



# Facilitating NSS contribution in the promotion of basic skills on EPALE

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**European Basic Skills Network**

[www.basicskills.eu](http://www.basicskills.eu)



# Introduction

Who are we?

EBSN's work with EPALE

Objectives of the webinar



# European Basic Skills Network

**Policy-level network** (European, national and regional)

**82 members** (9 associated beyond the EU)

**Knowledge management** (EPALE: OERs & MOOCs;  
conferences)

**Implementation support for member states** (Upskilling  
Pathways)

# EBSN's collaboration with EPALE: an overview

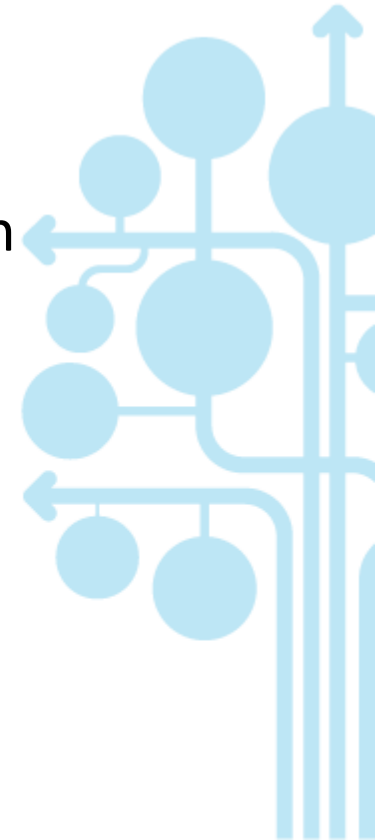
- Thematic coordination in Life Skills (and basic skills)
- Strategic planning for content management: Upskilling Pathways
- Capacity Building Series on EPALE in 2018-2019





# Objectives for today's webinar

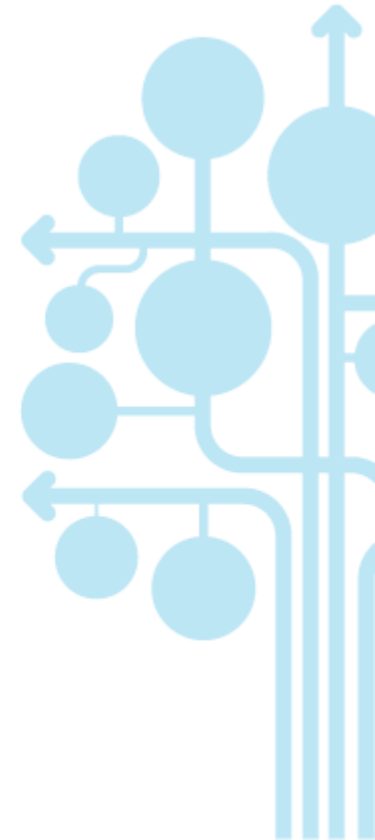
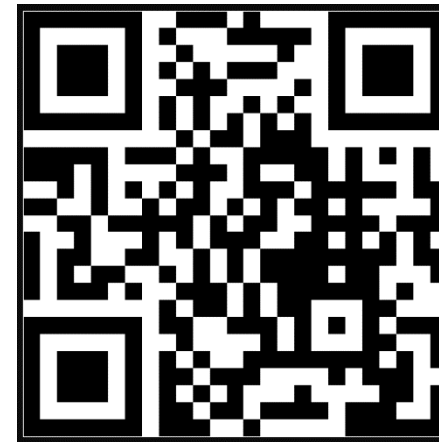
- Identifying the main trends impacting basic skills: policies and practices
- Elaborating on potential stakeholders in basic skills provision and policy
- Getting to know different platforms, tools and partners in basic skills promotion
- Getting to know some basic characteristics of basic skills



# Activity 1

## Let us know a bit about your background!

- Please take your smartphone and go to: [www.menti.com](https://www.menti.com) and type in **31 60 43**
- You can also access the platform via QR code:





# The nature and relevance of basic skills



# The nature and relevance of basic skills

- How did basic skills emerge as a theme for policy?
- International assessment of basic skills:
  - IALS (OECD) as preparation for the PIAAC studies
  - PIAAC as a prompt for mapping basic skills (joint EU challenges, facing the challenge is diverse in Member States)



