



2020 G20 Riyadh Summit Final Compliance Report

Prepared by

Kaylin Dawe, Jae Yoon Mary Noh and the G20 Research Group

University of Toronto

Toronto

and

Alexander Ignatov and the Center for International Institutions Research

Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration,

Moscow

From 23 November 2020 to 27 September 2021

10 November 2021 (updated from 28 October 2021)

Feedback, as always, is welcome and is kept anonymous.

We encourage readers to send comments to

G20@utoronto.ca

Contents

Preface	3
Research Teams	4
Toronto G20 Research Group Team.....	4
G20 Research Group Lead Analysts	4
G20 Research Group Analysts	4
CIIR G20 Research Team.....	5
Introduction and Summary	6
Methodology and Scoring System.....	6
Commitment Breakdown	6
Selection of Commitments.....	6
Final Compliance Scores	7
Final Compliance by Member	7
Final Compliance by Commitment.....	7
Table 1: 2020 G20 Riyadh Summit Commitments Selected for Compliance Monitoring.....	8
Table 2: 2020 G20 Riyadh Summit Final Compliance Scores.....	10
Table 3: 2020 G20 Riyadh Summit Final Compliance by Member	12
Table 4: 2020 G20 Riyadh Summit Final Compliance by Commitment	12
Table 5: G20 Compliance by Member, 2008-2020	13
Conclusions	14
Future Research and Reports	14
Considerations and Limitations.....	14
Appendix: General Considerations.....	15
1. Macroeconomic Policy: Inclusive Growth.....	16
2. Macroeconomics: Capital Markets.....	119
3. Trade: Investment	149
4. Trade: Open Markets.....	251
5. Digital Economy: Consumer Rights	272
6. International Taxation: Tax Systems.....	310
7. International Taxation: BEPS	364
8. Crime and Corruption: Threats.....	385
9. Labour and Employment: Job Protection.....	418
10. Gender: Inequalities.....	473
11. Gender: Economic Participation	603
12. Development: Debt Relief.....	692
13. Development: COVID-19.....	759
14. Health Preparedness and Response	791
15. Health: Information Sharing	985
16. Health: Vaccine Distribution.....	1038
17. Energy: Fossil Fuels.....	1068
18. Environment: Marine Plastic Litter.....	1100
19. Climate Change: Circular Carbon Economy	1129
20. Climate Change: Paris Agreement.....	1225

9. Labour and Employment: Job Protection

“We will continue to support workers through training and reskilling policies.”

G20 Riyadh Leaders’ Declaration

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina		0	
Australia			+1
Brazil		0	
Canada			+1
China			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
India		0	
Indonesia			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
Korea			+1
Mexico	-1		
Russia		0	
Saudi Arabia			+1
South Africa			+1
Turkey		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average Score		+0.65 (83%)	

Background

Since G20 first made distinctive commitments to protect the labour market and employment workforce at the 2009 London Summit.³⁰²⁰ Since then, the G20 has adopted different targets throughout the years regarding this issue area. The continually shifting focus of the G20’s goals for the labour and employment issue area has been largely influenced by the various crises and global issues that have arisen throughout the previous decade. Such events include the 2008 financial crisis and the rapid rise of technological advancements and automation of the workforce. The evolution of this commitment area’s goals not only reflect the fragility of the labour and employment commitment area, but also demonstrates the flexibility of the members regarding their responses to the crises and changes often faced by the labour market and employment workforce.

At the 2009 London Summit, the issue of labour and employment emerged for the first time as a distinctive commitment area.³⁰²¹ The G20 members declared their commitment towards supporting workers affected by the 2008 economic crisis by providing financial support and funding additional

³⁰²⁰ Global Plan for Recovery and Reform, G20 Information Centre (Toronto), 2 April 2009. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2009/2009communique0402.html>

³⁰²¹ Global Plan for Recovery and Reform, G20 Information Centre (Toronto), 2 April 2009. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2009/2009communique0402.html>

job opportunities.³⁰²² As well, the members iterated their goal to create labour markets that treated both men and women equally.³⁰²³

At the 2010 Seoul Summit, job creation was stated as an important feature of economic recovery and therefore, a priority of the G20.³⁰²⁴ The members were particularly supportive of this measure as a means of providing “social protection, decent work and also to ensure accelerated growth in low income countries (LICs).”³⁰²⁵

At the 2011 Cannes Summit, the G20 members noted the weakness of the global economic recovery and reiterated their support for job creation as a means of effective economic recovery.³⁰²⁶ The members introduced an Action Plan for Growth and Jobs, which outlined a plan to “address short term vulnerabilities, restore financial stability and strengthen the medium-term foundations for growth.”³⁰²⁷ Additionally, the members iterated their commitment to supporting work opportunities for youth through the creation of a G20 Task Force on Employment.³⁰²⁸

At the 2012 Los Cabos Summit, the members of the G20 released the Los Cabos Growth and Jobs Action Plan as the members agreed that creating sustainable and quality jobs was the utmost priority of this summit’s agenda.³⁰²⁹ The leaders highlighted the fragile global economic recovery following the 2008 global recession and iterated their commitment towards reducing poverty and increasing the welfare of individuals around the world.³⁰³⁰ This would be achieved through job creation, skills training, and reducing barriers to education.³⁰³¹ Moreover, the members focused on creating decent work and quality jobs for youth, women, and other at-risk groups, to ensure that they were not left behind in the recovery process.³⁰³²

At the 2013 St. Petersburg Summit, promoting inclusive economic growth and job creation remained as primary goals for the G20 members.³⁰³³ The members outlined a plethora of commitments towards spurring jobs, ensuring labour protections, enacting targeted funding with the aim of incorporating under-represented groups into the labour market, increasing social cohesion through coordinated labour and market policies, funding apprenticeships and training programs, and more

³⁰²² Global Plan for Recovery and Reform, G20 Information Centre (Toronto), 2 April 2009. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2009/2009communique0402.html>

³⁰²³ Global Plan for Recovery and Reform, G20 Information Centre (Toronto), 2 April 2009. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2009/2009communique0402.html>

³⁰²⁴ The G20 Seoul Summit Leaders’ Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 11 November 2010. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2010/g20seoul.pdf>

³⁰²⁵ The G20 Seoul Summit Leaders’ Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 11 November 2010. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2010/g20seoul.pdf>

³⁰²⁶ Communiqué: G20 Leaders Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 4 November 2011. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2011/2011-cannes-communique-111104-en.html>

³⁰²⁷ Cannes Summit Final Declaration – Building Our Common Future: Renewed Collective Action for the Benefit of All, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 4 November 2011. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2011/2011-cannes-declaration-111104-en.html>

³⁰²⁸ Communiqué: G20 Leaders Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 4 November 2011. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2011/2011-cannes-communique-111104-en.html>

³⁰²⁹ G20 Leaders Declaration: Los Cabos Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 19 June 2012. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2012/2012-0619-loscabos.html>

³⁰³⁰ G20 Leaders’ Declaration: St. Petersburg Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 6 September 2013. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2013/2013-0906-declaration.html>

³⁰³¹ G20 Leaders’ Declaration: St. Petersburg Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 6 September 2013. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2013/2013-0906-declaration.html>

³⁰³² G20 Leaders’ Declaration: St. Petersburg Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 6 September 2013. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2013/2013-0906-declaration.html>

³⁰³³ G20 Leaders’ Declaration: St. Petersburg Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 6 September 2013. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2013/2013-0906-declaration.html>

effective employment services. Moreover, the G20 members recognized the importance of creating country-specific job creation action plans to operate within each member's respective constitutional laws. Finally, the G20 members committed to establishing cohesive and coordinated macroeconomic, financial, fiscal, education, skills development, innovation, employment, and social protection policies as a means of establishing inclusive and sustainable growth.

At the 2014 Brisbane Summit, the leaders iterated their commitment towards reducing the gap in participation rates between men and women in the labour market by 25 per cent by 2025.³⁰³⁴ As well, they stated their commitment to bringing more than 100 million women into their collective workforces while while creating quality jobs.³⁰³⁵ The G20 members further built upon their inclusive policies by committing to reduce youth unemployment rates through the implementation of a collective Employment Plan.³⁰³⁶ This Employment Plan outlines a framework for investments in apprenticeships, education and training programs, and funding incentive programs for youth to pursue entrepreneurship.³⁰³⁷

At the 2015 Antalya Summit, the G20 Antalya Youth Goal was established to reduce the number of at-risk youth from being permanently left behind in the labour market by 15 per cent by 2025.³⁰³⁸ This goal was significant because it set up a framework for the G20 members to measure their success at protecting youth employment opportunities for the proceeding 10 years. In addition, the G20 presented the G20 Skills Strategy for Developing and Using Skills for the 21st Century in partnership with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the ILO.³⁰³⁹ The skills strategy outlined the need to promote inclusive economic growth through encouraging enterprises to invest in the skills of its workers, promoting the participation of under-represented workers in the labour market, investing in foundational skills such as literacy and numeracy, and reducing barriers to accessing quality education.³⁰⁴⁰

At the 2016 Hangzhou Summit³⁰⁴¹ and 2017 Hamburg Summit³⁰⁴², the focus of the labour and employment commitment area primarily shifted towards responding to the effects of automation and rapid technological advances upon the labour market. The members were particularly concerned about the economic inequalities that might arise for workers who lack digital skills.³⁰⁴³ In response to

³⁰³⁴ G20 Leaders' Communiqué: 2014 Brisbane Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 November 2014. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/2014-1116-communication.html>

³⁰³⁵ G20 Leaders' Communiqué: 2014 Brisbane Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 November 2014. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/2014-1116-communication.html>

³⁰³⁶ G20 Leaders' Communiqué: 2014 Brisbane Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 November 2014. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/2014-1116-communication.html>

³⁰³⁷ G20 Leaders' Communiqué: 2014 Brisbane Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 November 2014. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/2014-1116-communication.html>

³⁰³⁸ Annex III: G20 Policy Principles for Promoting Better Youth Employment Outcomes, G20 Information Centre (Toronto), 4 September 2015. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2015/G20-Policy-Principles-for-Promoting-Better-Youth-Unemployment-Outcomes.pdf>

³⁰³⁹ The G20 Skills Strategy for Developing and Using Skills for the 21st Century, OECD (Paris) 23 July 2015. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.oecd.org/g20/topics/employment-and-social-policy/The-G20-Skills-Strategy-for-Developing-and-Using-Skills-for-the-21st-Century.pdf>

³⁰⁴⁰ The G20 Skills Strategy for Developing and Using Skills for the 21st Century, OECD (Paris) 23 July 2015. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.oecd.org/g20/topics/employment-and-social-policy/The-G20-Skills-Strategy-for-Developing-and-Using-Skills-for-the-21st-Century.pdf>

³⁰⁴¹ G20 Leaders' Communiqué: Hangzhou Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-communication.html>

³⁰⁴² G20 Leaders' Declaration: Shaping an Interconnected World, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2017. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2017/2017-G20-leaders-declaration.html>

³⁰⁴³ G20 Leaders' Communiqué: Hangzhou Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-communication.html>

these recent advancements, the G20 stated their commitment to providing digital skills for workers through partnerships within the academic and business sectors.³⁰⁴⁴

At the 2018 Buenos Aires Summit, the G20 members emphasized their commitment to establishing an inclusive and fair framework for job creation.³⁰⁴⁵ In particular, this summit introduced the Menu of Policy Options for the Future of Work, which included measures to improve the digital and entrepreneurship skills, increasing workforce participations amongst vulnerable sectors of society, strengthening social protections, mobilizing resources from public, private, and multilateral partnerships, and promoting general vocational and skills training.³⁰⁴⁶ As well, the G20 members stated their support for promoting decent jobs for you and reiterated their commitment to the Antalya Youth Goal.³⁰⁴⁷

At the 2019 Osaka Summit, the issue of labour and employment took on a youthful lens, with a particular focus on reducing barriers to meaningful youth employment by improving employment opportunities and skills training for youth.³⁰⁴⁸ The G20 members also iterated their support of increasing labour market participation amongst old age workers, women, and persons with disabilities. Additionally, the members stated their commitment towards increasing job creation and raising the quality of employment.³⁰⁴⁹

Although the labour and employment commitment has been a primary focus of the G20 since 2009, its relevance became further underscored upon the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020. The varying approaches adopted by governments towards containing the pandemic have resulted in detrimental ramifications upon the global economy that will likely be felt for several years to come. G20 members, as well as other countries, have been battling staggering rates of job loss and other economic challenges throughout the pandemic. Such economic circumstances thus underscore the growing significance of mitigating job loss and rebuilding strong economies in the wake of the pandemic.

With this goal in mind, the G20 leaders reiterated their continued commitment towards supporting workers through training and reskilling policies at the 2020 Riyadh Summit. Moreover, the members highlighted the devastating effects of the pandemic upon labour markets and acknowledged the millions of jobs that have been lost worldwide. Finally, the G20 leaders recognized the detrimental effects of the current labour market conditions upon the participation of women and youth within the sector. The members thus restated their commitment towards achieving the G20 Antalya Youth Goal of reducing the percentage of at-risk youth from being left behind in the labour market by 15 per cent by 2025. And although the members reiterated their commitment towards addressing and mitigating the employment barriers faced by youth as in summits past, there was a greater emphasis placed upon overall recovery from the economically damaging effects of the pandemic. Thus, the commitment made by the G20 members towards implementing training and reskilling policies highlights importance of providing workers with the skills they need to remain and re-enter the workforce as the members continue to build back their economies in light of the pandemic.

³⁰⁴⁴ G20 Leaders' Communiqué: Hangzhou Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-communication.html>

³⁰⁴⁵ G20 Leaders' Declaration: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-leaders-declaration.html>

³⁰⁴⁶ G20 Leaders' Declaration: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-leaders-declaration.html>

³⁰⁴⁷ G20 Leaders' Declaration: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-leaders-declaration.html>

³⁰⁴⁸ G20 Osaka Leaders' Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 29 June 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2019/2019-g20-osaka-leaders-declaration.html>

³⁰⁴⁹ G20 Osaka Leaders' Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 29 June 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2019/2019-g20-osaka-leaders-declaration.html>

Commitment Features

At the 2020 Riyadh Summit, the members of the G20 committed to continuing to support workers through implementing training and reskilling policies.

The term “support” means to assist or help.³⁰⁵⁰ In this context, the actions implemented by members can be defined as “supportive” to workers insofar as they are designed with the intention of helping workers by protecting jobs and providing workers with the skills necessary to either enter or re-enter the labour market. Moreover, “train” is defined as “to teach so as to make fit, qualified, or proficient.”³⁰⁵¹ Thus, “training policies” refers to programs or initiatives that provide workers who are entering the labour market with the education and skills they need to enter the workforce. Examples of such initiatives include funding workshops to provide recent university graduates with practical skills, apprenticeships and vocational training programs that provide hands-on job training, developing school and university materials that promote entrepreneurship, and national job grant programs that provide funding for workplaces to further train their employees. Finally, “reskilling” is defined as “the process of learning new skills so you can do a different job, or of training people to do a different job.”³⁰⁵² So, “reskilling policies” refer to programs or initiatives that provide skilled workers with the platform to gain additional skills that are applicable to one or more sectors outside of their own. Examples of such initiatives includes funding programs for recently unemployed workers to gain a certification in a program outside of their occupation.

To achieve full compliance, members must take national action towards supporting workers by implementing both training and reskilling policies. Members can achieve partial compliance if they take action towards supporting workers through the implementation of either training or reskilling policies. Negative compliance results from a lack of supportive measures being established for workers such that neither training nor reskilling policies are implemented.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	G20 member does not take action towards supporting workers and fails to implement training OR reskilling policies.
0	G20 member takes action towards supporting workers by implementing either training OR reskilling policies.
+1	G20 member takes action towards supporting workers by implementing training AND reskilling policies.

*Compliance Director: Alyssa Atef
Lead Analyst: Meixi Zhang*

Argentina: 0

Argentina has partially complied with its commitment to supporting workers through implementing training and reskilling policies.

On 28 July 2021, the Government of Argentina launched the Te Sumo Program to support youth employment by small and medium sized businesses.³⁰⁵³ The program provides benefits to small and medium sized businesses who conduct job training for youth for up to six months with the choice of

³⁰⁵⁰ Support, Meriam-Webster 2021. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/support>

³⁰⁵¹ Train, Meriam-Webster 2021. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/train>

³⁰⁵² Reskilling, Cambridge Dictionary 2021. Access Date: 25 February 2021.

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/reskilling>

³⁰⁵³The government launched the "Te Sumo" program to promote youth employment in SMEs throughout the country, Government of Argentina (Bueno Aires) 28 July 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021.

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-gobierno-lanzo-el-programa-te-sumo-para-promover-el-empleo-joven-en-pymes-de-todo-el>

hiring at the end.³⁰⁵⁴ The Te Sumo Program aims to ease the difficulty youth face in entering the labour market.³⁰⁵⁵

On 11 August 2021, the Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Security of the Nation signed an agreement with national universities to expand the Youth with More and Better Work Program to include employment and training courses for unemployed youth.³⁰⁵⁶ The Youth with More and Better Work Program was initially launched in 2015 and to assist youth aged 18-24 with accessing the employment market by providing training and development opportunities.³⁰⁵⁷ This agreement with national universities will create more training opportunities for youth, including access to “123 Introduction to Work Courses and 48 Courses to Support Employability and Social Integration.”³⁰⁵⁸

On 17 August 2021, the Ministry of Productive Development announced that it would allocate ARS2 billion to micro, small and medium sized enterprises (MSME) to support institutions or organizations with strategic training projects.³⁰⁵⁹ The purpose of the benefits package is to financially assist institutions, such as business chambers or public universities, in funding training programs for MSMEs, including development resources in addition to the training of entrepreneurs and technical teams.³⁰⁶⁰ The investment is aimed to enhance “innovation, productivity and competitiveness of productive sectors and value chambers that have a territorial or regional impact.”³⁰⁶¹

On 15 September 2021, Secretary of Employment Leonardo Di Petro met with representatives from the Argentine Industrial Union to discuss the development of professional training resources.³⁰⁶² The

³⁰⁵⁴ Te Semo, Government of Argentina (Bueno Aires) Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/produccion/tesumo>

³⁰⁵⁵ The government launched the "Te Sumo" program to promote youth employment in SMEs throughout the country, Government of Argentina (Bueno Aires) 28 July 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-gobierno-lanzo-el-programa-te-sumo-para-promover-el-empleo-joven-en-pymes-de-todo-el>

³⁰⁵⁶ Agreements with National Universities to carry out employment orientation courses, Government of Argentina (Bueno Aires) 11 August 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/convenios-con-universidades-nacionales-para-la-realizar-cursos-de-orientacion-laboral>

³⁰⁵⁷ W/B: Job opportunities for half a million young adults, World Bank (Washington) 15 January 2015. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2015/01/15/wbargentina-job-opportunities-for-half-a-million-young-adults>

³⁰⁵⁸ Agreements with National Universities to carry out employment orientation courses, Government of Argentina (Bueno Aires) 11 August 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/convenios-con-universidades-nacionales-para-la-realizar-cursos-de-orientacion-laboral>

³⁰⁵⁹ The government grants \$ 2 billion in assistance and financing for training projects for SMEs, Government of Argentina (Bueno Aires) 17 August 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-gobierno-otorga-2000-millones-en-asistencia-y-financiamiento-para-proyectos-de>

³⁰⁶⁰ The government grants \$ 2 billion in assistance and financing for training projects for SMEs, Government of Argentina (Bueno Aires) 17 August 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-gobierno-otorga-2000-millones-en-asistencia-y-financiamiento-para-proyectos-de>

³⁰⁶¹ The government grants \$ 2 billion in assistance and financing for training projects for SMEs, Government of Argentina (Bueno Aires) 17 August 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-gobierno-otorga-2000-millones-en-asistencia-y-financiamiento-para-proyectos-de>

³⁰⁶² Labor held a meeting with representatives of the UIA, Government of Argentina (Bueno Aires) 15 September 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/trabajo-mantuvo-una-reunion-con-representantes-de-la-uia>

discussions also included an agreement to promote vocational training that meets “current production challenges.”³⁰⁶³

Argentina has taken actions towards supporting workers by implementing training policies, such as providing training opportunities for unemployed youth and MSMEs. However, Argentina has failed to implement policies towards reskilling of workers.

