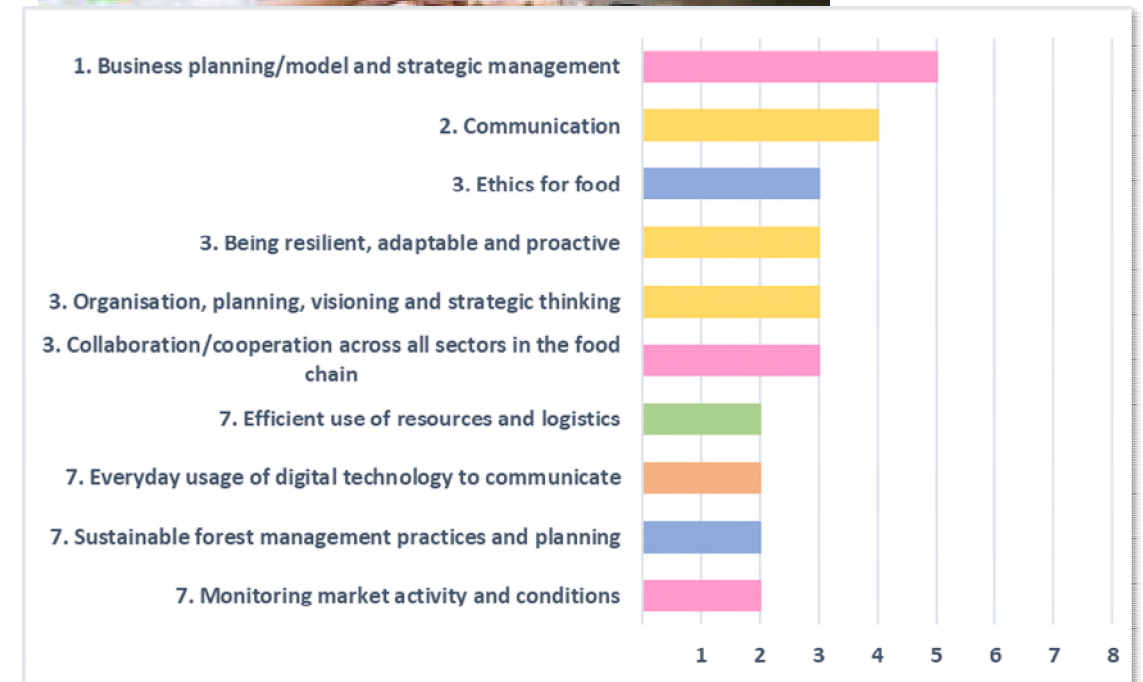


Skill needs analysis in Focus Groups and Survey

Agriculture sector

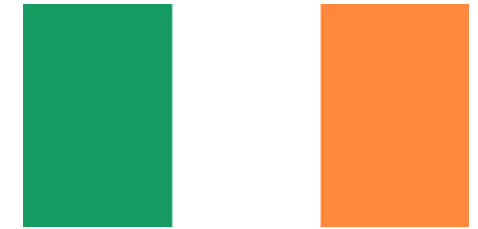
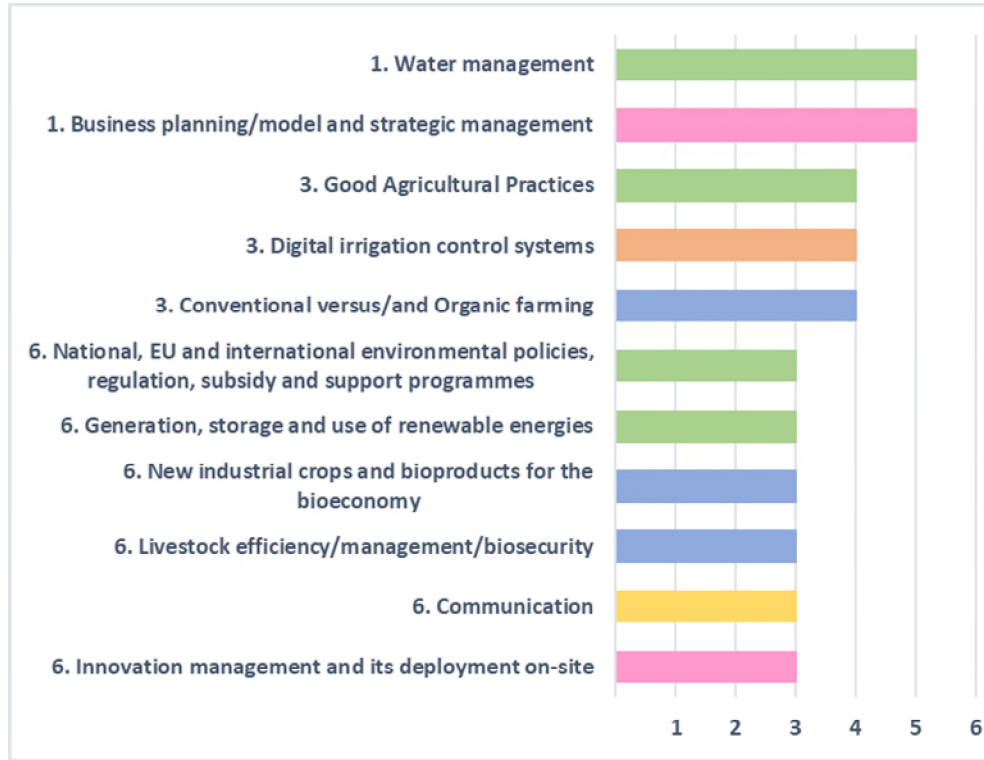