❖ 1 in 5 ○



Alex



Gregor

❖ 60 million

❖ 25 %



Julia



❖ 1 in 4



Hans



# The nature and relevance of basic skills

- Thematic focus on EPALE: Basic skills and resilience!
- Sounding the alarm for low-skilled adults – disruptive crises hit them the most
- EU's perspective for the future: EU Skills Agenda
  - Resilience
  - Sustainability
  - Environmental awareness
  - Digital focus

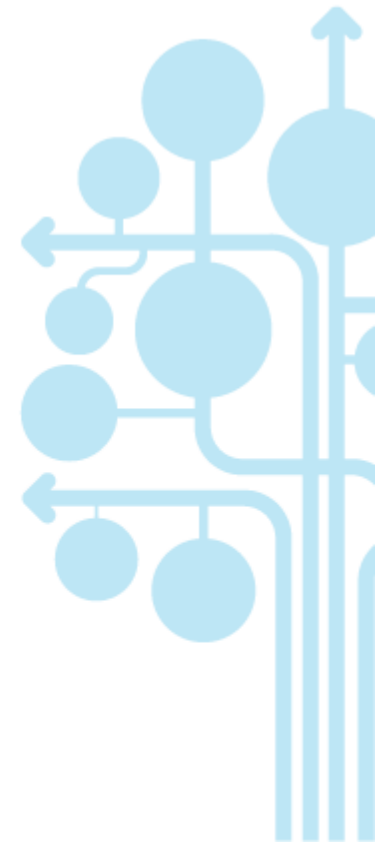
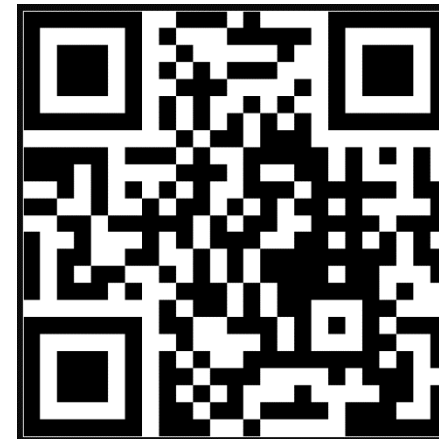




## Activity 2

# Priorities in basic skills provision!

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# EU's policy focus on basic skills

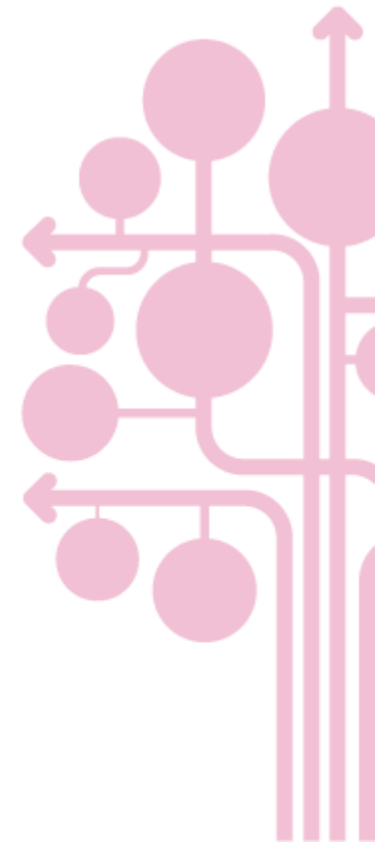
Upskilling Pathways

European Skills Agenda



# Upskilling Pathways: new opportunities for adults

- Close to one fifth of adult Europeans struggle with basic reading and writing, calculation, using digital tools in everyday life.
- Helping adults acquire a **minimum level of literacy, numeracy and digital skills** and/or acquire a **broader set of skills** by progressing towards an upper secondary qualification or equivalent (level 3 or 4 in the [European Qualifications Framework \(EQF\)](#) depending on national circumstances).
- Three **key steps**:
  - **Step 1 – Skills assessment**
  - **Step 2 – Learning offer**
  - **Step 3 – Validation and recognition**
- Delivering the initiative is based upon:
  - effective outreach,
  - guidance,
  - support measures.