Thus, Argentina receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Hayley Spenst

Australia: +1

Australia has fully complied with its commitment to continue to supporting workers through training and reskilling policies.

On 20 January 2021, the Department of Employment, Skills, and Employment launched a trial program to provide the opportunity for workers in the mining industry to reskill and upskill.³⁰⁶⁴ Most notably, this trial program aims to simplify trainings, increase training accessibility by reducing barriers to obtaining qualifications, improve worker mobility and resiliency within the job market, and increase support for students to help students rapidly reskill or upskill.³⁰⁶⁵ The trial program is part of the government’s continuing commitment to improve the vocational education and training system in Australia.³⁰⁶⁶

On 9 March 2021, Australia announced the expansion of its targeted wage subsidy program as part of the government’s National Economic Recovery Plan.³⁰⁶⁷ The Boosting Apprenticeship Commencements wage subsidy program supports businesses and training organizations to take on new apprentices and trainees.³⁰⁶⁸ The program provides a 50 per cent subsidy for wages paid to apprentices between October 2020 and September 2021.³⁰⁶⁹ The government estimates that this expansion will generate around 70,000 new apprentice and trainee roles, with the government investing around AUD1.2 billion.³⁰⁷⁰

³⁰⁶³ Meeting with the Secretary of Employment of the Ministry of Labour, Leonardo Di Pietro, Union Industrial Argentina, (Bueno Aires) 17 September 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://www.uia.org.ar/educacion/3818/reunion-con-el-secretario-de-empleo-del-ministerio-de-trabajo-leonardo-di-pietro/>

³⁰⁶⁴ Helping Mining Workers Upskill and Reskill, Department of Education, Skills and Employment (Canberra) 20 January 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <https://ministers.dese.gov.au/cash/helping-mining-workers-upskill-and-reskill>

³⁰⁶⁵ Helping Mining Workers Upskill and Reskill, Department of Education, Skills and Employment (Canberra) 20 January 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <https://ministers.dese.gov.au/cash/helping-mining-workers-upskill-and-reskill>

³⁰⁶⁶ Helping Mining Workers Upskill and Reskill, Department of Education, Skills and Employment (Canberra) 20 January 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <https://ministers.dese.gov.au/cash/helping-mining-workers-upskill-and-reskill>

³⁰⁶⁷ Thousands of New Apprentice and Trainee Jobs, Prime Minister of Australia (Canberra) 9 March 2021. Access Date: 20 March 2021. <https://www.pm.gov.au/media/thousands-new-apprentice-and-trainee-jobs>

³⁰⁶⁸ Boosting Apprenticeship Commencements, Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment (Canberra) 9 March 2021. Access Date: 20 March 2021. <https://www.dese.gov.au/boosting-apprenticeship-commencements>

³⁰⁶⁹ Boosting Apprenticeship Commencements, Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment (Canberra) 9 March 2021. Access Date: 20 March 2021. <https://www.dese.gov.au/boosting-apprenticeship-commencements>

³⁰⁷⁰ Thousands of New Apprentices and Trainee Jobs, Liberal Party NSW (Canberra) 9 March 2021. Access Date: 20 March 2021. <https://nsw.liberal.org.au/Shared-Content/News/2021/Thousands-of-new-apprentices-and-trainee-jobs>

On 7 June 2021, the Department of Education, Skills and Employment launched a National Student Outcomes Survey for students who completed their vocational education and training in Australia.³⁰⁷¹ The purpose of the survey is to gauge student satisfaction with their training, employment, learning outcomes, and apprenticeship experiences.³⁰⁷²

On 22 July 2021, the Department of Education, Skills and Employment launched a trial program to train, upskill, and reskill entry-level data analysts in the digital economy sector.³⁰⁷³ This initiative is part of the broader Digital Skills Organization and aims to test out different approaches to designing digital training and qualification courses. The overall purpose of the trial is “to create improved qualifications and training that meets the evolving workforce needs of the digital economy.”³⁰⁷⁴ Regarding the trial program, Minister for Employment, Workforce, Skills, Small and Family Business Stuart Robert stated that the 2021 Federal Budget allocated AUD2 billion towards creating 10,000 additional digital skills training placements.³⁰⁷⁵ As well, Minister Robert stated that “this trial will provide a picture of what specialist digital skills are needed, improve the relationship between employers and the training system, and get more people into jobs.”³⁰⁷⁶

Australia has fully complied with its commitment to continue to support workers through implementing training and reskilling policies. In particular, Australia has implemented measures to support training roles through the expansion of the Boosting Apprenticeship Commencements wage subsidy, which is estimated to generate additional apprenticeships and trainee positions. As well, it invested in trial programs aimed at training, reskilling, and upskilling workers in key sectors.

Thus, Australia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Dorottya Szekeley

Brazil: 0

Brazil has partially complied with its commitment to supporting workers through implementing job training and reskilling policies.

On 2 March 2021, the Secretariat of Productivity, Employment and Competitiveness, along with the Ministry of Economy, partnered with the World Economic Forum to hold the first “Brazil Skills

³⁰⁷¹ Nearly 1 million students can have their say about their training, Department of Education, Skills and Employment (Canberra) 7 July 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <https://www.dese.gov.au/vocational-education-and-training-secondary-students/announcements/nearly-1-million-students-can-have-their-say-about-their-training>

³⁰⁷² Nearly 1 million students can have their say about their training, Department of Education, Skills and Employment (Canberra) 7 July 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <https://www.dese.gov.au/vocational-education-and-training-secondary-students/announcements/nearly-1-million-students-can-have-their-say-about-their-training>

³⁰⁷³ Upskilling and reskilling Australians to support booming digital sector, Department of Education, Skills and Employment (Canberra) 22 July 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021.

<https://ministers.dese.gov.au/robert/upskilling-and-reskilling-australians-support-booming-digital-sector>

³⁰⁷⁴ Upskilling and reskilling Australians to support booming digital sector, Department of Education, Skills and Employment (Canberra) 22 July 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021.

<https://ministers.dese.gov.au/robert/upskilling-and-reskilling-australians-support-booming-digital-sector>

³⁰⁷⁵ Upskilling and reskilling Australians to support booming digital sector, Department of Education, Skills and Employment (Canberra) 22 July 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021.

<https://ministers.dese.gov.au/robert/upskilling-and-reskilling-australians-support-booming-digital-sector>

³⁰⁷⁶ Upskilling and reskilling Australians to support booming digital sector, Department of Education, Skills and Employment (Canberra) 22 July 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021.

<https://ministers.dese.gov.au/robert/upskilling-and-reskilling-australians-support-booming-digital-sector>

Accelerator Initiative” meeting.³⁰⁷⁷ The Accelerator Initiative aims to upskill the Brazilian labour market through enrolling 8 million Brazilians in national job training programs.³⁰⁷⁸

On 6 July 2021, Education Ministers from Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa (BRICS) met virtually and signed a joint declaration to improve their collaboration on education and research efforts with respect to Technical Vocational and Educational Training institutions.³⁰⁷⁹

On 18 August 2021, the Minister of Economy attended a virtual meeting with their BRICS counterparts where they collectively reaffirmed their support for training, skilling, and reskilling policies.³⁰⁸⁰ Furthermore, the BRICS members emphasized “the importance of strengthening intra-BRICS cooperation on advanced technical skills for reskilling and upskilling by exchanging experience and good practices through match-making workshops, seminars, and exchange programs to develop a practical framework for ensuring appropriate required skills and knowledge for Industrial development.”³⁰⁸¹ Overall, the BRICS member committed to continuing their collective support for workers as one of several joint measures to achieve multilateral economic reform.³⁰⁸²

On 18 August 2021, BRICS Industry Ministers met virtually to discuss the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic upon the industry and trade sectors.³⁰⁸³ During this meeting, the Ministers reiterated their commitment towards utilizing new technologies to “promote training and skills development of the related workforce and businesses through workshops, seminars, and exchange programs.”³⁰⁸⁴

On 31 August 2021, BRICS Youth Ministers met virtually to discuss youth interests and the need to implement measures to mitigate the challenges facing youth as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.³⁰⁸⁵ Further to this, the delegates reaffirmed their commitment towards continuing to skill youth through the utilization of technological tools, in addition to creating additional employment opportunities for youth.³⁰⁸⁶

While Brazil has partially complied with its commitment to supporting workers through implementing a national job training program, they have yet to implement concrete actions to this end. Moreover, Brazil, has yet to take national action with respect to its commitment towards supporting workers through the implementation of reskilling policies.

³⁰⁷⁷ World Economic Forum Holds First Brazil Skills Accelerator Initiative Co-Chair Meeting, World Economic Forum (New York) 2 March 2021. Access Date: 22 March 2021. <https://www.weforum.org/press/2021/03/world-economic-forum-holds-first-brazil-skills-accelerator-initiative-co-chair-meeting/>

³⁰⁷⁸ World Economic Forum Holds First Brazil Skills Accelerator Initiative Co-Chair Meeting, World Economic Forum (New York) 2 March 2021. Access Date: 22 March 2021. <https://www.weforum.org/press/2021/03/world-economic-forum-holds-first-brazil-skills-accelerator-initiative-co-chair-meeting/>

³⁰⁷⁹ VIII BRICS Education Ministers’ Meeting, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 6 July 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/presspdf/press-57.pdf>

³⁰⁸⁰ BRICS Labour and Employment Ministers’ Declaration 2021, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/docpdf/getdocu-37.pdf>

³⁰⁸¹ BRICS Labour and Employment Ministers’ Declaration 2021, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/docpdf/getdocu-37.pdf>

³⁰⁸² BRICS Labour and Employment Ministers’ Declaration 2021, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/docpdf/getdocu-37.pdf>

³⁰⁸³ 5th BRICS Industry Ministers Meeting, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/presspdf/press-77.pdf>

³⁰⁸⁴ 5th BRICS Industry Ministers Meeting, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/presspdf/press-77.pdf>

³⁰⁸⁵ Joint Statement of BRICS Ministers Responsible for Youth, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 31 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/docpdf/getdocu-36.pdf>

³⁰⁸⁶ Joint Statement of BRICS Ministers Responsible for Youth, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 31 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/docpdf/getdocu-36.pdf>

Thus, Brazil receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Simren Ravina Sharma

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitments to support workers through training and reskilling policies.

On 17 February 2021, the Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion declared that the Government of Canada will be investing CAD62 million over five years into the Union Training and Innovation Program (UTIP).³⁰⁸⁷ The UTIP sponsors 68 projects that are a part of the Union Training and Innovation Program.³⁰⁸⁸ The UTIP employs a two-pronged strategy, investing in training equipment and materials, and aiding innovation in apprenticeships across Canada.³⁰⁸⁹ The UTIP program ensures that the quality of training within unions across Canada is upheld and reduces barriers for worker participation.³⁰⁹⁰

On 23 February 2021, the Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion announced that CAD4.78 million would be invested into the Youth Employment and Skills Strategy program.³⁰⁹¹ This program is targeted towards helping Black youth in Canada gain meaningful employment.³⁰⁹² The program will partner with various local organizations to provide “mentorships, pre-employment preparation, essential skills training, and employment retention skills training.”³⁰⁹³

As of 2 March 2021, Canada has provided an additional CAD1.5 billion to provinces and territories through the Workforce Development Agreements (WDAs).³⁰⁹⁴ As a result, provinces and territories

³⁰⁸⁷ Government of Canada invests in training to help Canadians become certified in the skilled trades, Employment and Social Development Canada (Toronto) 17 February 2021. Access Date: 25 March 2021.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2021/03/government-of-canada-invests-in-training-to-help-canadians-in-toronto-ontario-become-certified-in-skilled-trades.html>

³⁰⁸⁸ Government of Canada invests in training to help Canadians become certified in the skilled trades, Cision Newswire (Toronto) 17 February 2021. Access Date: 25 March 2021. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-invests-in-training-to-help-canadians-become-certified-in-the-skilled-trades-817896194.html>

³⁰⁸⁹ Government of Canada invests in training to help Canadians become certified in the skilled trades, Employment and Social Development Canada (Toronto) 17 February 2021. Access Date: 25 March 2021.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2021/03/government-of-canada-invests-in-training-to-help-canadians-in-toronto-ontario-become-certified-in-skilled-trades.html>

³⁰⁹⁰ Government of Canada invests in training to help Canadians become certified in the skilled trades, Employment and Social Development Canada (Toronto) 17 February 2021. Access Date: 25 March 2021.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2021/03/government-of-canada-invests-in-training-to-help-canadians-in-toronto-ontario-become-certified-in-skilled-trades.html>

³⁰⁹¹ Empowering Black youth to achieve meaningful careers, Employment and Social Development Canada (Gatineau) 23 February 2021. Access Date 27 March 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2021/02/empowering-black-youth-to-achieve-meaningful-careers.html>

³⁰⁹² Empowering Black youth to achieve meaningful careers, Employment and Social Development Canada (Gatineau) 23 February 2021. Access Date 27 March 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2021/02/empowering-black-youth-to-achieve-meaningful-careers.html>

³⁰⁹³ Empowering Black youth to achieve meaningful careers, Employment and Social Development Canada (Gatineau) 23 February 2021. Access Date 27 March 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2021/02/empowering-black-youth-to-achieve-meaningful-careers.html>

³⁰⁹⁴ Helping workers in New Brunswick develop the skills they need to find good jobs, Employment and Social Development Canada (Gatineau) 2 March 2021. Access Date: 25 March 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2021/03/helping-workers-in-new-brunswick-develop-the-skills-they-need-to-find-good-jobs.html>

will be able to provide skills training, financial assistance, and benefits to workers and employers within the labour market who have been disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.³⁰⁹⁵

On 19 April 2021, the Canadian government announced a new budget which directs CAD470 million over a period of three years towards a new apprenticeship program.³⁰⁹⁶ The proposed funding will provide small to medium sized employers incentives to hire first-year apprentices.³⁰⁹⁷ The budget also proposes a plan to invest CAD960 million in a Sectoral Workforce Solutions Program.³⁰⁹⁸ This funding would provide approximately 90,000 Canadian workers with skilled work training.³⁰⁹⁹

On 15 July 2021, the Ministry of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion announced a series of investments towards the skills training of young Canadian and students through a CAD5.7 billion funding allocation made within the Government's 2021 Budget. Firstly, the Ministry of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion committed to invest over CAD371.3 million into the Canadian Summer Jobs program for the 2022-23 year.³¹⁰⁰ The purpose of this funding is to make summer skills training and learning opportunities more accessible to youth and students.³¹⁰¹ In addition to this funding, the Ministry committed to invest approximately CAD298 million over the course of three years towards a new Skills for Success initiative. The initiative will be launched in 2021-2022 and aims to help 90,000 Canadians "improve their foundational and transferrable skills."³¹⁰² Finally, the Ministry earmarked over CAD470 million towards a new Apprenticeship Service. Starting in 2021 and over the course of three years, the program aims to assist 55,000 first-year apprentices with beginning their careers in Red Seal trades.³¹⁰³

On 29 July 2021, the Minister of Labour announced the government's support for the skilled trades by providing targeted investments in training and certifications for marginalized groups, including "women, newcomers, Indigenous people, person with disabilities, and Black and racialized

³⁰⁹⁵ Government of Canada invests in training to help Canadians become certified in the skilled trades, Employment and Social Development Canada (Toronto) 15 March 2021. Access Date: 24 March 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2021/03/government-of-canada-invests-in-training-to-help-canadians-in-toronto-ontario-become-certified-in-skilled-trades.html>

³⁰⁹⁶ Federal budget provides funding for new apprenticeship service, supports skilled trades, Daily Commercial News (Toronto) 19 April 2021. Access Date: 1 May 2021. <https://canada.constructconnect.com/dcn/news/government/2021/04/federal-budget-provides-funding-for-new-apprenticeship-service-supports-skilled-trades>

³⁰⁹⁷ Federal budget provides funding for new apprenticeship service, supports skilled trades, Daily Commercial News (Toronto) 19 April 2021. Access Date: 1 May 2021. <https://canada.constructconnect.com/dcn/news/government/2021/04/federal-budget-provides-funding-for-new-apprenticeship-service-supports-skilled-trades>

³⁰⁹⁸ Federal budget provides funding for new apprenticeship service, supports skilled trades, Daily Commercial News (Toronto) 19 April 2021. Access Date: 1 May 2021. <https://canada.constructconnect.com/dcn/news/government/2021/04/federal-budget-provides-funding-for-new-apprenticeship-service-supports-skilled-trades>

³⁰⁹⁹ Federal budget provides funding for new apprenticeship service, supports skilled trades, Daily Commercial News (Toronto) 19 April 2021. Access Date: 1 May 2021. <https://canada.constructconnect.com/dcn/news/government/2021/04/federal-budget-provides-funding-for-new-apprenticeship-service-supports-skilled-trades>

³¹⁰⁰ Support for Young Canadians on World Youth Skills Day, Employment and Social Development Canada (Toronto) 15 July 2021. Access Date: 20 July 2021. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/support-for-young-canadians-on-world-youth-skills-day-840372524.html>

³¹⁰¹ Support for Young Canadians on World Youth Skills Day, Employment and Social Development Canada (Toronto) 15 July 2021. Access Date: 20 July 2021. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/support-for-young-canadians-on-world-youth-skills-day-840372524.html>

³¹⁰² Support for Young Canadians on World Youth Skills Day, Employment and Social Development Canada (Toronto) 15 July 2021. Access Date: 20 July 2021. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/support-for-young-canadians-on-world-youth-skills-day-840372524.html>

³¹⁰³ Support for Young Canadians on World Youth Skills Day, Employment and Social Development Canada (Toronto) 15 July 2021. Access Date: 20 July 2021. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/support-for-young-canadians-on-world-youth-skills-day-840372524.html>

Canadians”.³¹⁰⁴ The funding allocation is approximately CAD2.4 million to be provided over the course of five years and aims to assist approximately 2300 apprentices with becoming certified.³¹⁰⁵ The funding package aims to create new national guidelines with the intent of enhancing diversity and inclusion within the skilled trades.³¹⁰⁶

On 3 August 2021, the Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion launched a call for proposals for the new Apprenticeship Service.³¹⁰⁷ The Apprenticeship Service Project, which will receive CAD470 million in funding over the course of three years, intends to support employers who were previously limited in their capacity in providing apprenticeship training opportunities.³¹⁰⁸ This service also incentivises employers to boost diversity within their apprenticeship training programs by doubling incentives for employers who hire from worker from marginalized groups, “specifically women, persons with disabilities, Indigenous people, members of the LGBTQ2+ communities, newcomers and visible minorities including Black and other racialized communities.”³¹⁰⁹

On 13 August 2021, the Ministry of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion announced CAD7.5 million funding for a project to create additional employment and reskilling programs for persons with disabilities.³¹¹⁰ This program was funded in recognition that the COVID-19 pandemic has disproportionately affected employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities.³¹¹¹ This funding package, to be distributed through the Rick Hansen Foundation, will

³¹⁰⁴ Government of Canada invests in training to help workers across Canada become certified in the skilled trades (Winnipeg) 29 July 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2021/07/utip-funding-announcement0.html>

³¹⁰⁵ Government of Canada invests in training to help workers across Canada become certified in the skilled trades (Winnipeg) 29 July 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2021/07/utip-funding-announcement0.html>

³¹⁰⁶ Government of Canada invests in training to help workers across Canada become certified in the skilled trades (Winnipeg) 29 July 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2021/07/utip-funding-announcement0.html>

³¹⁰⁷ Government launches Calls for Proposals to remove barriers and get more apprentices certified in the skilled trades

(Kitchener) 3 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2021/08/apprenticeship-serviceutip-cfp-launch-ibew-local-804-utip-news-release.html>

³¹⁰⁸ Government launches Calls for Proposals to remove barriers and get more apprentices certified in the skilled trades

(Kitchener) 3 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2021/08/apprenticeship-serviceutip-cfp-launch-ibew-local-804-utip-news-release.html>

³¹⁰⁹ Government launches Calls for Proposals to remove barriers and get more apprentices certified in the skilled trades

(Kitchener) 3 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2021/08/apprenticeship-serviceutip-cfp-launch-ibew-local-804-utip-news-release.html>

³¹¹⁰ Government of Canada invests in training for persons with disabilities to create a more inclusive workforce and stronger economy (Surrey) 13 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2021/08/government-of-canada-invests-in-training-for-persons-with-disabilities-to-create-a-more-inclusive-workforce-and-stronger-economy.html>

³¹¹¹ Government of Canada invests in training for persons with disabilities to create a more inclusive workforce and stronger economy (Surrey) 13 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2021/08/government-of-canada-invests-in-training-for-persons-with-disabilities-to-create-a-more-inclusive-workforce-and-stronger-economy.html>

“establish a new standardized profession of ‘accessibility professional’” and improve the Foundation’s ability to design and provide instruction on how to build fully accessible spaces.³¹¹²

On 13 August 2021, the Ministry of Northern Affairs announced CAD1.4 million in funding for the Manitoba Building Trades project.³¹¹³ This funding will help Manitoba Building Trades buy new equipment and materials, which will consequently help in providing electrician apprentices with the skills and modern training that they require within skilled trades sector.³¹¹⁴ As well, the funding will contribute to ensuring that participating barriers are reduced for key groups, including “women, Indigenous people, newcomers, persons with disabilities and visible minorities, including Black and other racialized communities.”³¹¹⁵

Canada fully complied with its commitment to supporting workers through implementing training and reskilling policies by promoting innovation in the apprenticeship sector and removing barriers to worker training. Moreover, investments into WDAs have enabled provinces and territories to implement reskilling programs within their respective jurisdictions.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Tourang Movahedi

China: +1

China has fully complied with its commitment towards supporting workers through training and reskilling policies.