Food Industry sector

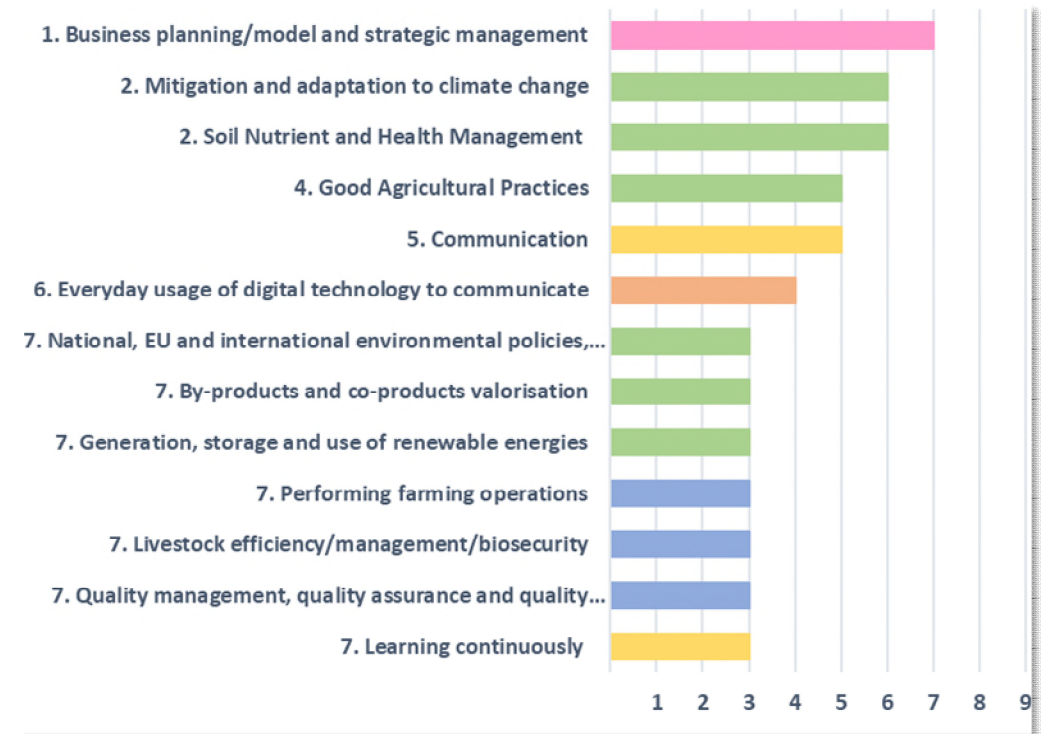


Skill needs analysis in Focus Groups and Survey

Spanish/Portuguese Focus Group



Irish Focus Group



Skill needs analysis in Focus Groups and Survey

Missing skills in the FG lists and survey

Common findings:

- ✓ *Communication and engagement with consumers, market and society*
- ✓ *Languages: English, neighbor countries languages, Chinese for the forestry global market*



- ✓ *Improvement of stakeholders' interaction*
- ✓ *Education providers: ability to connect or to integrate skills and competences*

Use of the skill needs information from Focus Groups and Survey

- ✓ Identify skill needs from the Scenario Analysis perspective (WP1)
- ✓ Creation of new job profiles and their prioritization (WP2)
- ✓ Development of action plans at national level for training implementation (WP2)



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Thank you for your attention!