# Communication on the European Skills Agenda

- The European Skills Agenda pursues a real **paradigm shift in skills** to take advantage of the green and digital transitions and support a prompt recovery from the COVID-19 crisis, by:
  - strengthening **sustainable competitiveness**, to achieve the [European Green Deal](#) and putting its digital and industrial strategies into practice
  - ensuring **social fairness**, putting into practice the first principle of the [European Pillar of Social Rights](#): access to education, training and lifelong learning for everybody, everywhere in the EU
  - building up **resilience** to react to crises, based on the lessons learnt during the COVID-19 pandemic
- In this context, following the [European Digital Strategy](#), the new [Industrial and Small and Medium Enterprise Strategy](#) and the [Recovery Plan for Europe](#)



# 12 actions

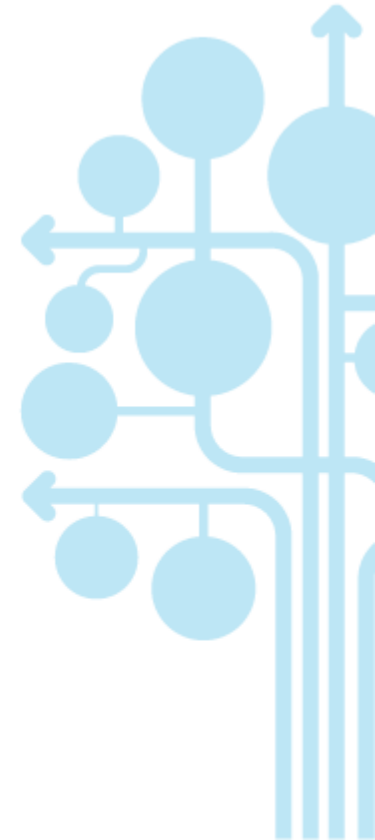
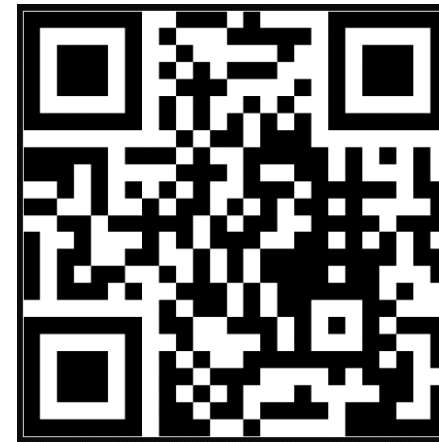
- A Pact for **Skills**
- Strengthening **skills intelligence**
- EU support for **strategic national upskilling action**
- Proposal for a Council Recommendation on Vocational Education and Training for **sustainable competitiveness, social fairness and resilience**
- Rolling out the **European universities initiative** and upskilling scientists
- Skills to support the **green and digital transitions**
- Increasing **STEM** graduates and fostering **entrepreneurial** and **transversal** skills
- **Skills for Life**
- Initiative on **Individual Learning Accounts**
- A European approach to **micro-credentials**
- New **Europass** Platform
- Improving the enabling framework to unlock Member States' and **private investments in skills**



## Activity 3

### Where are we in basic skills policy?

- Please take your smartphone and go to: [www.menti.com](https://www.menti.com) and type in **31 60 43**
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# Stakeholders in basic skills

How to identify stakeholders in basic skills?



❖ 1 in 5 ○



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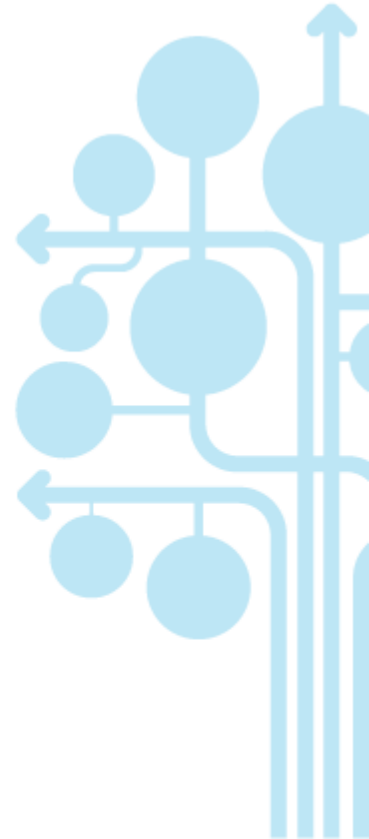
# Stakeholders in basic skills