On 27 November 2020, President Xi Jinping announced to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) that China would train 1,000 administrative and specialized personnel in the ASEAN countries’ health sector as part of the China-ASEAN Human Resources Training Program of Health Silk Road from 2020-2022.³¹¹⁶

On 9 December 2020, the Chinese Ministry of Education, in partnership with 11 local universities and the China Center for Disease Control and Prevention, announced the launch of training

³¹¹² Government of Canada invests in training for persons with disabilities to create a more inclusive workforce and stronger economy (Surrey) 13 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2021/08/government-of-canada-invests-in-training-for-persons-with-disabilities-to-create-a-more-inclusive-workforce-and-stronger-economy.html>

³¹¹³ Government of Canada invests in training to help workers in Manitoba become certified in the skilled trades (Winnipeg) 13 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2021/08/government-of-canada-invests-in-training-to-help-workers-in-manitoba-become-certified-in-the-skilled-trades.html>

³¹¹⁴ Government of Canada invests in training to help workers in Manitoba become certified in the skilled trades (Winnipeg) 13 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2021/08/government-of-canada-invests-in-training-to-help-workers-in-manitoba-become-certified-in-the-skilled-trades.html>

³¹¹⁵ Government of Canada invests in training to help workers in Manitoba become certified in the skilled trades (Winnipeg) 13 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2021/08/government-of-canada-invests-in-training-to-help-workers-in-manitoba-become-certified-in-the-skilled-trades.html>

³¹¹⁶ Remarks by H.E. Xi Jinping President of the People's Republic of China At the Opening Ceremony of the 17th China-ASEAN Expo and China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Beijing) 27 November 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2021. https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/zxxx_662805/t1836117.shtml

programs targeted towards increasing the number of public health professionals.³¹¹⁷ The programs will emphasize on-the-job training for post-graduate and doctoral level public health education.³¹¹⁸

On 24 December 2020, the Chinese Ministry of Education held a career forum for 2021 university graduates from Hubei to provide quality employment assurance for Hubei-based graduates in response to the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.³¹¹⁹ At the forum, Vice Minister of Education Weng Tiehui announced that seven policy measures would soon be implemented by the government.³¹²⁰ Of the seven measures, notable policies include the requirement for provinces, cities, and large industries to add and fulfill quotas for hiring Hubei-based graduates, along with assistance being provided to graduates from vulnerable sectors of society to grow their employable skills and promote entrepreneurship.³¹²¹ Vice Minister Tiehui also announced the launch of a new employment service system for university graduates that will provide recent graduates access to job postings within the government.³¹²²

On 16 April 2021, the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security announced the implementation of a training program targeted at professional and technical personnel within the professions of engineering and project management.³¹²³ The training program aims to contribute towards building a national self-reliance upon the country's own scientific and technological sectors, with an emphasis on spurring innovative development.³¹²⁴ In order to contribute towards this goal, the training program intends to improve both the quality and ability of technical and professional workers.³¹²⁵ Prospective trainees are required to pass the training assessment to obtain a certificate of completion.³¹²⁶

³¹¹⁷ Universities and China CDC launch innovative programs to train more public health professionals, Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 9 December 2020. Access Date: 21 March 2021. http://en.moe.gov.cn/news/press_releases/202012/t20201222_506993.html

³¹¹⁸ Universities and China CDC launch innovative programs to train more public health professionals, Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 9 December 2020. Access Date: 21 March 2021. http://en.moe.gov.cn/news/press_releases/202012/t20201222_506993.html

³¹¹⁹ Career fair organized for Hubei 2021 graduates, Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 4 December 2020. Access Date: 21 March 2021. http://en.moe.gov.cn/news/press_releases/202012/t20201208_504211.html

³¹²⁰ Career fair organized for Hubei 2021 graduates, Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 4 December 2020. Access Date: 21 March 2021. http://en.moe.gov.cn/news/press_releases/202012/t20201208_504211.html

³¹²¹ Career fair organized for Hubei 2021 graduates, Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 4 December 2020. Access Date: 21 March 2021. http://en.moe.gov.cn/news/press_releases/202012/t20201208_504211.html

³¹²² Career fair organized for Hubei 2021 graduates, Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 4 December 2020. Access Date: 21 March 2021. http://en.moe.gov.cn/news/press_releases/202012/t20201208_504211.html

³¹²³ Notice of the General Office of the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security on Printing and Distributing the Advanced Training Project Plan of the Professional and Technical Talents Knowledge Update Project in 2021, Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security (Beijing) 16 April 2021. Access Date: 29 April 2021. http://www.mohrss.gov.cn//xxgk2020/fdzdgknr/zcfg/gfxwj/rcrs/202104/t20210420_413110.html?keywords=

³¹²⁴ Notice of the General Office of the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security on Printing and Distributing the Advanced Training Project Plan of the Professional and Technical Talents Knowledge Update Project in 2021, Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security (Beijing) 16 April 2021. Access Date: 29 April 2021. http://www.mohrss.gov.cn//xxgk2020/fdzdgknr/zcfg/gfxwj/rcrs/202104/t20210420_413110.html?keywords=

³¹²⁵ Notice of the General Office of the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security on Printing and Distributing the Advanced Training Project Plan of the Professional and Technical Talents Knowledge Update Project in 2021, Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security (Beijing) 16 April 2021. Access Date: 29 April 2021. http://www.mohrss.gov.cn//xxgk2020/fdzdgknr/zcfg/gfxwj/rcrs/202104/t20210420_413110.html?keywords=

³¹²⁶ Notice of the General Office of the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security on Printing and Distributing the Advanced Training Project Plan of the Professional and Technical Talents Knowledge Update Project in 2021, Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security (Beijing) 16 April 2021. Access Date: 29 April 2021. http://www.mohrss.gov.cn//xxgk2020/fdzdgknr/zcfg/gfxwj/rcrs/202104/t20210420_413110.html?keywords=

On 19 April 2021, the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security released a work plan announcing an increase in vocational education and training in digital technologies, with emphasis on artificial intelligence, big data, and cloud computing.³¹²⁷

On 2 June 2021, forestry authorities from China and 15 Central and Eastern European (CEE) countries, including Slovenia, announced that they would be enhancing their cooperation efforts towards bioeconomic growth at the 3rd China-CEE High-Level Conference on Forestry Cooperation in China.³¹²⁸ As part of their cooperative efforts, China, the CEE, and Slovenia will invest in forestry education, skills training, and technical exchanges.³¹²⁹

On 21 June 2021, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs announced the results of a training program launched in 2016 to teach farmers to use digital technologies for farming activities. Since its launch, the program has supported training sessions over 100 million farmers on how to use smartphones.³¹³⁰ The Ministry stated that learning and implementing these new digital skills enabled over 60 million farmers to sell RMB40 billion worth of agricultural products.³¹³¹

On 30 June 2021, the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security announced its 14th Five-Year Plan through 2021-2025.³¹³² As part of the plan, China aims to train more technicians and skilled workers while also subsidizing training programs.³¹³³

On 6 July 2021, Education Ministers from Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa (BRICS) met virtually and signed a joint declaration to improve their collaboration on education and research efforts with respect to Technical Vocational and Educational Training institutions.³¹³⁴

On 7 July 2021, the State Council, China's Cabinet, released a long-term National Action Plan for Scientific Literacy with the aim of cultivating public scientific literacy, specifically targeting five priority groups: farmers, industrial workers, the elderly, civil servants, and state officials.³¹³⁵ The plan also includes training teachers in mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology, general technology, and information technology.³¹³⁶ Furthermore, China aims to spur innovation in rural regions by

³¹²⁷ Govt policy moves from past week, The State Council (Beijing) 28 April 2021. Access Date: 1 May 2021.

http://english.www.gov.cn/policies/policywatch/202104/28/content_WS608899f5c6d0df57f98d8b18.html

³¹²⁸ China, CEE countries to jointly boost forest bioeconomy, The State Council (Beijing) 2 June 2021. Access Date: 25 July 2021.

http://english.www.gov.cn/news/internationalexchanges/202106/02/content_WS60b7861ac6d0df57f98da9d0.html

³¹²⁹ China, CEE countries to jointly boost forest bioeconomy, The State Council (Beijing) 2 June 2021. Access Date: 25 July 2021.

http://english.www.gov.cn/news/internationalexchanges/202106/02/content_WS60b7861ac6d0df57f98da9d0.html

³¹³⁰ China trains 100m farmers how to use smartphones, The State Council (Beijing) 23 June 2021. Access Date: 25 July 2021. http://english.www.gov.cn/statecouncil/ministries/202106/23/content_WS60d2906ac6d0df57f98dbaa9.html

³¹³¹ China trains 100m farmers how to use smartphones, The State Council (Beijing) 23 June 2021. Access Date: 25 July 2021. http://english.www.gov.cn/statecouncil/ministries/202106/23/content_WS60d2906ac6d0df57f98dbaa9.html

³¹³² China to steadily improve social security benefits, The State Council (Beijing) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 25 July 2021. http://english.www.gov.cn/statecouncil/ministries/202106/30/content_WS60dc8010c6d0df57f98dc301.html

³¹³³ China to steadily improve social security benefits, The State Council (Beijing) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 25 July 2021. http://english.www.gov.cn/statecouncil/ministries/202106/30/content_WS60dc8010c6d0df57f98dc301.html

³¹³⁴ VIII BRICS Education Ministers' Meeting, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 6 July 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/presspdf/press-57.pdf>

³¹³⁵ Scientific literacy plan announced, The State Council (Beijing) 7 July 2021. Access Date: 25 July 2021.

http://english.www.gov.cn/policies/policywatch/202107/07/content_WS60e51e8dc6d0df57f98dc841.html

³¹³⁶ Scientific literacy plan announced, The State Council (Beijing) 7 July 2021. Access Date: 25 July 2021.

http://english.www.gov.cn/policies/policywatch/202107/07/content_WS60e51e8dc6d0df57f98dc841.html

providing opportunities, such as talent training, to farmers.³¹³⁷ The plan also highlights the necessity to provide industrial workers with new skills through opportunities such as training programs.³¹³⁸

On 21 July 2021, the Ministry of Education and five other ministries announced their intention to improve the quality of vocational education and raise student enrollment by 1 million students in 2021 by encouraging apprenticeships and offering specialized training, among other targeted measures.³¹³⁹

On 4 August 2021, the State Council affirmed its support for improving the quality of teachers in rural areas of China's central and western regions.³¹⁴⁰ To this end, the government aims to provide targeted training for 10,000 college students in 2021 so as to ensure they enter the sector with the skills necessary to impart a higher caliber of education within China's rural regions.³¹⁴¹

On 18 August 2021, the Minister of Industry and Information Technology attended a virtual meeting with their BRICS counterparts where they collectively reaffirmed their support for training, skilling, and reskilling policies.³¹⁴² Furthermore, the BRICS members emphasized “the importance of strengthening intra-BRICS cooperation on advanced technical skills for reskilling and upskilling by exchanging experience and good practices through match-making workshops, seminars, and exchange programs to develop a practical framework for ensuring appropriate required skills and knowledge for Industrial development.”³¹⁴³ Overall, the BRICS member committed to continuing their collective support for workers as one of several joint measures to achieve multilateral economic reform.³¹⁴⁴

On 18 August 2021, BRICS Industry Ministers met virtually to discuss the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic upon the industry and trade sectors.³¹⁴⁵ During this meeting, the Ministers reiterated their commitment towards utilizing new technologies to “promote training and skills development of the related workforce and businesses through workshops, seminars, and exchange programs.”³¹⁴⁶

On 27 August 2021, the State Council launched its Five-Year Plan from 2021-2025, which contained measures to support employment and bolster the job market.³¹⁴⁷ As part of this plan, the government

³¹³⁷ Scientific literacy plan announced, The State Council (Beijing) 7 July 2021. Access Date: 25 July 2021.

http://english.www.gov.cn/policies/policywatch/202107/07/content_WS60e51e8dc6d0df57f98dc841.html

³¹³⁸ Scientific literacy plan announced, The State Council (Beijing) 7 July 2021. Access Date: 25 July 2021.

http://english.www.gov.cn/policies/policywatch/202107/07/content_WS60e51e8dc6d0df57f98dc841.html

³¹³⁹ Govt policy moves from past week, The State Council (Beijing) 21 July 2021. Access Date: 25 July 2021.

http://english.www.gov.cn/policies/policywatch/202107/21/content_WS60f7762fc6d0df57f98dd503.html

³¹⁴⁰ China to train teachers for central, western regions, The State Council (Beijing) 4 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021.

http://english.www.gov.cn/statecouncil/ministries/202108/04/content_WS6109cab3c6d0df57f98ddf6.html

³¹⁴¹ China to train teachers for central, western regions, The State Council (Beijing) 4 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021.

http://english.www.gov.cn/statecouncil/ministries/202108/04/content_WS6109cab3c6d0df57f98ddf6.html

³¹⁴² BRICS Labour and Employment Ministers' Declaration 2021, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/docpdf/getdocu-37.pdf>

³¹⁴³ BRICS Labour and Employment Ministers' Declaration 2021, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/docpdf/getdocu-37.pdf>

³¹⁴⁴ BRICS Labour and Employment Ministers' Declaration 2021, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/docpdf/getdocu-37.pdf>

³¹⁴⁵ 5th BRICS Industry Ministers Meeting, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/presspdf/press-77.pdf>

³¹⁴⁶ 5th BRICS Industry Ministers Meeting, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/presspdf/press-77.pdf>

³¹⁴⁷ State Council unveils plan to boost employment, The State Council (Beijing) 27 August 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021.

http://english.www.gov.cn/policies/latestreleases/202108/27/content_WS6128ec70c6d0df57f98df447.html

aims to create 5.5 million jobs in urban areas and support local training programs and workshops to improve the skills of young workers.³¹⁴⁸

On 31 August 2021, BRICS Youth Ministers met virtually to discuss youth interests and the need to implement measures to mitigate the challenges facing youth as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.³¹⁴⁹ Further to this, the delegates reaffirmed their commitment towards continuing to skill youth through the utilization of technological tools, in addition to creating additional employment opportunities for youth.³¹⁵⁰

On 8 September 2021, Ministry of Education reaffirmed the government's commitment to improving the number and quality of educators in rural regions by supporting teacher training programs.³¹⁵¹ Through a program initially launched in 2006, the Ministry has a total of 1.03 million university graduates to teach in rural schools throughout the central and western regions and anticipates hiring 84,300 rural teachers in 2021.³¹⁵² Additionally, the Ministry launched a new teacher training program for rural regions in July 2021 and received an enrollment rate of 9,530 students.³¹⁵³

China has fully complied with its commitment to continue to supporting workers through implementing training and reskilling policies by investing in measures to both train future employees to enter the labour market and upskill current workers within the labour market. China has further demonstrated their commitment to supporting workers by investing in rural development and emphasizing reskilling for the transition into the digital age.

Thus, China receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Joy Chan

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment towards supporting workers through implementing training and reskilling policies.

On 20 January 2021, Minister of Labour, Employment and Integration Elisabeth Borne announced a set of measures by which the ministry-sponsored Employment Center and local employment missions will use to provide training courses in accordance with the 1 Youth 1 Solution plan.³¹⁵⁴ Although 1 Youth 1 Solution was initially announced as part of the France Relaunch COVID-19 recovery package on 3 September 2020, these recent updates provide a concrete action plan for regional authorities to implement youth training programs as mandated by the central

³¹⁴⁸ Govt outlines plan to beef up employment, The State Council (Beijing) 1 September 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021.

http://english.www.gov.cn/news/pressbriefings/202109/01/content_WS612ece09c6d0df57f98df754.html

³¹⁴⁹ Joint Statement of BRICS Ministers Responsible for Youth, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 31 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/docpdf/getdocu-36.pdf>

³¹⁵⁰ Joint Statement of BRICS Ministers Responsible for Youth, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 31 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/docpdf/getdocu-36.pdf>

³¹⁵¹ Educators to be trained for rural areas, The State Council (Beijing) 9 September 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. http://english.www.gov.cn/statecouncil/ministries/202109/09/content_WS613963d8c6d0df57f98dfe78.html

³¹⁵² Educators to be trained for rural areas, The State Council (Beijing) 9 September 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. http://english.www.gov.cn/statecouncil/ministries/202109/09/content_WS613963d8c6d0df57f98dfe78.html

³¹⁵³ Educators to be trained for rural areas, The State Council (Beijing) 9 September 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. http://english.www.gov.cn/statecouncil/ministries/202109/09/content_WS613963d8c6d0df57f98dfe78.html

³¹⁵⁴ Official Bulletin: Work, Employment, Vocational training, Ministry of Labour, Employment and Integration (Paris) 30 March 2021. Access Date: 8 April 2021. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/2021.4.travail.pdf>

government.³¹⁵⁵ It states that both local missions and the regional Employment Center office will work with local officials overseeing the implementation of the 1 Youth 1 Solution plan to create objectives for training people under the age of 30.³¹⁵⁶ This action reflects France's commitment to providing the 131,000 training courses mandated by the 1 youth 1 solution plan, along with its broader goal of training its workforce to hold jobs in strategic and emerging sectors.³¹⁵⁷

On 26 April 2021, Minister of the Economy and Finance Bruno Le Maire announced that EUR50 million will be used to retrain cast-metal workers made redundant by the automotive industry's shift towards electric vehicles.³¹⁵⁸

On 27 April 2021, Minister Le Maire and German Minister of Finance Olaf Scholz held a joint press conference regarding their national recovery and resilience plans. France and Germany announced plans for the EU to invest EUR750 billion towards support vocational training programs as part of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan.³¹⁵⁹ The National Recovery and Resilience Plan details plans on the allocation of funds provided by the European Union's Recovery and Resilience Facility. The National Recovery and Resilience Plan is a part of the France Relaunch plan, which aims to provide an economic recovery from COVID-19 in manner which will support a competitive and environmentally sustainable industry.³¹⁶⁰

On 27 May 2021, the Government of France marked its first recognition of the Alternation for DuoDay.³¹⁶¹ This day was established by the government to promote the inclusion and integration of people with disabilities in the workforce through the government's work-study program.³¹⁶² Moreover, the Alternation for DuoDay aims to encourage both employers to offer apprenticeships for youth or adult talents as a means of retraining, and for employees to connect with potential employers through the government's work-study program.³¹⁶³

On 6 July 2021, the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Integration announced that it signed a contract with the Ministry of Industry and EIT InnoEnergy to establish the European Battery

³¹⁵⁵ Launch of the Recovery Plan on September 3, 2020, Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Relaunch (Paris) 3 September 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2021. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/plan-de-relance/lancement-plan-relance-3-septembre-2020>

³¹⁵⁶ Official Bulletin: Work, Employment, Vocational training, Ministry of Labour, Employment and Integration (Paris) 30 March 2021. Access Date: 8 April 2021. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/2021.4.travail.pdf>

³¹⁵⁷ Official Bulletin: Work, Employment, Vocational training, Ministry of Labour, Employment and Integration (Paris) 30 March 2021. Access Date: 8 April 2021. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/2021.4.travail.pdf>

³¹⁵⁸ France Plans \$61M Fund to Help Auto Workers Threatened by Shift to EVs, Automotive News Europe (Detroit) 26 April 2021. Access Date: 27 April 2021. <https://europe.autonews.com/automakers/france-plans-61m-fund-help-auto-workers-threatened-shift-evs>

³¹⁵⁹ Joint Press Conference by Bruno Le Marie and Olaf Scholz to Present the French and German National Recovery and Resilience Plans, Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Relaunch (Paris) 27 April 2021. Access Date: 27 April 2021. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/conference-presse-conjointe-bruno-le-maire-olaf-scholz-pnrr>

³¹⁶⁰ Joint Press Conference by Bruno Le Marie and Olaf Scholz to Present the French and German National Recovery and Resilience Plans, Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Relaunch (Paris) 27 April 2021. Access Date: 27 April 2021. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/conference-presse-conjointe-bruno-le-maire-olaf-scholz-pnrr>

³¹⁶¹ Boost inclusive work-study programs and improve training and professional integration for people with disabilities, Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Relaunch (Paris) 27 May 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/actualites/l-actualite-du-ministere/article/dynamiser-l-alternance-inclusive-et-ameliorer-la-formation-et-l-insertion>

³¹⁶² Boost inclusive work-study programs and improve training and professional integration for people with disabilities, Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Relaunch (Paris) 27 May 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/actualites/l-actualite-du-ministere/article/dynamiser-l-alternance-inclusive-et-ameliorer-la-formation-et-l-insertion>

³¹⁶³ Work-study program by DuoDay - Presentation of the system, State Secretariat for Disabled People (Paris) 27 May 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://handicap.gouv.fr/grands-dossiers/duoday-un-duo-dans-le-monde-du-travail/duoday-2021/alternance-par-duoday/alternance>

Academy.³¹⁶⁴ The Academy aims to respond to the need for the requalification of workers in the automotive industry as it shifts towards electric vehicles.³¹⁶⁵

On 8 July 2021, Minister Borne, Minister Delegate of Integration Brigitte Klinket, High Commissioner for Employment and Business Engagement Thibaut Guilluy, High Commissioner for Skills Carine Seiler, and interministerial delegate for the development of apprenticeship in priority neighbourhoods of city policy Patrick Toulmet presented updates on the progress achieved by the 1 Youth 1 Solution plan after a year of its implementation.³¹⁶⁶ After allocating EUR9 million towards this program, the French government was able to secure training for 350,000 young people under the age of 30, with 90,000 of those participants undertaking training for industries key for the member's economic recovery.³¹⁶⁷ In addition, 525,600 youth assumed apprenticeships in 2020 and 800,000 youth excluded from employment participated in employment integration programs between August 2020 and May 2021.³¹⁶⁸

On 21 July 2021, the Government of France publicly stated that they signed a three-year agreement with the Association for the Management of the Fund for the Integration of People with Disabilities (AGEFIPH) on 19 July 2021 to further invest in creating employment opportunities for people with disabilities.³¹⁶⁹ As part of this agreement, the government will invest in training and skills development for people with disabilities.³¹⁷⁰ In addition, the agreement will also ensure supports for businesses employing people with disabilities, provide incentives for hiring people with disabilities, and develop partnerships to ensure inclusivity in professional settings.³¹⁷¹

³¹⁶⁴ EIT InnoEnergy and the French State are committed to accelerating the training of employees in new professions linked to the development of the industrial sector of the electric battery, Ministry of Labour, Employment and Integration (Paris) 6 July 2021. Access Date: 19 July 2021. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/eit-innoenergy-et-l-etat-francais-s-engagent-pour-accelerer-la-formation-des>

³¹⁶⁵ EIT InnoEnergy and the French State are committed to accelerating the training of employees in new professions linked to the development of the industrial sector of the electric battery, Ministry of Labour, Employment and Integration (Paris) 6 July 2021. Access Date: 19 July 2021. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/eit-innoenergy-et-l-etat-francais-s-engagent-pour-accelerer-la-formation-des>

³¹⁶⁶ The 1 year of the “1 youth, 1 solution” plan, Ministry of Labour, Employment and Integration (Paris) 8 July 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/actualites/l-actualite-du-ministere/article/les-1-an-du-plan-1-jeune-1-solution>

³¹⁶⁷ The 1 year of the “1 youth, 1 solution” plan, Ministry of Labour, Employment and Integration (Paris) 8 July 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/actualites/l-actualite-du-ministere/article/les-1-an-du-plan-1-jeune-1-solution>

³¹⁶⁸ The 1 year of the “1 youth, 1 solution” plan, Ministry of Labour, Employment and Integration (Paris) 8 July 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/actualites/l-actualite-du-ministere/article/les-1-an-du-plan-1-jeune-1-solution>

³¹⁶⁹ Integration into employment of people with disabilities – strengthened collaboration between the State and Agefiph, Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Relaunch (Paris) 5 July 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/actualites/l-actualite-du-ministere/article/insertion-dans-l-emploi-des-personnes-en-situation-de-handicap-collaboration>

³¹⁷⁰ Integration into employment of people with disabilities – strengthened collaboration between the State and Agefiph, Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Relaunch (Paris) 5 July 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/actualites/l-actualite-du-ministere/article/insertion-dans-l-emploi-des-personnes-en-situation-de-handicap-collaboration>

³¹⁷¹ Integration into employment of people with disabilities – strengthened collaboration between the State and Agefiph, Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Relaunch (Paris) 5 July 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/actualites/l-actualite-du-ministere/article/insertion-dans-l-emploi-des-personnes-en-situation-de-handicap-collaboration>

On 6 September 2021, the Government of France launched the Relance Train to promote France Relance.³¹⁷² As part of the campaign, the Relance Train will travel throughout 12 regions of mainland France to promote the employment and youth tenets of the plan to participating passengers.³¹⁷³ The campaign will also offer coaching sessions and job matching services in the Employment Villages setup within the train station.³¹⁷⁴ The Relance Train will remain at each station for 48 hours before departing for its next destination and will continue travelling throughout France until 2 October, 2021.³¹⁷⁵

On 6 September 2021, Prime Minister Castex announced the extension of the France Relance plan to support apprenticeships until June 30, 2022.³¹⁷⁶

France has fully complied with its commitment to supporting workers through implementing training and reskilling policies. The member has achieved this by establishing plans to fund worker training programs and by allocating funding towards retraining programs for displaced workers within the automotive industry.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alexander Trachsell

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to support workers through implementing training and reskilling policies.

On 10 December 2020, the Federal Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs developed a funding guideline for their Secure Apprenticeships program (also called the Secure Training Places) program to include additional training contracts and expand enterprise eligibility for receiving funding.³¹⁷⁷ The Ministry also significantly eased funding requirements and extended transfer bonuses and grants for training wages until mid-2021.³¹⁷⁸ Finally, the program expansion will provide a training bonus to companies that enrolled in training programs beginning from 24 June 2020 to 31 July 2020.³¹⁷⁹

³¹⁷² The Relance Train: for our territories and our jobs, Ministry of Labour, Employment and Integration (Paris) 9 September 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/actualites/l-actualite-du-ministere/article/le-train-de-la-relance-pour-nos-territoires-et-nos-emplois>

³¹⁷³ The Relance Train: for our territories and our jobs, Ministry of Labour, Employment and Integration (Paris) 9 September 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/actualites/l-actualite-du-ministere/article/le-train-de-la-relance-pour-nos-territoires-et-nos-emplois>

³¹⁷⁴ The Relance Train: for our territories and our jobs, Ministry of Labour, Employment and Integration (Paris) 9 September 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/actualites/l-actualite-du-ministere/article/le-train-de-la-relance-pour-nos-territoires-et-nos-emplois>

³¹⁷⁵ The Relance Train: for our territories and our jobs, Ministry of Labour, Employment and Integration (Paris) 9 September 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/actualites/l-actualite-du-ministere/article/le-train-de-la-relance-pour-nos-territoires-et-nos-emplois>

³¹⁷⁶ Start of apprenticeship 2021: the mobilization continues!, Ministry of Labour, Employment and Integration (Paris) 6 September 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/actualites/l-actualite-du-ministere/article/rentree-de-l-apprentissage-2021-la-mobilisation-se-poursuit>

³¹⁷⁷ More Support for Training Companies in the Corona Pandemic, Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (Berlin) 10 December 2020. Access Date: 20 March 2021. <https://www.bmas.de/DE/Service/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/2020/mehr-unterstuetzung-ausbildungsbetriebe-corona-pandemie.html>

³¹⁷⁸ More Support for Training Companies in the Corona Pandemic, Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (Berlin) 10 December 2020. Access Date: 20 March 2021. <https://www.bmas.de/DE/Service/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/2020/mehr-unterstuetzung-ausbildungsbetriebe-corona-pandemie.html>

³¹⁷⁹ More Support for Training Companies in the Corona Pandemic, Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (Berlin) 10 December 2020. Access Date: 20 March 2021. <https://www.bmas.de/DE/Service/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/2020/mehr-unterstuetzung-ausbildungsbetriebe-corona-pandemie.html>

On 22 February 2021, Chancellor Angela Merkel and Education Minister Anja Karliczek launched the Digital Education Initiative in an online event as part of Germany's ongoing efforts to offer continuing education for all.³¹⁸⁰ This initiative is specifically aimed towards re-skilling students and workers to be oriented for working within the increasingly digitized workforce.³¹⁸¹ Under this initiative, the government is funding multiple programs including the "Vocational Training 4.0" initiative, which aims to ensure that vocational training and education is catered towards the future by incorporating IT and media literacy into curriculums.³¹⁸² This includes identifying and addressing the training needs of selected occupations at an early stage.³¹⁸³ For the first time, the Chancellor announced her patronage of an app, called "Stadt | Land | DatenFluss," created by the German Adult Education Centre Association and aimed at providing accessible digital skills training to workers.³¹⁸⁴

On 17 March 2021, Germany further expanded the Secure Apprenticeships Program to allow more firms to be illegible for funding by increasing the threshold of the maximum number of company workers from 249 workers to 499 workers so as to expand program eligibility.³¹⁸⁵ Small and medium-sized enterprises, which are particularly at-risk of shouldering economic burdens during the COVID-19 pandemic, were already receiving funding through the program if they either hired new or additional trainees or acquired workers from companies that became insolvent due to the COVID-19 pandemic for further training.³¹⁸⁶

On 27 April 2021, Minister of Finance Olaf Scholz and the French Minister of the Economy and Finance Bruno Le Maire held a joint press conference regarding their national recovery and resilience plans. France and Germany announced plans for the EU to invest EUR750 billion towards supporting vocational training programs as part of Germany's National Recovery and Resilience Plan.³¹⁸⁷

³¹⁸⁰ New Digital Education initiative in Germany supported by Chancellor Merkel, European Commission (Brussels) 8 March 2021. Access Date: 20 March 2021. <https://epale.ec.europa.eu/en/blog/neue-initiative-digitale-bildung-deutschland-digitaloffensive-mit-kanzlerin-support>

³¹⁸¹ New Digital Education initiative in Germany supported by Chancellor Merkel, European Commission (Brussels) 8 March 2021. Access Date: 20 March 2021. <https://epale.ec.europa.eu/en/blog/neue-initiative-digitale-bildung-deutschland-digitaloffensive-mit-kanzlerin-support>

³¹⁸² What the Federal Government is doing to boost digital learning, Office of the Federal Government (Berlin) 22 February 2021. Access Date: 17 March 2021. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/initiative-digitale-bildung-1860804>

³¹⁸³ What the Federal Government is doing to boost digital learning, Office of the Federal Government (Berlin) 22 February 2021. Access Date: 17 March 2021. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/initiative-digitale-bildung-1860804>

³¹⁸⁴ New Digital Education Initiative in Germany supported by Chancellor Merkel, European Commission (Brussels) 8 March 2021. Access Date: 20 March 2021. <https://epale.ec.europa.eu/en/blog/neue-initiative-digitale-bildung-deutschland-digitaloffensive-mit-kanzlerin-support>

³¹⁸⁵ Germany boosts incentives for companies offering vocational training, Reuters (Berlin) 17 March 2021. Access Date: 1 May 2021. <https://www.reuters.com/article/health-coronavirus-germany-retraining-idUSL8N2LE5TY>

³¹⁸⁶ Secure Apprenticeship Positions, Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (Berlin) 17 March 2021. Access Date: 20 March 2021. <https://www.bmas.de/DE/Arbeit/Aus-und-Weiterbildung/Ausbildungsfoerderung/ausbildungsplaetze-sichern.html#doce1bfb4b9-205f-44a8-a24d-0f415f01a033bodyText1>

³¹⁸⁷ Joint Press Conference by Bruno Le Marie and Olaf Scholz to Present the French and German National Recovery and Resilience Plans, Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Relaunch (Paris) 27 April 2021. Access Date: 27 April 2021. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/conference-presse-conjointe-bruno-le-maire-olaf-scholz-pnrr>

On 4 May 2021, Federal Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (BMAS) and the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWi),³¹⁸⁸ jointly gathered actors from German specialist networks under the motto, “Back for the future.”³¹⁸⁹ The purpose of the conference was to discuss solutions to both pre-existing and newly emerging problems, such as economic recovery from the pandemic and the continuous drop in the working-age and skilled worker population.³¹⁹⁰ The meeting provided a platform for the German government to gather with several industry actors and develop solutions through networking opportunities and specialized forums.³¹⁹¹

On 28 May 2021, Chancellor Merkel participated in an online discussion and reaffirmed the government’s commitment to digitalizing technical and vocational education training.³¹⁹² During the discussion, Minister Karliczek also echoed the importance of digitalizing said structures – especially for youth – and stated that skill centres have been established by the government to provide training for teaching staff.³¹⁹³

On 4 June 2021, the BMAS, BMWi, and an array of other partners from the Alliance for Initial and Further Training came together to mark the launch of the Summer of Vocational Training.³¹⁹⁴ This initiative seeks to balance the supply and demand of the training market for “initial and further training.”³¹⁹⁵ The initiative is aimed at securing a better future for youth affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and promoting training opportunities for young people.³¹⁹⁶

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to support workers through implementing training and reskilling policies. In particular, Germany has established a set of comprehensive vocational training and apprenticeship programs that will increase the country’s inventory jobs, assist job seekers

³¹⁸⁸ Partners of the Alliance for Initial and Further Training launch ‘Summer of Vocational Training’ initiative, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 4 June 2021. Access Date: 24 July 2021. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2021/06/20210604-partners-alliance-for-training-initiative.html>

³¹⁸⁹ Commitment by Return and Skilled Worker Initiative Pays Off, Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (Berlin) 4 May 2021. Access Date: 23 July 2021. <https://www.bmas.de/DE/Service/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/2021/zurueckfuer-die-zukunft-engagement-rueckkehr-und-fachkraefteinitiativen.html>

³¹⁹⁰ Commitment by Return and Skilled Worker Initiative Pays Off, Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (Berlin) 4 May 2021. Access Date: 23 July 2021. <https://www.bmas.de/DE/Service/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/2021/zurueckfuer-die-zukunft-engagement-rueckkehr-und-fachkraefteinitiativen.html>

³¹⁹¹ Commitment by Return and Skilled Worker Initiative Pays Off, Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (Berlin) 4 May 2021. Access Date: 23 July 2021. <https://www.bmas.de/DE/Service/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/2021/zurueckfuer-die-zukunft-engagement-rueckkehr-und-fachkraefteinitiativen.html>

³¹⁹² Strengthening and digitalising technical and vocational education and training (TVET), Office of the Federal Government (Berlin) 28 May 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/dialogue-vocational-training-1919304>

³¹⁹³ Strengthening and digitalising technical and vocational education and training (TVET), Office of the Federal Government (Berlin) 28 May 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/dialogue-vocational-training-1919304>

³¹⁹⁴ Partners of the Alliance for Initial and Further Training launch ‘Summer of Vocational Training’ initiative, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 4 June 2021. Access Date: 24 July 2021. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2021/06/20210604-partners-alliance-for-training-initiative.html>

³¹⁹⁵ Partners of the Alliance for Initial and Further Training launch ‘Summer of Vocational Training’ initiative, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 4 June 2021. Access Date: 24 July 2021. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2021/06/20210604-partners-alliance-for-training-initiative.html>

³¹⁹⁶ Partners of the Alliance for Initial and Further Training launch ‘Summer of Vocational Training’ initiative, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 4 June 2021. Access Date: 24 July 2021. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2021/06/20210604-partners-alliance-for-training-initiative.html>

in gaining employment, and increase the accessibility of digital reskilling initiatives aimed at preparing workers for the future.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Nouran El Atreby

India: 0

India has partially complied with its commitment to supporting workers through implementing training and reskilling policies.