- What are the significance of partnerships?
  - Cohesive policies
  - Multidisciplinary task forces
  - Diverse stakeholder inclusion
  - Flexible accreditation routes



# Stakeholders in basic skills

- Target groups of Upskilling Pathways (i.e. the unemployed, those at work, the inactives) – **examples for each** for exploring stakeholder profiles
  - The unemployed (Gregor)
  - At work adults (Alex, Julia)
  - Inactive adults (Hans)

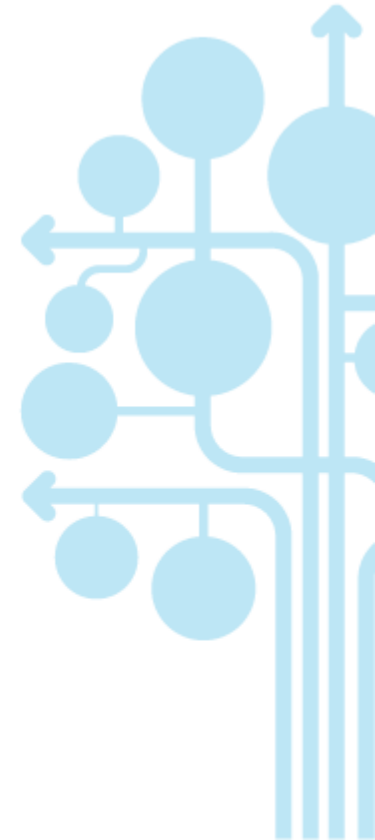
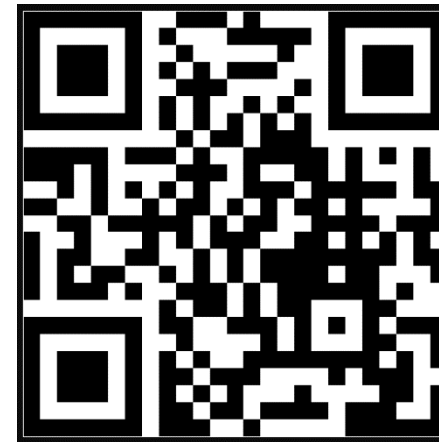




# Activity 4

## Stakeholders in basic skills provision

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# Collaborative tools for addressing stakeholders

EBSN's Capacity Building Series on EPALE

New inputs in 2020!

Further collaborative tools

# EPALE's Capacity Building Series - reaching out to stakeholders with expert materials

## Open educational resources (OERs)

1. Integrated policy approach
2. Linguistic integration of migrant adults
3. Critical digital and media literacy
4. Workplace basic skills
5. Family literacy policy & practice

## Online courses (MOOCs)

1. Integrated policy approach
2. Workplace basic skills
3. Family literacy policy & practice

## Open badges



INTEGRATED POLICY APPROACH

# How to use the outcomes of the Capacity Building Series

## TOWARDS STAKEHOLDERS

- Promotion in relevant events (mainly OERs) e.g. Annual EPALE conference, workshops, etc.
- Addressing and making initial contact to new stakeholders
- Finding the edge: e.g. on-boarding procedures of stakeholders

## FROM STAKEHOLDERS

- Dissemination, visibility & promotion
- Mutual curation and quality review
- Updating with innovative content in the field



# New inputs in 2020 on EPALE

2 innovative learning opportunities (OER/Infographics/MOOCs)

Annual stakeholder conference

Podcasts

**Themes:**

- Building resilience through basic skills (this week!)
- 3 steps in UP (in Sept.)

Networking with relevant organisations (e.g. EBSN)

Highlighted stakeholder content on EPALE

**Themes**

- EPALE interviews for key actors
- Community stories for good initiatives

Online discussion

**Themes:**

- Basic skills provision (16-17 Sept.)

# Guidelines for successful basic skill promotion on EPALE

## Collaboration with EBSN

- Newsletters
- Basic skills related events
- Contact making with stakeholders

## Basic skills community on EPALE

- Shared curation of basic skills related content
- Direct and mutual communication channel

## Co-creation of content in the field of basic skills

- Project results
- New studies
- Policy initiatives
- Events related to skills in general



Share your feedback about this event!

<https://it.surveymonkey.com/r/5M8T7CL>

**Thank you for your attention!**

Zoltán Várkonyi  
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