On 17 June 2021, Union Minister of State for Labour and Employment Shri Santosh Gangwar signed a Statement of Intent with United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).³¹⁹⁷ Most notably, the joint effort aims to combine efforts from the Ministry and UNICEF towards providing skilling opportunities for youth.³¹⁹⁸ Minister Gangwar affirmed that improving employment outcomes, especially for youth, women, and vulnerable individuals, is a priority for the government.³¹⁹⁹

On 22 June 2021, Minister Gangwar reaffirmed India's commitment skills training at the G20 Education, Labour and Employment Ministers meeting.³²⁰⁰ Minister Gangwar stated that, "India is strengthening educational and skilling efforts to ensure quality education from pre-school to senior secondary stage."³²⁰¹ Additionally, Minister of State for Education Shri Sanjay Dhotre attended the meeting and discussed the steps taken by India to improve education and prepare youth to enter the workforce through vocational training programs.³²⁰²

On 6 July 2021, Education Ministers from Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa (BRICS) met virtually and signed a joint declaration to improve their collaboration on education and research efforts with respect to Technical Vocational and Educational Training (TVET) institutions.³²⁰³

On 16 July 2021, Union Education Minister Shri Dharmendra Pradhan and Tribal Affairs Minister Shri Arjun Munda jointly announced the launch of the School Innovation Ambassador Training Program.³²⁰⁴ As part of the initiative, the program intends to train 50,000 teachers on a variety of

³¹⁹⁷ Shri Gangwar reiterates commitment to improve employment outcomes for the youth in India, Ministry of Labour & Employment (Delhi) 17 June 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1727860>

³¹⁹⁸ Shri Gangwar reiterates commitment to improve employment outcomes for the youth in India, Ministry of Labour & Employment (Delhi) 17 June 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1727860>

³¹⁹⁹ Shri Gangwar reiterates commitment to improve employment outcomes for the youth in India, Ministry of Labour & Employment (Delhi) 17 June 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1727860>

³²⁰⁰ Labour Minister Santosh Gangwar says, India is strengthening educational and skilling efforts to ensure quality education, Ministry of Labour & Employment (Delhi) 22 June 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1729517>

³²⁰¹ Labour Minister Santosh Gangwar says, India is strengthening educational and skilling efforts to ensure quality education, Ministry of Labour & Employment (Delhi) 22 June 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1729517>

³²⁰² G20 Education Ministers reiterate commitment to ensure continuity of quality education during the pandemic, Ministry of Education (Delhi) 23 June 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1729758>

³²⁰³ VIII BRICS Education Ministers' Meeting, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 6 July 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/presspdf/press-57.pdf>

³²⁰⁴ Union Education Minister and Union Tribal Affairs Minister jointly launch School Innovation Ambassador Training Program, Ministry of Education (Delhi) 16 July 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1736139>

subjects related to innovation and business.³²⁰⁵ Overall, this initiative aims to improve teachers' professional development and further build upon the skills imparted by teachers to students.³²⁰⁶

On 12 August 2021, Minister Pradhan attended the Confederation of Indian Industry's annual meeting where he reaffirmed the government's commitment to improving the skills of youth.³²⁰⁷ He stated that the government intends to achieve this by implementing technology to reduce interruptions in skill development caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.³²⁰⁸ As well, Minister Pradhan emphasized the government's intention to reskill and upskill teachers to meet the needs of India's rapidly changing society.³²⁰⁹ Finally, the minister acknowledged that the government intends to build infrastructure to support internet access in villages so as to make digital education and training opportunities more widely accessible.³²¹⁰

On 18 August 2021, representatives from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry attended a virtual meeting with their BRICS counterparts where they collectively reaffirmed their support for training, skilling, and reskilling policies.³²¹¹ Furthermore, the BRICS members emphasized "the importance of strengthening intra-BRICS cooperation on advanced technical skills for reskilling and upskilling by exchanging experience and good practices through match-making workshops, seminars, and exchange programs to develop a practical framework for ensuring appropriate required skills and knowledge for Industrial development."³²¹² Overall, the BRICS member committed to continuing their collective support for workers as one of several joint measures to achieve multilateral economic reform.³²¹³

On 18 August 2021, BRICS Industry Ministers met virtually to discuss the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic upon the industry and trade sectors.³²¹⁴ During this meeting, the Ministers reiterated their commitment towards utilizing new technologies to "promote training and skills development of the related workforce and businesses through workshops, seminars, and exchange programs."³²¹⁵

³²⁰⁵ Union Education Minister and Union Tribal Affairs Minister jointly launch School Innovation Ambassador Training Program, Ministry of Education (Delhi) 16 July 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1736139>

³²⁰⁶ Union Education Minister and Union Tribal Affairs Minister jointly launch School Innovation Ambassador Training Program, Ministry of Education (Delhi) 16 July 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1736139>

³²⁰⁷ Government is working to create greater synergy between education and skills for making a future-ready workforce – Union Education Minister, Ministry of Education (Delhi) 12 August 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1745099>

³²⁰⁸ Government is working to create greater synergy between education and skills for making a future-ready workforce – Union Education Minister, Ministry of Education (Delhi) 12 August 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1745099>

³²⁰⁹ Government is working to create greater synergy between education and skills for making a future-ready workforce – Union Education Minister, Ministry of Education (Delhi) 12 August 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1745099>

³²¹⁰ Government is working to create greater synergy between education and skills for making a future-ready workforce – Union Education Minister, Ministry of Education (Delhi) 12 August 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1745099>

³²¹¹ BRICS Labour and Employment Ministers' Declaration 2021, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/docpdf/getdocu-37.pdf>

³²¹² BRICS Labour and Employment Ministers' Declaration 2021, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/docpdf/getdocu-37.pdf>

³²¹³ BRICS Labour and Employment Ministers' Declaration 2021, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/docpdf/getdocu-37.pdf>

³²¹⁴ 5th BRICS Industry Ministers Meeting, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/presspdf/press-77.pdf>

³²¹⁵ 5th BRICS Industry Ministers Meeting, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/presspdf/press-77.pdf>

On 31 August 2021, BRICS Youth Ministers met virtually to discuss youth interests and the need to implement measures to mitigate the challenges facing youth as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.³²¹⁶ Further to this, the delegates reaffirmed their commitment towards continuing to skill youth through the utilization of technological tools, in addition to creating additional employment opportunities for youth.³²¹⁷

On 22 September 2021, Minister Pradhan reaffirmed the government's commitments to providing education and skilling opportunities through the expansion of technological platforms.³²¹⁸ The Minister emphasized the importance of reducing the digital divide and improve accessibility to education and skilling platforms and identified this as a key initiative for the government.³²¹⁹

India has partially complied with its commitment to support workers through training and reskilling policies by implementing a training program for teachers to gain skills in areas such as innovation and business. However, India has failed to implement reskilling initiatives for workers.

Thus, India receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Bubneet Dhillon

Indonesia: +1

Indonesia has fully complied with its commitment to supporting workers through implementing training and reskilling policies.

On 23 February 2021, Economic Affairs Minister Airlangga Hartarto announced the batch 12 of the Pre-Employment Card Program.³²²⁰ This program was first introduced in April 2020 as a development and social protection program because of the labour-market repercussions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.³²²¹ The Pre-Employment Card Program is a semi-social assistance service, consisting of both monetary and skills-based compensation.³²²² It is a free program open to anyone over 18 years of age and not currently enrolled in formal education.³²²³ The Ministry of Manpower is set to collaborate with credible institutions and instructors to assist those who are unemployed, seeking job training, or working in the informal sector.³²²⁴ Participants are granted non-cash credits to purchase online courses on eight digital platforms accessible through the Employment

³²¹⁶ Joint Statement of BRICS Ministers Responsible for Youth, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 31 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/docpdf/getdocu-36.pdf>

³²¹⁷ Joint Statement of BRICS Ministers Responsible for Youth, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 31 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/docpdf/getdocu-36.pdf>

³²¹⁸ Union Education Minister holds a meeting on Universalisation of Quality Education through Digital Education, Ministry of Education (Delhi) 22 September 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1757000>

³²¹⁹ Union Education Minister holds a meeting on Universalisation of Quality Education through Digital Education, Ministry of Education (Delhi) 22 September 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1757000>

³²²⁰ Government Officially Opens Batch 12 Of the Pre-employment Card Program, VOI (Jakarta) 23 February 2021. Access Date: 18 March 2021. <https://voi.id/en/news/34984/government-officially-opens-batch-12-of-the-pre-employment-card-program>

³²²¹ Government Officially Opens Batch 12 Of the Pre-employment Card Program, VOI (Jakarta) 23 February 2021. Access Date: 18 March 2021. <https://voi.id/en/news/34984/government-officially-opens-batch-12-of-the-pre-employment-card-program>

³²²² Government Officially Opens Batch 12 Of the Pre-employment Card Program, VOI (Jakarta) 23 February 2021. Access Date: 18 March 2021. <https://voi.id/en/news/34984/government-officially-opens-batch-12-of-the-pre-employment-card-program>

³²²³ Gov't Kicks Off This Year's Pre-Employment Card Program, Office of Assistant to Deputy Cabinet Secretary for State Documents & Translation, Cabinet Secretariat of The Republic of Indonesia (Jakarta) 23 February 2021. Access Date: 18 March 2021. <https://setkab.go.id/en/govt-kicks-off-this-years-pre-employment-card-program/>

³²²⁴ Gov't Kicks Off This Year's Pre-Employment Card Program, Office of Assistant to Deputy Cabinet Secretary for State Documents & Translation, Cabinet Secretariat of The Republic of Indonesia (Jakarta) 23 February 2021. Access Date: 18 March 2021. <https://setkab.go.id/en/govt-kicks-off-this-years-pre-employment-card-program/>

Information System.³²²⁵ Courses are available on a host of subjects, including languages, graphic design, computer science, aesthetics and customer service.³²²⁶ After course completion, participants are awarded with a certificate and monthly payments of IDR600,000 which can be used to buy necessities.³²²⁷ Program objectives include “developing new and improved skills of the workforce, increasing their productivity and competitiveness in the labour market and supporting entrepreneurship development.”³²²⁸ A budget of IDR10 trillion has been allocated for this program, with IDR1 million going towards training assistance in the first semester of 2021.³²²⁹

On 8 June 2021, Vice President Ma’ruf Amin, while joined by the Minister of Manpower Ida Fauziyah, reaffirmed Indonesia’s commitment to funding Community Work Training Centres (BLKs) to “develop tailored vocational trainings that meet the demands of the labor market and industrial sector.”³²³⁰ Community BLKs are local institutions dedicated to providing vocational training and education in a variety of sectors, including but not limited to marine engineering, refrigeration, automotive engineering, hospitality, language, fashion and textile design, culinary arts, industrial relations, and so on. The purpose of Community BLKs is to reduce unemployment and create additional job opportunities. Minister Fauziyah also iterated that the Ministry has allocated budget to continue supporting Community BLKs and has also created a program to train managers and instructors at Community BLKs.³²³¹

On 28 June 2021, Minister Fauziyah launched the first development stage for Community BLKs in 2021.³²³² Minister Fauziyah stated that “The establishment of Community-based BLK is a form of effort to spread work training institutions so that they can be accessed by citizens who live far away from the available work training institution locations.”³²³³ Moreover, the Ministry aims to bring the

³²²⁵ Pre-Employment Card Program (Program Kartu Prakerja), Social Protection for Employment Community (Brasilia) 2021. Access Date: 18 March 2021. <https://socialprotection.org/fr/discover/publications/spec-infographic-series-pre-employment-card-program-program-kartu-prakerja-%E2%80%93>

³²²⁶ Pre-Employment Card Program (Program Kartu Prakerja), Social Protection for Employment Community (Brasilia) 2021. Access Date: 18 March 2021. <https://socialprotection.org/fr/discover/publications/spec-infographic-series-pre-employment-card-program-program-kartu-prakerja-%E2%80%93>

³²²⁷ Pre-Employment Card Program (Program Kartu Prakerja), Social Protection for Employment Community (Brasilia) 2021. Access Date: 18 March 2021. <https://socialprotection.org/fr/discover/publications/spec-infographic-series-pre-employment-card-program-program-kartu-prakerja-%E2%80%93>

³²²⁸ Pre-Employment Card Program (Program Kartu Prakerja), Social Protection for Employment Community (Brasilia) 2021. Access Date: 18 March 2021. <https://socialprotection.org/fr/discover/publications/spec-infographic-series-pre-employment-card-program-program-kartu-prakerja-%E2%80%93>

³²²⁹ Gov’t Kicks Off This Year’s Pre-Employment Card Program, Office of Assistant to Deputy Cabinet Secretary for State Documents & Translation, Cabinet Secretariat of The Republic of Indonesia (Jakarta) 23 February 2021. Access Date: 18 March 2021. <https://setkab.go.id/en/govt-kicks-off-this-years-pre-employment-card-program/>

³²³⁰ VP: Work Trainings Tailored to Meet Labor Market, Industry Demands, Cabinet Secretariat of The Republic of Indonesia (Jakarta) 8 June 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://setkab.go.id/en/vp-work-trainings-tailored-to-meet-labor-market-industry-demands/>

³²³¹ VP: Work Trainings Tailored to Meet Labor Market, Industry Demands, Cabinet Secretariat of The Republic of Indonesia (Jakarta) 8 June 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://setkab.go.id/en/vp-work-trainings-tailored-to-meet-labor-market-industry-demands/>

³²³² Manpower Minister launches stage 1 Community-based BLK establishment, Antara News (Jakarta) 28 August 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://en.antaranews.com/news/186346/manpower-minister-launches-stage-1-community-based-blk-establishment>

³²³³ Manpower Minister launches stage 1 Community-based BLK establishment, Antara News (Jakarta) 28 August 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://en.antaranews.com/news/186346/manpower-minister-launches-stage-1-community-based-blk-establishment>

standards of training provided by the institutions in line with the demands of various industries and micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs).³²³⁴

On 23 September 2021, the Ministry of Villages, Development of Disadvantaged Regions and Transmigration signed a joint agreement with the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology to commit to providing vocational education and training to Indonesia villages.³²³⁵ Minister of Education, Culture, Research and Technology Wikan Sakarinto stated that the goal of the agreement is to foster graduates who possess the skills and knowledge to obtain employment within a variety of sectors and industries.³²³⁶ The agreement will focus on helping students develop soft skills through training, conducting institutional research, providing internships for students, and providing scholarships for students.³²³⁷

Indonesia has fully complied with its commitment to supporting workers through implementing training and reskilling policies by expanding their Pre-Employment Card Program, which provides both training and reskilling opportunities for workers who are unemployed, seeking employment, or looking to upgrade their skills.

Thus, Indonesia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Bianca Piccone

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to supporting workers through implementing training and reskilling policies.

On 12 December 2020, the Italian government implemented a national plan to create additional pathways for workers to both obtain new skills training and upgrade their existing skills.³²³⁸ The plan consists of a three-pronged approach to directly connect with low-skilled and under-qualified adults to prevent alienation from the job market, upgrading basic skills and offering reskilling programs, and synchronizing in-demand labour market skills with educational offerings and training programs.³²³⁹ This three-pronged approach aims to create an effective process to both train and reskill workers, while reducing barriers to entering the labour market.³²⁴⁰

³²³⁴ Manpower Minister launches stage 1 Community-based BLK establishment, Antara News (Jakarta) 28 August 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://en.antaranews.com/news/186346/manpower-minister-launches-stage-1-community-based-blk-establishment>

³²³⁵ Ministries collaborate to push innovation in villages, Antara News (Jakarta) 23 September 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://en.antaranews.com/news/190713/ministries-collaborate-to-push-innovation-in-villages>

³²³⁶ Ministries collaborate to push innovation in villages, Antara News (Jakarta) 23 September 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://en.antaranews.com/news/190713/ministries-collaborate-to-push-innovation-in-villages>

³²³⁷ Ministries collaborate to push innovation in villages, Antara News (Jakarta) 23 September 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://en.antaranews.com/news/190713/ministries-collaborate-to-push-innovation-in-villages>

³²³⁸ Italy: National strategic plan for upskilling and reskilling adults, European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (Rome) 2 January 2020. Access Date: 22 March 2021. <https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news-and-press/news/italy-national-strategic-plan-upskilling-and-reskilling-adults>

³²³⁹ Italy: National strategic plan for upskilling and reskilling adults, European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (Rome) 2 January 2020. Access Date: 22 March 2021. <https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news-and-press/news/italy-national-strategic-plan-upskilling-and-reskilling-adults>

³²⁴⁰ Italy: National strategic plan for upskilling and reskilling adults, European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (Rome) 2 January 2020. Access Date: 22 March 2021. <https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news-and-press/news/italy-national-strategic-plan-upskilling-and-reskilling-adults>

On 22 January 2021, the Ministry of Labor and Social Policies signed a decree to focus on the training and retraining of assets within the labour market.³²⁴¹ In particular, the decree requires that all collective agreements must provide training programs and that time be allotted for skills development courses.³²⁴² This decree aims to provide more training and upskilling resources that will benefit both workers and employers.³²⁴³

On 17 September 2021, the European Commission approved the EUR4.7 billion in funding to Italy as part of the Recovery assistance for cohesion and the territories of Europe (REACT-EU) plan.³²⁴⁴ Through this funding instrument, Italy will allocate EUR 4.7 billion to support employment in industries hard-hit by the COVID-19 pandemic.³²⁴⁵ Most notably, Italy will invest in youth employment and allocate EUR1 billion towards the creation of the New Skills Fund. The New Skills Fund will provide emergency training courses for workers and provide supplemental funding for working hours that are missed due to extenuating external factors beyond the workers' control.³²⁴⁶

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to supporting workers through implementing training and reskilling policies. The member has implemented a decree to ensure that employers ensure training programs for their employees and has developed a national approach to combat underemployment and unemployment through providing support for the training and reskilling of low-skilled and under-qualified adults.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Hayley Spens

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to supporting workers through implementing training and reskilling policies.

On 31 January 2021, the Ministry of Defense released a report detailing Japan's Defense Budget and Programs. In the report, the Ministry outlined plans for the enhancement of re-employment support programs for uniformed officers. The ministry's plans include offering new vocational training courses with an emphasis on training and reskilling female officers.³²⁴⁷

On 12 February 2021, Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga held a "Novel Coronavirus Response" meeting to discuss implementing training and reskilling programs as a means to alleviating pressure on the

³²⁴¹ New Skills Fund, 500 million euros in 2021: applications until 30 June, Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Thessaloniki) 12 February 2021. Access Date: 22 March 2021. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/notizie/Pagine/Fondo-Nuove-Competenze-500-milioni-di-euro-nel-2021-domande-sino-al-30-giugno.aspx>

³²⁴² New Skills Fund, 500 million euros in 2021: applications until 30 June, Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Thessaloniki) 12 February 2021. Access Date: 22 March 2021. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/notizie/Pagine/Fondo-Nuove-Competenze-500-milioni-di-euro-nel-2021-domande-sino-al-30-giugno.aspx>

³²⁴³ New Skills Fund, 500 million euros in 2021: applications until 30 June, Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (Thessaloniki) 12 February 2021. Access Date: 22 March 2021. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/notizie/Pagine/Fondo-Nuove-Competenze-500-milioni-di-euro-nel-2021-domande-sino-al-30-giugno.aspx>

³²⁴⁴ REACT-EU: €4.7 billion to support jobs, skills and people most in need in Italy, European Commission (Brussels) 17 September 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_4731

³²⁴⁵ REACT-EU: €4.7 billion to support jobs, skills and people most in need in Italy, European Commission (Brussels) 17 September 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_4731

³²⁴⁶ REACT-EU: €4.7 billion to support jobs, skills and people most in need in Italy, European Commission (Brussels) 17 September 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_4731

³²⁴⁷ Defense Programs and Budget of Japan (Tokyo) 30 January 2021. Access Date: 1 May 2021. https://www.mod.go.jp/e/d_act/d_budget/2021/20210201.pdf

Japanese labour.³²⁴⁸ The government increased the scope of their “Support System for Job Seekers” program where non-permanent workers, women, single parents, and the unemployed will be granted subsidies if they partake in public training qualification courses, such as vocational or IT training.³²⁴⁹

On 16 March 2021, Prime Minister Suga expanded the budget for the “Support System for Job Seekers” program and discussed preparing training modules for single parents to enable them to receive job training while on government subsidies.³²⁵⁰

On 8 June 2021, the Prime Minister Suga held his third meeting to address the government’s emergency response for non-permanent workers affected by COVID-19.³²⁵¹ The meeting reviewed training programs and concluded that training programs in the country were being underused.³²⁵² In response, the Prime Minister released a new plan to reduce the wait time between applications and job training as well as increase exposure of these programs to Emergency Small Amount Funds recipients.³²⁵³ Additionally, more resources allocated to universities to create education and training courses for students to work in rapidly-growing industries, including the green and digital sectors, for instance.³²⁵⁴

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to supporting workers through implementing training and reskilling policies by promoting public participation in training and reskilling programs through granting subsidies to vulnerable citizens.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Simren Ravina Sharma

Korea: +1

Korea has fully complied with its commitment to supporting workers through implementing training and reskilling policies.

On 25 November 2020, President Moon Jae-in announced the Korean government’s plan to train individuals to promote artificial intelligence (AI) in connection with the Korean New Deal. The government has established 12 graduate schools which specialise in AI.³²⁵⁵ The government also set a

³²⁴⁸ 55th Meeting of the Novel Coronavirus Response Headquarters, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 12 February 2021. Access Date: 22 March 2021. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/99_suga/actions/202102/_00007.html

³²⁴⁹ Ministerial Meeting on Emergency Response Measures for Non-Permanent Workers and Others Affected by the Novel Coronavirus, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 16 March 2021. Access Date: 22 March 2021. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/99_suga/actions/202103/_00014.html

³²⁵⁰ Ministerial Meeting on Emergency Response Measures for Non-Permanent Workers and Others Affected by the Novel Coronavirus, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 16 March 2021. Access Date: 22 March 2021. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/99_suga/actions/202103/_00014.html

³²⁵¹ Ministerial Meeting on Emergency Response Measures for Non-Permanent Workers and Others Affected by the Novel Coronavirus (Tokyo) 8 June 2021. Access Date: 27 July 2021. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/99_suga/actions/202106/_00012.html

³²⁵² Ministerial Meeting on Emergency Response Measures for Non-Permanent Workers and Others Affected by the Novel Coronavirus (Tokyo) 8 June 2021. Access Date: 27 July 2021. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/99_suga/actions/202106/_00012.html

³²⁵³ Ministerial Meeting on Emergency Response Measures for Non-Permanent Workers and Others Affected by the Novel Coronavirus (Tokyo) 8 June 2021. Access Date: 27 July 2021. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/99_suga/actions/202106/_00012.html

³²⁵⁴ Ministerial Meeting on Emergency Response Measures for Non-Permanent Workers and Others Affected by the Novel Coronavirus (Tokyo) 8 June 2021. Access Date: 27 July 2021. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/99_suga/actions/202106/_00012.html

³²⁵⁵ Remarks by President Moon Jae-in at Event to Promote AI in Connection with Korean New Deal, Office of the President (Seoul) 25 November 2020. Access Date: 21 March 2021. <https://english1.president.go.kr/Briefingspeeches/Speeches/914>

target of fostering 100,000 AI experts through expanding upskilling programs for industrial site workers to learn AI and gain employment in the AI sector.³²⁵⁶

On 7 December 2020, the Korean Economic Policy Bureau released its 2021 Economic Policies, which included the expansion of the young adult jobs program to provide employment for 100,000 qualifying young Koreans.³²⁵⁷ The program focuses on providing work experience and training in a variety of areas, including digital jobs and remote work.³²⁵⁸ The policy measure also underlined a commitment to supporting companies that provide training programs with public project opportunities.³²⁵⁹

On 16 February 2021, President Moon announced that the government will expand the employment safety net, advance vocational training by providing practical job-searching assistance, foster the national employment support program, encourage youth entrepreneurship initiatives, develop a plan for women who are primary caregivers to re-enter the workforce.³²⁶⁰ This request was made to all Korean ministries and agencies to help overcome the state of employment in January 2020.³²⁶¹

On 2 March 2021, the Ministry of Employment and Labour (MOEL) announced that it will improve its vocational training system to collaborate with businesses, universities, and private institutions to allow non-technology majors to be employed in digital technology sectors.³²⁶² It projects a future workforce of approximately 17,000 people working within the technological industry.³²⁶³ MOEL will expand talent development projects by leveraging the inter-ministerial collaboration budget system. This will allow youth to enter rapidly growing industries, such as the technology and environmental sectors.³²⁶⁴ MOEL will also create vocational training programs targeted at specific industries to allow for unemployed persons to become re-employed.³²⁶⁵ This announcement supports the employment of vulnerable groups who were negatively affected by the employment crisis resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. MOEL will also fund the establishment of the Lifelong Skills Development for All program, which will allow adults to gain vocational employment skills.³²⁶⁶ The program will cover a range of skills-based learnings, including digital proficiency and humanities knowledge.³²⁶⁷

³²⁵⁶ Remarks by President Moon Jae-in at Event to Promote AI in Connection with Korean New Deal, Office of the President (Seoul) 25 November 2020. Access Date: 21 March 2021.

<https://english1.president.go.kr/Briefingspeeches/Speeches/914>

³²⁵⁷ 2021 Economic Policies, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Seoul) 17 December 2020. Access Date: 1 May 2021.

<https://english.moef.go.kr/pc/selectTbPressCenterDtl.do?boardCd=N0001&seq=5033>

³²⁵⁸ 2021 Economic Policies, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Seoul) 17 December 2020. Access Date: 1 May 2021.

<https://english.moef.go.kr/pc/selectTbPressCenterDtl.do?boardCd=N0001&seq=5033>

³²⁵⁹ 2021 Economic Policies, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Seoul) 17 December 2020. Access Date: 1 May 2021.

<https://english.moef.go.kr/pc/selectTbPressCenterDtl.do?boardCd=N0001&seq=5033>

³²⁶⁰ Remarks by President Moon Jae-in at 7th Cabinet Meeting, Office of the President (Seoul) 16 February 2021. Access Date: 21 March 2021. <https://english1.president.go.kr/Briefingspeeches/Speeches/943>

³²⁶¹ Remarks by President Moon Jae-in at 7th Cabinet Meeting, Office of the President (Seoul) 16 February 2021. Access Date: 21 March 2021. <https://english1.president.go.kr/Briefingspeeches/Speeches/943>

³²⁶² 2021 Work Report (Recovery, Inclusiveness, and Leap Forward Korea 2021), Ministry of Employment and Labor (Seoul) 2 March 2021. Access Date: 21 March 2021. https://www.moel.go.kr/english/poli/poliNewsnews_view.jsp?idx=1594

³²⁶³ 2021 Work Report (Recovery, Inclusiveness, and Leap Forward Korea 2021), Ministry of Employment and Labor (Seoul) 2 March 2021. Access Date: 21 March 2021. https://www.moel.go.kr/english/poli/poliNewsnews_view.jsp?idx=1594

³²⁶⁴ 2021 Work Report (Recovery, Inclusiveness, and Leap Forward Korea 2021), Ministry of Employment and Labor (Seoul) 2 March 2021. Access Date: 21 March 2021. https://www.moel.go.kr/english/poli/poliNewsnews_view.jsp?idx=1594

³²⁶⁵ 2021 Work Report (Recovery, Inclusiveness, and Leap Forward Korea 2021), Ministry of Employment and Labor (Seoul) 2 March 2021. Access Date: 21 March 2021. https://www.moel.go.kr/english/poli/poliNewsnews_view.jsp?idx=1594

³²⁶⁶ 2021 Work Report (Recovery, Inclusiveness, and Leap Forward Korea 2021), Ministry of Employment and Labor (Seoul) 2 March 2021. Access Date: 21 March 2021. https://www.moel.go.kr/english/poli/poliNewsnews_view.jsp?idx=1594

³²⁶⁷ 2021 Work Report (Recovery, Inclusiveness, and Leap Forward Korea 2021), Ministry of Employment and Labor (Seoul) 2 March 2021. Access Date: 21 March 2021. https://www.moel.go.kr/english/poli/poliNewsnews_view.jsp?idx=1594

On 1 April 2021, Deputy Prime Minister Hong Nam-Ki announced the development of training programs for medical personnel to support the export of Korea's disease control system.³²⁶⁸

On 13 April 2021, President Moon publicly requested his cabinet to strengthen vocational training, with emphasis on training in future industries such as digital, data, artificial intelligence, and software.³²⁶⁹

On 26 May 2021, Deputy Prime Minister Hong announced that the government would support workers' transition to new industries and reemployment as part of the phasing-out process of the National Strategy for 2050 Carbon Neutrality.³²⁷⁰

On 7 June 2021, President Moon announced at the International Labour Organization's World of Work Summit that the Korean New Deal would facilitate a fair transition for workers amidst changing economic and social structures by cultivating talent in software, AI and green technology and revamping job training programs.³²⁷¹ To this end, the government will invest KRW140 billion in technological and green industries with the aim of creating 1.5 million jobs by 2025 while also supporting workers to transition into new jobs within said industries.³²⁷² The aim of this deal is to help stimulate the country's economic recovery post-COVID-19.³²⁷³

On 18 June 2021, MOEL launched the Measures to Strengthen Public Employment Services at the 20th Presidential Committee on Jobs.³²⁷⁴ The set of measures aim to stimulate post-COVID-19 pandemic economic recovery through targeted investments in employment and recruitment support services, the creation of remote digital employment support services, the creation of a national employment insurance, and the expansion of infrastructure to help find jobs for individuals struggling to find employment, and financial supports for businesses and unemployed individuals negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.³²⁷⁵ Most notably the set of measures introduces the creation of the Corporate Recruitment Support Package, which will provide additional training and support to workers as of July 2021.³²⁷⁶ In addition, the measures outline mandatory training for service providers of paid job placements every two years.³²⁷⁷

³²⁶⁸ 7th Meeting to Promote BIG3, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Seoul) 1 April 2021. Access Date: 1 May 2021. <https://english.moef.go.kr/pc/selectTbPressCenterDtl.do?boardCd=N0001&seq=5100>

³²⁶⁹ Opening Remarks by President Moon Jae-in at 16th Cabinet Meeting, Office of the President (Seoul) 13 April 2021. Access Date: 29 April 2021. <https://english1.president.go.kr/Briefingspeeches/Speeches/968>

³²⁷⁰ Investment in Green New Deal to reach 3.8% of GDP by 2025, Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism and Korean Culture and Information Service (Seoul) 26 May 2021. Access Date: 25 July 2021. <https://www.korea.net/NewsFocus/policies/view?articleId=198621>

³²⁷¹ Keynote Address by President Moon Jae-in at ILO's World of Work Summit, Office of the President (Seoul) 17 June 2021. Access Date: 25 July 2021. <https://english1.president.go.kr/Briefingspeeches/Speeches/1015>

³²⁷² Keynote Address by President Moon Jae-in at ILO's World of Work Summit, Office of the President (Seoul) 17 June 2021. Access Date: 25 July 2021. <https://english1.president.go.kr/Briefingspeeches/Speeches/1015>

³²⁷³ Keynote Address by President Moon Jae-in at ILO's World of Work Summit, Office of the President (Seoul) 17 June 2021. Access Date: 25 July 2021. <https://english1.president.go.kr/Briefingspeeches/Speeches/1015>

³²⁷⁴ MOEL announces "Measures to Strengthen Public Employment Services" to Support Economic and Employment Recovery and Prepare for Post COVID-19, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Seoul) 18 June 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. https://www.moel.go.kr/english/poli/poliNewsnews_view.jsp?idx=1605

³²⁷⁵ MOEL announces "Measures to Strengthen Public Employment Services" to Support Economic and Employment Recovery and Prepare for Post COVID-19, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Seoul) 18 June 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. https://www.moel.go.kr/english/poli/poliNewsnews_view.jsp?idx=1605

³²⁷⁶ MOEL announces "Measures to Strengthen Public Employment Services" to Support Economic and Employment Recovery and Prepare for Post COVID-19, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Seoul) 18 June 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. https://www.moel.go.kr/english/poli/poliNewsnews_view.jsp?idx=1605

³²⁷⁷ MOEL announces "Measures to Strengthen Public Employment Services" to Support Economic and Employment Recovery and Prepare for Post COVID-19, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Seoul) 18 June 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. https://www.moel.go.kr/english/poli/poliNewsnews_view.jsp?idx=1605

On 14 July 2021, President Moon announced the Human New Deal, as a part of the previously announced Digital and Green New Deals. The Human New Deal aims to provide vocational training in growing industries such as system semiconductors, biohealth, future cars, and software development.³²⁷⁸ The purpose of the deal is to further drive innovation within Korea's technological sectors while creating jobs for young people.³²⁷⁹

On 9 September 2021, President Moon announced support for skilled workers in their return to shipyards during a local ceremony for ship builders and their suppliers.³²⁸⁰ The government affirmed their support for the current 8,000 workers within the shipbuilding and shipping industries, while committing to expanding job opportunities and hiring additional workers by 2022.³²⁸¹ To this end, the government will invest in workforce education centres and vocational training opportunities to support current and future workers in said industries.³²⁸² By providing enhanced support to the shipbuilding and shipping workforces, the government aims to bolster the previously struggling industries and prevent economic downturn.³²⁸³

On 16 September 2021, the Ministry of Employment and Labor announced that the Presidential Committee on Jobs passed the Measures to Support National Lifelong Vocational Competency Development.³²⁸⁴ The measures serve the purpose of restructuring the vocational training system by increasing accessibility to all citizens who intend to gain new employment through vocational training.³²⁸⁵ As well, the package introduced a number of new measures including new digital training modules, pilot programs in 2021 for specialized training for platform workers, customized training for self-employed workers, increased special training allowances, specialized training for middle-aged individuals experiencing job instability, the expansion of on-the-job training to combine digital skills training, digital and technological training for youth, customized training for small and medium enterprises who find it challenging to utilize external training institutions, and vocational training for specialized industries through joint training centres.³²⁸⁶

Korea has fully complied with its commitment to supporting workers through implementing training and reskilling policies by investing in measures to both train future employees to enter the labour

³²⁷⁸ Remarks by President Moon Jae-in at Presentation for Korean New Deal 2.0 Plans, Office of the President (Seoul) 14 July 2021. Access Date: 25 July 2021. <https://english1.president.go.kr/Briefingspeeches/Speeches/1032>

³²⁷⁹ Remarks by President Moon Jae-in at Presentation for Korean New Deal 2.0 Plans, Office of the President (Seoul) 14 July 2021. Access Date: 25 July 2021. <https://english1.president.go.kr/Briefingspeeches/Speeches/1032>

³²⁸⁰ Remarks by President Moon Jae-in at Ceremony to Announce Win-Win Vision for Korea's Ship Builders and Their Suppliers, Office of the President (Seoul) 9 September 2021. Access Date: 13 September 2021. <https://english1.president.go.kr/Briefingspeeches/Speeches/1057>

³²⁸¹ Remarks by President Moon Jae-in at Ceremony to Announce Win-Win Vision for Korea's Ship Builders and Their Suppliers, Office of the President (Seoul) 9 September 2021. Access Date: 13 September 2021. <https://english1.president.go.kr/Briefingspeeches/Speeches/1057>

³²⁸² Remarks by President Moon Jae-in at Ceremony to Announce Win-Win Vision for Korea's Ship Builders and Their Suppliers, Office of the President (Seoul) 9 September 2021. Access Date: 13 September 2021. <https://english1.president.go.kr/Briefingspeeches/Speeches/1057>

³²⁸³ Remarks by President Moon Jae-in at Ceremony to Announce Win-Win Vision for Korea's Ship Builders and Their Suppliers, Office of the President (Seoul) 9 September 2021. Access Date: 13 September 2021. <https://english1.president.go.kr/Briefingspeeches/Speeches/1057>

³²⁸⁴ Measures to Support National Lifelong Vocational Competency Development" passed by the Presidential Committee on Jobs, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Seoul) 16 September 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. https://www.moel.go.kr/english/poli/poliNewsnews_view.jsp?idx=1612

³²⁸⁵ Measures to Support National Lifelong Vocational Competency Development" passed by the Presidential Committee on Jobs, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Seoul) 16 September 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. https://www.moel.go.kr/english/poli/poliNewsnews_view.jsp?idx=1612

³²⁸⁶ Measures to Support National Lifelong Vocational Competency Development" passed by the Presidential Committee on Jobs, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Seoul) 16 September 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. https://www.moel.go.kr/english/poli/poliNewsnews_view.jsp?idx=1612

market and upskill current workers within the labour market. Korea has further demonstrated their commitment to supporting workers by investing in youth entrepreneurship and stimulating job growth within rapidly growing sectors of the economy through training and reskilling initiatives. Finally, Korea has demonstrated its overall support for workers by making targeted investments in training and reskilling as a means of stimulating post-Covid-19 economic recovery.

Thus, Korea receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Joy Chan

Mexico: -1

Mexico has failed to comply with its commitment to supporting workers through implementing training and reskilling policies.

On 22 June 2021, the “ Interinstitutional Table for Comprehensive Attention to Mexican Families in Return, the heads of the Ministries of the Interior, Foreign Relations, Public Education, and Labor and Social Security, as well as autonomous and decentralized organizations” discussed progress and improvements in programs for repatriated Mexican migrants.³²⁸⁷ The secretariat heads of the Ministry of Foreign Relations and Ministry of Education signed a “General Collaboration Agreement.”³²⁸⁸ This agreement updates the existing Mexico Recognize Your Experience program to focus on skills certification.³²⁸⁹

Thus, Mexico receives a score of -1.³²⁹⁰

Analyst: Aline Nayir

Russia: 0

Russia has partially complied with its commitment to supporting workers through implementing training and reskilling policies.

On 19 January 2021, the University of the Ministry of Construction announced a series of free online conferences throughout the month of January.³²⁹¹ There were three webinars hosted throughout the

³²⁸⁷ Returning and repatriated Mexican migrant families have new support options in education, health and economic development, Ministry of Interior (Mexico City) 22 June 2021. Access Date: 24 July 2021.

<https://www.gob.mx/segob/prensa/familias-mexicanas-migrantes-en-retorno-y-repatriadas-tiene-nuevas-opciones-de-apoyo-en-educacion-salud-y-desarrollo-economico-275389?idiom=es>

³²⁸⁸ Returning and repatriated Mexican migrant families have new support options in education, health and economic development, Ministry of Interior (Mexico City) 22 June 2021. Access Date: 24 July 2021.

<https://www.gob.mx/segob/prensa/familias-mexicanas-migrantes-en-retorno-y-repatriadas-tiene-nuevas-opciones-de-apoyo-en-educacion-salud-y-desarrollo-economico-275389?idiom=es>

³²⁸⁹ Returning and repatriated Mexican migrant families have new support options in education, health and economic development, Ministry of Interior (Mexico City) 22 June 2021. Access Date: 24 July 2021.

<https://www.gob.mx/segob/prensa/familias-mexicanas-migrantes-en-retorno-y-repatriadas-tiene-nuevas-opciones-de-apoyo-en-educacion-salud-y-desarrollo-economico-275389?idiom=es>

³²⁹⁰ This non-compliance was determined after searching the following websites: <https://www.reuters.com/>, <https://www.eluniversal.com.mx/>, <https://www.gob.mx/bienestar>, <https://mexiconewsdaily.com/>, <https://www.aljazeera.com/>, <https://laborrights.org/>, <https://www.utoronto.ca/news/>, <https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/>, <https://www.shrm.org/>, <https://www.gob.mx/segob>, <https://www.gob.mx/sedena>, <https://www.banxico.org.mx/noticias/noticias001.html>, <https://www.gob.mx/sct>, <https://wecglobal.org/>, <https://ioewec.newsletter.ioe-emp.org/industrial-relations-and-labour-law-november-2020/news/>, <https://www.ilo.org/>, https://strabajo.edomex.gob.mx/capacitacion_trabajo, <https://icati.edomex.gob.mx/>

month of January dedicated to facilitating discussions on and providing digitization training for the construction sector.³²⁹² All attendees received a participation certificate from the University of the Ministry of Construction.³²⁹³

On 26 January 2021, the University of the Ministry of Construction announced a series of free online conferences for the month of February.³²⁹⁴ These webinars covered a range of topics, including “Artificial Intelligence for Solving the Problem of the Construction Industry” and “Information Modeling of Territorial Planning Projects and Legal Regulation in Digital Urban Planning.”³²⁹⁵ There were seven educational webinars hosted during the month of February. All attendees received a participation certificate from the University of the Ministry of Construction.³²⁹⁶

On 15 March 2021, the University of the Ministry of Construction and the City of Moscow’s Department of Urban Development Policy announced a “Digital Standards in Construction” conference to be held on 17-18 March 2021.³²⁹⁷ The conference focused on discussing state policies on the digitalisation of urban planning, implementation of BIM technologies in the construction process, and the implementation of “new educational standards in the construction industry.”³²⁹⁸ All attendees received a participation certificate from the University of the Ministry of Construction.³²⁹⁹

On 25 June 2021, Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin approved the allocation of RUB1.3 billion in grants towards the launch of intellectual training programs at the university level.³³⁰⁰ The funding will

³²⁹¹ Webinars on information modeling technologies in construction, Ministry of Construction and Housing and Communal Services of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 19 January 2021. Access Date: 25 March 2021. <https://minstroyrf.gov.ru/press/vebinary-po-tekhnologiyam-informatsionnogo-modelirovaniya-v-stroitelstve-proydu-t-v-yanvare-na-ploshch/>

³²⁹² Webinars on information modeling technologies in construction, Ministry of Construction and Housing and Communal Services of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 19 January 2021. Access Date: 25 March 2021. <https://minstroyrf.gov.ru/press/vebinary-po-tekhnologiyam-informatsionnogo-modelirovaniya-v-stroitelstve-proydu-t-v-yanvare-na-ploshch/>

³²⁹³ Webinars on information modeling technologies in construction, Ministry of Construction and Housing and Communal Services of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 19 January 2021. Date Accessed: 25 March 2021. <https://minstroyrf.gov.ru/press/vebinary-po-tekhnologiyam-informatsionnogo-modelirovaniya-v-stroitelstve-proydu-t-v-yanvare-na-ploshch/>

³²⁹⁴ Webinars Building Information Modeling Technologies, Ministry of Construction and Housing and Communal Services of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 26 January 2021. Access Date: 25 March 2021. <https://minstroyrf.gov.ru/press/vebinary-po-tekhnologiyam-informatsionnogo-modelirovaniya-v-stroitelstve-proydu-t-v-fevrale-na-ploshch/>

³²⁹⁵ Webinars Building Information Modeling Technologies, Ministry of Construction and Housing and Communal Services of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 26 January 2021. Access Date: 25 March 2021. <https://minstroyrf.gov.ru/press/vebinary-po-tekhnologiyam-informatsionnogo-modelirovaniya-v-stroitelstve-proydu-t-v-fevrale-na-ploshch/>

³²⁹⁶ Webinars Building Information Modeling Technologies, Ministry of Construction and Housing and Communal Services of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 26 January 2021. Date Accessed: 25 March 2021. <https://minstroyrf.gov.ru/press/vebinary-po-tekhnologiyam-informatsionnogo-modelirovaniya-v-stroitelstve-proydu-t-v-fevrale-na-ploshch/>

³²⁹⁷ The introduction of digital standards in construction, Ministry of Construction and Housing and Communal Services of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 15 March 2021. Access Date: 28 March 2021. <https://minstroyrf.gov.ru/press/vnedrenie-tsifrovyykh-standartov-v-stroitelstvo-obsudyat-na-konferentsii-v-moskve-17-18-marta/>

³²⁹⁸ The introduction of digital standards in construction, Ministry of Construction and Housing and Communal Services of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 15 March 2021. Access Date: 28 March 2021. <https://minstroyrf.gov.ru/press/vnedrenie-tsifrovyykh-standartov-v-stroitelstvo-obsudyat-na-konferentsii-v-moskve-17-18-marta>

³²⁹⁹ The introduction of digital standards in construction, Ministry of Construction and Housing and Communal Services of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 15 March 2021. Access Date: 28 March 2021. <https://minstroyrf.gov.ru/press/vnedrenie-tsifrovyykh-standartov-v-stroitelstvo-obsudyat-na-konferentsii-v-moskve-17-18-marta/>

³³⁰⁰ The government approved the rules for the provision of grants for the training of specialists in the field of intellectual property, Government of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 3 July 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://government.ru/docs/42672/>

enable a minimum of 3,500 pedagogical and scientific workers to receive retraining in intellectual property and create “specialized disciplines” in 250 organizations.³³⁰¹ Moreover, the funding package will be provided to universities through 2021-2024.³³⁰²

On 6 July 2021, Education Ministers from Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa (BRICS) met virtually and signed a joint declaration to improve their collaboration on education and research efforts with respect to Technical Vocational and Educational Training institutions.³³⁰³

On 18 August 2021, representatives from the Ministry of Industry and Trade attended a virtual meeting with their BRICS counterparts where they collectively reaffirmed their support for training, skilling, and reskilling policies.³³⁰⁴ Furthermore, the BRICS members emphasized “the importance of strengthening intra-BRICS cooperation on advanced technical skills for reskilling and upskilling by exchanging experience and good practices through match-making workshops, seminars, and exchange programs to develop a practical framework for ensuring appropriate required skills and knowledge for Industrial development.”³³⁰⁵ Overall, the BRICS member committed to continuing their collective support for workers as one of several joint measures to achieve multilateral economic reform.³³⁰⁶

On 18 August 2021, BRICS Industry Ministers met virtually to discuss the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic upon the industry and trade sectors.³³⁰⁷ During this meeting, the Ministers reiterated their commitment towards utilizing new technologies to “promote training and skills development of the related workforce and businesses through workshops, seminars, and exchange programs.”³³⁰⁸

On 31 August 2021, BRICS Youth Ministers met virtually to discuss youth interests and the need to implement measures to mitigate the challenges facing youth as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.³³⁰⁹ Further to this, the delegates reaffirmed their commitment towards continuing to skill youth through the utilization of technological tools, in addition to creating additional employment opportunities for youth.³³¹⁰

Russia has partially complied with its commitment to continue to supporting workers through implementing training policies aimed at retraining workers to enter the field of intellectual property. The member, however, has failed to implement concrete actions towards reskilling its workforce.

³³⁰¹ The government approved the rules for the provision of grants for the training of specialists in the field of intellectual property, Government of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 3 July 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://government.ru/docs/42672/>

³³⁰² The government approved the rules for the provision of grants for the training of specialists in the field of intellectual property, Government of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 3 July 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <http://government.ru/docs/42672/>

³³⁰³ VIII BRICS Education Ministers’ Meeting, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 6 July 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/presspdf/press-57.pdf>

³³⁰⁴ BRICS Labour and Employment Ministers’ Declaration 2021, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/docpdf/getdocu-37.pdf>

³³⁰⁵ BRICS Labour and Employment Ministers’ Declaration 2021, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/docpdf/getdocu-37.pdf>

³³⁰⁶ BRICS Labour and Employment Ministers’ Declaration 2021, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/docpdf/getdocu-37.pdf>

³³⁰⁷ 5th BRICS Industry Ministers Meeting, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/presspdf/press-77.pdf>

³³⁰⁸ 5th BRICS Industry Ministers Meeting, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/presspdf/press-77.pdf>

³³⁰⁹ Joint Statement of BRICS Ministers Responsible for Youth, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 31 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/docpdf/getdocu-36.pdf>

³³¹⁰ Joint Statement of BRICS Ministers Responsible for Youth, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 31 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/docpdf/getdocu-36.pdf>

Thus, Russia receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Tourang Movabedi

Saudi Arabia: +1

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with its commitment to supporting workers through implementing training and reskilling programs.

On 20 March 2021, the Ministry of Tourism’s Human Capital Development Agency launched their “Your Future is in Tourism” campaign.³³¹¹ The campaign contributes to Saudi Arabia’s goal to expand the country’s tourism sector and create 100,000 industry jobs by the end of 2021.³³¹² The campaign offers various qualification and training programs to equip citizens both within in or newly entering the tourism sector with the necessary skills to meet international standards.³³¹³ These programs will help recent graduates gain “basic skills” and strengthen experienced workers’ pre-existing skills within the sector.³³¹⁴

On 8 April 2021, the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology announced the implementation of the Distance Cooperative Training Program.³³¹⁵ The program is intended to better prepare recent university graduates entering the workforce by providing said graduates with “educational and practical activities” such as counselling sessions and specialized courses.³³¹⁶ This program is focused on skill development in “communications and information technology.”³³¹⁷ This program aims to help recent graduates obtain skills needed for the digital demands of the labour market.³³¹⁸

On 25 August 2021, Saudi Arabia announced a funding package of SAR4 billion in cooperation with several private sector actors to invest in a variety of digital initiatives.³³¹⁹ Most notably, the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology announced the launch of a future skills camp,

³³¹¹ “Your Future is in Tourism” campaign meant to help create 1mln jobs for Saudis, ZAWYA (Dubai) 20 March 2021. Access Date: 22 March 2021. https://www.zawya.com/mena/en/economy/story/Your_Future_is_in_Tourism_campaign_meant_to_help_create_1mln_jobs_for_Saudis-ZAWYA20210320053615/

³³¹² “Your Future is in Tourism” campaign meant to help create 1mln jobs for Saudis, ZAWYA (Dubai) 20 March 2021. Access Date: 22 March 2021. https://www.zawya.com/mena/en/economy/story/Your_Future_is_in_Tourism_campaign_meant_to_help_create_1mln_jobs_for_Saudis-ZAWYA20210320053615/

³³¹³ Tourism Human Capital Development Programs, Ministry of Tourism (Riyadh) 20 March 2021. Access Date: 22 March 2021. https://eservices.taqat.sa/Eservices_Individual/ProgramDetails.aspx?Id=9

³³¹⁴ Tourism Human Capital Development Programs, Ministry of Tourism (Riyadh) 20 March 2021. Access Date: 22 March 2021. https://eservices.taqat.sa/Eservices_Individual/ProgramDetails.aspx?Id=9

³³¹⁵ The Ministry of Communications Launches the Second Version of the “Distance Cooperative Training Program,” Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Riyadh) 8 April 2021. Access Date: 1 May 2021. <https://www.mcit.gov.sa/ar/media-center/news/595537>

³³¹⁶ The Ministry of Communications Launches the Second Version of the “Distance Cooperative Training Program,” Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Riyadh) 8 April 2021. Access Date: 1 May 2021. <https://www.mcit.gov.sa/ar/media-center/news/595537>

³³¹⁷ The Ministry of Communications Launches the Second Version of the “Distance Cooperative Training Program,” Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Riyadh) 8 April 2021. Access Date: 1 May 2021. <https://www.mcit.gov.sa/ar/media-center/news/595537>

³³¹⁸ The Ministry of Communications Launches the Second Version of the “Distance Cooperative Training Program,” Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Riyadh) 8 April 2021. Access Date: 1 May 2021. <https://www.mcit.gov.sa/ar/media-center/news/595537>

³³¹⁹ Saudi Arabia to unveil Wednesday giant Tech initiatives for entrepreneurs, Saudi Gazette (Riyadh) 23 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://saudigazette.com.sa/article/610162/SAUDI-ARABIA/Saudi-Arabia-to-unveil-Wednesday-giant-Tech-initiatives-for-entrepreneurs>

which will comprise of over 40 virtual training camps dedicated to teaching skills relevant to a variety of sectors and industries.³³²⁰

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with its commitment to supporting workers through implementing training and reskilling policies by offering training to youth entering the workforce in tandem with reskilling programs for workers embarking on a new career.

Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Aline Nayir

South Africa: +1

South Africa has fully complied with its commitment to supporting workers through implementing training and reskilling policies.

On 3 March 2021, the Minister for the Department of Women, Youth, and Persons with Disabilities introduced the National Youth Policy.³³²¹ The National Youth Policy is intended to support South African youth over the span of ten years.³³²² The first measures announced under the program include a basic income grant to ease youth unemployment rates, a national work-readiness training program, and an additional grant program to encourage youth entrepreneurship and foster over 100,000 young entrepreneurs within the next three years.³³²³

On 14 May 2021, Minister for Higher Education and Training Blade Nzimande announced that the Department for Higher Education and Training has entered into a partnership with the German government to improve upon South Africa's skills training system.³³²⁴ Through this partnership, the South African government will adopt apprenticeship-based technical vocational education and training (TVET) colleges, similar to that of the system implemented in Germany.³³²⁵ In the German system, "more than half of German students enter dual vocational and educational training programs as a route into employment."³³²⁶ Moreover, students have access to select a program among 326 professional trades.³³²⁷ The purpose of this partnership is to utilize a structure of TVET to prepare

³³²⁰ Saudi Arabia to unveil Wednesday giant Tech initiatives for entrepreneurs, Saudi Gazette (Riyadh) 23 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://saudigazette.com.sa/article/610162/SAUDI-ARABIA/Saudi-Arabia-to-unveil-Wednesday-giant-Tech-initiatives-for-entrepreneurs>

³³²¹ Basic income grant and removal of work experience requirements proposed for people under 35 in South Africa, Business Tech (Pretoria) 3 March 2021. Access Date: 20 March 2021. <https://businesstech.co.za/news/finance/472492/basic-income-grant-and-removal-of-work-experience-requirements-proposed-for-people-under-35-in-south-africa/>

³³²² Basic income grant and removal of work experience requirements proposed for people under 35 in South Africa, Business Tech (Pretoria) 3 March 2021. Access Date: 20 March 2021. <https://businesstech.co.za/news/finance/472492/basic-income-grant-and-removal-of-work-experience-requirements-proposed-for-people-under-35-in-south-africa/>

³³²³ Basic income grant and removal of work experience requirements proposed for people under 35 in South Africa, Business Tech (Pretoria) 3 March 2021. Access Date: 20 March 2021. <https://businesstech.co.za/news/finance/472492/basic-income-grant-and-removal-of-work-experience-requirements-proposed-for-people-under-35-in-south-africa/>

³³²⁴ South Africa to follow 'German system' for training workers: minister, Business Tech (Pretoria) 14 May 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <https://businesstech.co.za/news/business/490513/south-africa-to-follow-german-system-for-training-workers-minister/>

³³²⁵ South Africa to follow 'German system' for training workers: minister, Business Tech (Pretoria) 14 May 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <https://businesstech.co.za/news/business/490513/south-africa-to-follow-german-system-for-training-workers-minister/>

³³²⁶ South Africa to follow 'German system' for training workers: minister, Business Tech (Pretoria) 14 May 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <https://businesstech.co.za/news/business/490513/south-africa-to-follow-german-system-for-training-workers-minister/>

³³²⁷ South Africa to follow 'German system' for training workers: minister, Business Tech (Pretoria) 14 May 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <https://businesstech.co.za/news/business/490513/south-africa-to-follow-german-system-for-training-workers-minister/>

South African youth with the technical skills they need to obtain work, while also providing existing employees with the opportunity to upskill or reskill.³³²⁸ Moreover, the adoption of the TVET structure is intended to mitigate job loss and stimulate the South African economy in the wake of the economic challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic.³³²⁹

On 5 June 2021, Minister of Social Development Lindiwe Zulu launched the Lulwazi Lwethu Youth Skills Centre in the Nyanga Township of Cape Town.³³³⁰ The centre will provide young people with the opportunity to engage in skills training programs and become prepared for entering the workforce.³³³¹ The Youth Skills Centre was opened in response to the high rate of youth unemployment in the state.³³³²

On 14 June 2021, President Cyril Ramphosa reaffirmed his government's commitment to address youth unemployment within South Africa.³³³³ Additionally, the President stated that "creating more opportunities for young people, and supporting young people to access these opportunities, is the government's foremost priority."³³³⁴ In order to tackle this issue, the President reaffirmed that the government would explore a variety of avenues, including further investments in skills development or implementing active labour market policies.³³³⁵ The President acknowledged that it was critical to not only reach as many young people as possible, but to do so in a rapid and timely manner.³³³⁶ In June 2021, Statistics South Africa reported that the youth (15-34 years) unemployment rate was 46.3 per cent in the first quarter of 2021.³³³⁷

³³²⁸ South Africa to follow 'German system' for training workers: minister, Business Tech (Pretoria) 14 May 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <https://businesstech.co.za/news/business/490513/south-africa-to-follow-german-system-for-training-workers-minister/>

³³²⁹ South Africa to follow 'German system' for training workers: minister, Business Tech (Pretoria) 14 May 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <https://businesstech.co.za/news/business/490513/south-africa-to-follow-german-system-for-training-workers-minister/>

³³³⁰ Minister Lindiwe Zulu opens Lulwazi Lethu youth skills centre in Nyanga, 5 June, South African Government (Pretoria) 3 June 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-zulu-officially-open-lulwazi-lethu-youth-skills-centre-nyanga-3-jun-2021-0000>

³³³¹ Minister Lindiwe Zulu opens Lulwazi Lethu youth skills centre in Nyanga, 5 June, South African Government (Pretoria) 3 June 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-zulu-officially-open-lulwazi-lethu-youth-skills-centre-nyanga-3-jun-2021-0000>

³³³² Minister Lindiwe Zulu opens Lulwazi Lethu youth skills centre in Nyanga, 5 June, South African Government (Pretoria) 3 June 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-zulu-officially-open-lulwazi-lethu-youth-skills-centre-nyanga-3-jun-2021-0000>

³³³³ Ramaphosa on South Africa's 46% youth unemployment problem, Business Tech (Pretoria) 14 June 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <https://businesstech.co.za/news/business/498177/ramaphosa-on-south-africas-46-youth-unemployment-problem/>

³³³⁴ Ramaphosa on South Africa's 46% youth unemployment problem, Business Tech (Pretoria) 14 June 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <https://businesstech.co.za/news/business/498177/ramaphosa-on-south-africas-46-youth-unemployment-problem/>

³³³⁵ Ramaphosa on South Africa's 46% youth unemployment problem, Business Tech (Pretoria) 14 June 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <https://businesstech.co.za/news/business/498177/ramaphosa-on-south-africas-46-youth-unemployment-problem/>

³³³⁶ Ramaphosa on South Africa's 46% youth unemployment problem, Business Tech (Pretoria) 14 June 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <https://businesstech.co.za/news/business/498177/ramaphosa-on-south-africas-46-youth-unemployment-problem/>

³³³⁷ Ramaphosa on South Africa's 46% youth unemployment problem, Business Tech (Pretoria) 14 June 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <https://businesstech.co.za/news/business/498177/ramaphosa-on-south-africas-46-youth-unemployment-problem/>

On 6 July 2021, Education Ministers from Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa (BRICS) met virtually and signed a joint declaration to improve their collaboration on education and research efforts with respect to TVET institutions.³³³⁸

On 14 July 2021, Minister Nzimande announced that the government entered into a joint agreement with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). As part of this agreement, the member will collaborate with the UNDP to upskill youth and women in skills pertaining to the automotive sector.³³³⁹ The agreement intends to enhance vocational training and economic empowerment through skills development and intensified training at TVET colleges.³³⁴⁰

On 18 August 2021, representatives from the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Competition attended a virtual meeting with their BRICS counterparts where they collectively reaffirmed their support for training, skilling, and reskilling policies.³³⁴¹ Furthermore, the BRICS members emphasized “the importance of strengthening intra-BRICS cooperation on advanced technical skills for reskilling and upskilling by exchanging experience and good practices through match-making workshops, seminars, and exchange programs to develop a practical framework for ensuring appropriate required skills and knowledge for Industrial development.”³³⁴² Overall, the BRICS member committed to continuing their collective support for workers as one of several joint measures to achieve multilateral economic reform.³³⁴³

On 18 August 2021, BRICS Industry Ministers met virtually to discuss the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic upon the industry and trade sectors.³³⁴⁴ During this meeting, the Ministers reiterated their commitment towards utilizing new technologies to “promote training and skills development of the related workforce and businesses through workshops, seminars, and exchange programs.”³³⁴⁵

On 31 August 2021, BRICS Youth Ministers met virtually to discuss youth interests and the need to implement measures to mitigate the challenges facing youth as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.³³⁴⁶ Further to this, the delegates reaffirmed their commitment towards continuing to skill youth through the utilization of technological tools, in addition to creating additional employment opportunities for youth.³³⁴⁷

³³³⁸ VIII BRICS Education Ministers’ Meeting, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 6 July 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/presspdf/press-57.pdf>

³³³⁹ SA signs agreement with United Nations Development Programme to improve critical skills, IOL (Pretoria) 15 July 2021. Access Date: 21 July 2021. <https://www.iol.co.za/business-report/careers/sa-signs-agreement-with-united-nations-development-programme-to-improve-critical-skills-41463c64-3a46-5ef9-b4ce-59ad53b3109f>

³³⁴⁰ SA signs agreement with United Nations Development Programme to improve critical skills, IOL (Pretoria) 15 July 2021. Access Date: 21 July 2021. <https://www.iol.co.za/business-report/careers/sa-signs-agreement-with-united-nations-development-programme-to-improve-critical-skills-41463c64-3a46-5ef9-b4ce-59ad53b3109f>

³³⁴¹ BRICS Labour and Employment Ministers’ Declaration 2021, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/docpdf/getdocu-37.pdf>

³³⁴² BRICS Labour and Employment Ministers’ Declaration 2021, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/docpdf/getdocu-37.pdf>

³³⁴³ BRICS Labour and Employment Ministers’ Declaration 2021, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/docpdf/getdocu-37.pdf>

³³⁴⁴ 5th BRICS Industry Ministers Meeting, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/presspdf/press-77.pdf>

³³⁴⁵ 5th BRICS Industry Ministers Meeting, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/presspdf/press-77.pdf>

³³⁴⁶ Joint Statement of BRICS Ministers Responsible for Youth, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 31 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/docpdf/getdocu-36.pdf>

³³⁴⁷ Joint Statement of BRICS Ministers Responsible for Youth, BRICS India 2021 (New Delhi) 31 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://brics2021.gov.in/brics/public/uploads/docpdf/getdocu-36.pdf>

On 31 August 2021, Minister Nzimande announced that South Africa’s “universities and colleges are in the process of adapting their curricula to be relevant to skills required by South Africa and the rest of the world.”³³⁴⁸ The curricula alignment will support skills development and job creation with the aim of preparing graduates to enter the workforce with the skills necessary to obtain permanent employment.³³⁴⁹ The change in curricula offerings is intended to bring the curricula offered in TVET universities in alignment with domestic and international labour market demands, while the curricula offered in TVET colleges will become aligned with local employer and community needs.³³⁵⁰

South Africa has fully complied with its commitment to continue supporting workers by reworking their TVET colleges, promoting youth skills training and entrepreneurship, launching the Lulwazi Lwethu Youth Skills Centre, committing to support upskilling and training for women, and updating university and college curricula to support skills development and job creation.

Thus, South Africa receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Dorottya Szekeley

Turkey: 0

Turkey has partially complied with its commitment to supporting workers through implementing training and reskilling policies.

On 1 December 2020, the Ministry of Education announced it will be accepting internship applications from university students for the nation’s Internship Mobilization Project as of 2021.³³⁵¹ An online portal was created to deliver accessible information about youth internship opportunities and gaining merit and proficiency in employment.³³⁵² The education ministry also cooperated with vocational high schools to increase the production capacity of the schools despite the COVID-19 pandemic.³³⁵³

On 17 December 2020, the EU delegation to Turkey signed the last eight contracts under the “Facility for Refugees in Turkey,” with monetary aid to be used by Turkey to assist refugee projects.³³⁵⁴ The country has allocated funding for technical education, vocational training, private sector employment, and entrepreneur enterprises to support refugees.³³⁵⁵

³³⁴⁸ Universities are updating their courses to help address South Africa’s skills shortage, Business Tech (Pretoria) 1 September 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <https://businesstech.co.za/news/government/517384/universities-are-updating-their-courses-to-help-address-south-africas-skills-shortage/>

³³⁴⁹ Minister Blade Nzimande on scarce, critical skills and the alignment of curriculum for skills development and job creation, South African Government (Pretoria) 31 August 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-higher-education-science-and-innovation-statement-scarce-critical-skills-and>

³³⁵⁰ Minister Blade Nzimande on scarce, critical skills and the alignment of curriculum for skills development and job creation, South African Government (Pretoria) 31 August 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2021. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-higher-education-science-and-innovation-statement-scarce-critical-skills-and>

³³⁵¹ Vocational High School Aim 1 Billion Lira Production, TR Ministry of Education (Ankara) 17 March 2021. Access Date: 22 March 2021. <http://mtegm.meb.gov.tr/www/meslek-liseleri-bu-yil-1-milyar-lira-uretim-geliri-hedefliyor/icerik/2879>

³³⁵² Vocational High School Aim 1 Billion Lira Production, TR Ministry of Education (Ankara) 17 March 2021. Access Date: 22 March 2021. <http://mtegm.meb.gov.tr/www/meslek-liseleri-bu-yil-1-milyar-lira-uretim-geliri-hedefliyor/icerik/2879>

³³⁵³ Internship Applications Started Within the Scope of Internship Mobilization Project, TR Ministry of Education (Ankara) 1 December 2020. Access Date: 22 March 2021. <http://mtegm.meb.gov.tr/www/staj-seferberligi-projesi-kapsaminda-staj-basvurulari-basladi/icerik/2819>

³³⁵⁴ EU finishes contracting \$7.3B refugee deal with Turkey, Anadolu Agency (Ankara) 17 December 2020. Access Date: 21 March 2021. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/europe/eu-finishes-contracting-73b-refugee-deal-with-turkey/2080358>

³³⁵⁵ EU finishes contracting \$7.3B refugee deal with Turkey, Anadolu Agency (Ankara) 17 December 2020. Access Date: 21 March 2021. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/europe/eu-finishes-contracting-73b-refugee-deal-with-turkey/2080358>

On 27 January 2021, Turkey's efforts at refugee job protection were also acknowledged at the closing event of the "Reinforcement of Turkey's National Asylum System" in Ankara.³³⁵⁶ Co-financed by Turkey and implemented by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the project has allowed Turkey to enroll 678 people in a variety of job training programs throughout the past three years.³³⁵⁷

On 28 April 2021, Deputy Minister of National Education Mahmut Özer chaired a meeting to discuss next steps for the ongoing projects aimed at integrating Syrian refugees into the workforce through vocational training.³³⁵⁸ The meeting evaluated improvements in technical education projects and vocational training centres.³³⁵⁹ Through the ministry's ongoing projects, the Turkish government aims to increase the per cent of Syrian trainees in these centres from 2 per cent to 10 per cent.³³⁶⁰

On 28 June 2021, the Ministry of National Education announced a change to bolster the enrolment of refugees in job training programs.³³⁶¹ In particular, the Ministry confirmed that it will eliminate the previously required Turkish language proficiency certification for Syrians under the status of temporary protection who apply for vocational classes.³³⁶² The highly demanded change is expected to remove the language barrier that exists within the Turkish workforce.³³⁶³

On 18 August 2021, the Ministry of National Education provided an update regarding the 1000 Schools in Vocational Education Project.³³⁶⁴ Minister of National Education Mahmut Özer chaired a review meeting of the project where he announced that the project had hosted 40,466 professional development training programs for teachers and that 99,474 teachers attended said programs.³³⁶⁵ The project was initially launched in September 2020 and pursued throughout 2020-2021 with a funding allocation of LIR820 million.³³⁶⁶ The milestones achieved through the project are part of the

³³⁵⁶ Closing Event of the Reinforcement of Turkey's National Asylum System Project, UNHCR (Ankara) 27 January 2021. Access Date: 20 March 2021. <https://www.unhcr.org/tr/en/27161-closing-event-of-the-reinforcement-of-turkeys-national-asylum-system-project.html>

³³⁵⁷ Closing Event of the Reinforcement of Turkey's National Asylum System Project, UNHCR (Ankara) 27 January 2021. Access Date: 20 March 2021. <https://www.unhcr.org/tr/en/27161-closing-event-of-the-reinforcement-of-turkeys-national-asylum-system-project.html>

³³⁵⁸ Access of Syrian Refugees to Vocational Education Centers Will Be Provided for Their Social and Economic Integration, Republic of Turkey Ministry of National Education (Ankara) 28 April 2021. Access Date: 1 May 2021. <https://www.meb.gov.tr/access-of-syrian-refugees-to-vocational-education-centers-will-be-provided-for-their-social-and-economic-integration/haber/23098/en>

³³⁵⁹ Syrian refugees in Turkey receive vocational training, Anadolu Agency (Ankara) 28 April 2021. Access Date: 1 May 2021. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/syrian-refugees-in-turkey-receive-vocational-training/2223451>

³³⁶⁰ Syrian refugees in Turkey receive vocational training, Anadolu Agency (Ankara) 28 April 2021. Access Date: 1 May 2021. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/syrian-refugees-in-turkey-receive-vocational-training/2223451>

³³⁶¹ Turkey Eases Vocational Training Challenge for Syrian Refugees, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 28 June 2021. Access Date: 22 July 2021. <https://www.dailysabah.com/turkey/education/turkey-eases-vocational-training-challenge-for-syrian-refugees>

³³⁶² Turkey Eases Vocational Training Challenge for Syrian Refugees, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 28 June 2021. Access Date: 22 July 2021. <https://www.dailysabah.com/turkey/education/turkey-eases-vocational-training-challenge-for-syrian-refugees>

³³⁶³ Turkey Eases Vocational Training Challenge for Syrian Refugees, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 28 June 2021. Access Date: 22 July 2021. <https://www.dailysabah.com/turkey/education/turkey-eases-vocational-training-challenge-for-syrian-refugees>

³³⁶⁴ 820 million Liras support to 100 schools in vocational education project, Ministry of National Education (Istanbul) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.meb.gov.tr/820-million-liras-support-to-1000-schools-in-vocational-education-project/haber/23864/en>

³³⁶⁵ 820 million Liras support to 100 schools in vocational education project, Ministry of National Education (Istanbul) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.meb.gov.tr/820-million-liras-support-to-1000-schools-in-vocational-education-project/haber/23864/en>

³³⁶⁶ 820 million Liras support to 100 schools in vocational education project, Ministry of National Education (Istanbul) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.meb.gov.tr/820-million-liras-support-to-1000-schools-in-vocational-education-project/haber/23864/en>

member's broader initiative to promote training programs and vocational education centres throughout Turkey.³³⁶⁷

Turkey has partially complied with its commitment to continue to supporting workers through implementing training policies. The member has invested in measures aimed at providing vocational training and support for entrepreneurship for refugees, along with an internship program aimed at training and preparing youth for the workforce. Turkey, however, has yet to take action towards implementing reskilling policies.

Thus, Turkey receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Nouran El Atreby

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to supporting workers through implementing training and reskilling policies.

On 9 December 2020, the Department of Education provided an update that approximately 400 free courses “will be available to adults without a full qualification at Level 3 (A-level equivalent) from April 2021 to help them gain in-demand skills and open up further job opportunities.”³³⁶⁸ This initiative is a part of the Lifetime Skills Guarantee program that was first announced by Prime Minister Boris Johnson in September 2020.³³⁶⁹ The Lifetime Skills Guarantee program is intended to provide an accessible avenue for adults to gain employable skills and improve their opportunities for securing or upgrading their employment.³³⁷⁰

On 9 December 2020, the Department of Education provided an update about the expansion of the free skills boot camps facilitated by an increase of GBP43 million in funding for the program.³³⁷¹ The initiative is part of the broader Lifetime Skills Guarantee program.³³⁷² The boot camps are 12 to 16 weeks in length and offer courses on digital and technical skills.³³⁷³ Moreover, the bootcamps are designed to help participants gain skills specific to their desired sector of employment and improve their likelihood of securing an employment interview.³³⁷⁴ The additional funding “will enable greater

³³⁶⁷ 820 million Liras support to 100 schools in vocational education project, Ministry of National Education (Istanbul) 18 August 2021. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.meb.gov.tr/820-million-liras-support-to-1000-schools-in-vocational-education-project/haber/23864/en>

³³⁶⁸ Adults to gain new skills on 400 free courses, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 9 December 2020. Access Date: 8 March 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/adults-to-gain-new-skills-on-400-free-courses>

³³⁶⁹ Major expansion of post-18 education and training to level up and prepare workers for post-COVID economy, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 29 September 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/major-expansion-of-post-18-education-and-training-to-level-up-and-prepare-workers-for-post-covid-economy>

³³⁷⁰ Adults to gain new skills on 400 free courses, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 9 December 2020. Access Date: 8 March 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/adults-to-gain-new-skills-on-400-free-courses>

³³⁷¹ National Skills Fund, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 9 December 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-skills-fund>

³³⁷² Major expansion of post-18 education and training to level up and prepare workers for post-COVID economy, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 29 September 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/major-expansion-of-post-18-education-and-training-to-level-up-and-prepare-workers-for-post-covid-economy>

³³⁷³ National Skills Fund, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 9 December 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-skills-fund>

³³⁷⁴ National Skills Fund, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 9 December 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-skills-fund>

availability across the country and a wider range of course subjects on offer to meet the skills needs of local areas.”³³⁷⁵

On 3 March 2021, Chancellor of the Exchequer Rishi Sunak announced that the government is providing an additional GBP126 million in funding for their Plan for Jobs program.³³⁷⁶ This funding will be used to establish an additional 40,000 traineeships and enable businesses to hire apprentices by paying businesses a GBP3,000 incentive for each apprentice hired, double the original amount offered to businesses.³³⁷⁷

On 11 May 2021, Prime Minister Boris Johnson presented a set of legislative measures to further support pandemic recovery, guarantee that workers have access to equal opportunities, and build upon the progress initially established by the Lifetime Skills Guarantee program.³³⁷⁸ Such new measures include the establishment of a “statutory role” for employers to participate in the Skills Accelerator program and assist in planning publicly-funded training program, the creation of a new and more flexible student loans program, and the granting of greater authority to the Secretary of State for Education to intervene in post-secondary institutions that do not address local needs.³³⁷⁹

On 18 May 2021, the Prime Minister’s Skills and Post-16 Education Bill was presented in Parliament.³³⁸⁰ The purpose of the Bill is to create additional pathways for workers to enter skilled professions.³³⁸¹

On 1 June 2021, the Department for Education announced that employers of all sizes can apply for up to EUR3000 in additional funding for each new apprentice hired.³³⁸² The measure was initially introduced in the 2021 Budget presented on 3 March 2021 and open to applications as of 1 June 2021.³³⁸³ The purpose of this incentive is to encourage employers to create more jobs and provide greater opportunities for workers to gain skills and develop their talent.³³⁸⁴

³³⁷⁵ National Skills Fund, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 9 December 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-skills-fund>

³³⁷⁶ Budget 2021 sets path for recovery, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 3 March 2021. Access Date: 19 March 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/budget-2021-sets-path-for-recovery>

³³⁷⁷ Budget 2021 sets path for recovery, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 3 March 2021. Access Date: 19 March 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/budget-2021-sets-path-for-recovery>

³³⁷⁸ Prime Minister to revolutionise skills and training opportunities, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 11 May 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-to-revolutionise-skills-and-training-opportunities>

³³⁷⁹ Prime Minister to revolutionise skills and training opportunities, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 11 May 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-to-revolutionise-skills-and-training-opportunities>

³³⁸⁰ New legislation to help transform opportunities for all, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 18 May 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-legislation-to-help-transform-opportunities-for-all>

³³⁸¹ New legislation to help transform opportunities for all, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 18 May 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-legislation-to-help-transform-opportunities-for-all>

³³⁸² Cash boost for apprenticeships launched, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 1 June 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cash-boost-for-apprenticeships-launched>

³³⁸³ Cash boost for apprenticeships launched, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 1 June 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cash-boost-for-apprenticeships-launched>

³³⁸⁴ Cash boost for apprenticeships launched, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 1 June 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cash-boost-for-apprenticeships-launched>

On 11 June 2021, the Department for Education announced a series of initiatives to train and upskill workers and to also improve accessibility for adults to access alternatives to university degrees.³³⁸⁵ Firstly, the government will allocate up to EUR10 million for Institutes of Technology to create technical modular courses aimed at educating participants about a wide variety of STEM professions, including engineering, manufacturing, and construction.³³⁸⁶ These courses aim to engage adults and provide the opportunity for workers to reskill or upskill.³³⁸⁷ In addition, the government also announced an allocation of EUR2 million towards the creation of training modular courses dedicated to training and reskilling employees in the high value manufacturing sector.³³⁸⁸ Finally, the government also announced the launch of Growth Fund, to which they allocated EUR18 million.³³⁸⁹ The Growth Fund intends to encourage higher education providers to expand their trainings and course offerings for technical education by providing the necessary equipment and private-sector partnerships.³³⁹⁰ Through key investments in equipment and private-sector partnerships, the intended outcome is to improve upon the training provided, learning outcomes, and enhance the skills gained by students.³³⁹¹

On 15 July 2021, the Department for Education announced the expansion of their Skills Bootcamp program to offer 16,000 additional fully funded placements for adults to train or upskill through the program.³³⁹² The government intends to address a wide range of sectors by providing trainings in green skills, coding, and software development.³³⁹³

On 3 August 2021, the Department for Education, Department for Digital Culture, Media, and Sport, and Her Majesty's Treasury jointly announced the launch of a EUR7 million fund to support the implementation of apprenticeships in sectors including the cultural, agricultural, and construction sectors.³³⁹⁴ As part of the announcement, the fund will setup several agencies that will help establish apprenticeship opportunities at the local level and collaborate with employees to help workers gain

³³⁸⁵ More high-quality degree alternatives to boost adult skills and job prospects, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 11 June 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/more-high-quality-degree-alternatives-to-boost-adult-skills-and-job-prospects>

³³⁸⁶ More high-quality degree alternatives to boost adult skills and job prospects, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 11 June 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/more-high-quality-degree-alternatives-to-boost-adult-skills-and-job-prospects>

³³⁸⁷ More high-quality degree alternatives to boost adult skills and job prospects, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 11 June 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/more-high-quality-degree-alternatives-to-boost-adult-skills-and-job-prospects>

³³⁸⁸ More high-quality degree alternatives to boost adult skills and job prospects, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 11 June 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/more-high-quality-degree-alternatives-to-boost-adult-skills-and-job-prospects>

³³⁸⁹ More high-quality degree alternatives to boost adult skills and job prospects, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 11 June 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/more-high-quality-degree-alternatives-to-boost-adult-skills-and-job-prospects>

³³⁹⁰ More high-quality degree alternatives to boost adult skills and job prospects, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 11 June 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/more-high-quality-degree-alternatives-to-boost-adult-skills-and-job-prospects>

³³⁹¹ More high-quality degree alternatives to boost adult skills and job prospects, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 11 June 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/more-high-quality-degree-alternatives-to-boost-adult-skills-and-job-prospects>

³³⁹² Skills training boosted across the country, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 15 July 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/skills-training-boosted-across-the-country>

³³⁹³ Skills training boosted across the country, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 15 July 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/skills-training-boosted-across-the-country>

³³⁹⁴ Cash boost to create new flexible approach to apprenticeships, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 3 August 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cash-boost-to-create-new-flexible-approach-to-apprenticeships>

the skills they need.³³⁹⁵ The funds will be available for the fiscal years of 2021-2022 and 2022-2023, during which organizations can apply for funding ranging from EUR100,000 to EUR1 million to establish said regional agencies.³³⁹⁶

On 6 September 2021, the Department of Education announced the EUR10 million extension of its early years professional development program (PDP) to approximately 50 local authorities throughout England in the 2021-2022 academic year.³³⁹⁷ The PDP will provide high-quality online learning for early years staff to help further their professional development and improve learning outcomes for children in the subjects of math and language.³³⁹⁸ Overall, the PDP aims to strengthen the early years curriculum and “close the gap for disadvantaged children.”³³⁹⁹

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to supporting workers through implementing training and reskilling policies. The United Kingdom has invested in and implemented a number of measures aimed at supporting the retraining and upskilling of workers in a variety of sectors. Moreover, these targeted investments aim to prevent job loss, create additional jobs in key sectors, increase job accessibility, and ensure an equitable economic recovery.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Bubneet Dhillon

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment towards supporting workers through implementing training and reskilling policies.

On 14 January 2021, the Department of Labor announced that it will award USD40 million to fund training programs in the healthcare sector as part of the H1B Rural Healthcare Grant Program.³⁴⁰⁰ The announcement notes that employers in the healthcare sector, non-profit healthcare organizations affiliated with medical facilities, healthcare industry and/or occupation associations and similar entities are eligible to receive the grant.³⁴⁰¹ Assistant Secretary of Labor for Employment and Training John Pallasch described the action as aiming to provide “more and better trained healthcare workers” to underserved rural areas, while also “boosting economic opportunity.”³⁴⁰²

³³⁹⁵ Cash boost to create new flexible approach to apprenticeships, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 3 August 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cash-boost-to-create-new-flexible-approach-to-apprenticeships>

³³⁹⁶ Cash boost to create new flexible approach to apprenticeships, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 3 August 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cash-boost-to-create-new-flexible-approach-to-apprenticeships>

³³⁹⁷ Targeted training for staff to teach early language and numeracy skills, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 6 September 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/targeted-training-for-staff-to-teach-early-language-and-numeracy-skills>

³³⁹⁸ Targeted training for staff to teach early language and numeracy skills, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 6 September 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/targeted-training-for-staff-to-teach-early-language-and-numeracy-skills>

³³⁹⁹ Targeted training for staff to teach early language and numeracy skills, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 6 September 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/targeted-training-for-staff-to-teach-early-language-and-numeracy-skills>

³⁴⁰⁰ U.S. Department of Labor Announces \$40 Million to Address Rural Health Care Workforce Shortages, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington) 14 January 2021. Access Date: 8 April 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210114-0>

³⁴⁰¹ U.S. Department of Labor Announces \$40 Million to Address Rural Health Care Workforce Shortages, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington) 14 January 2021. Access Date: 8 April 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210114-0>

³⁴⁰² U.S. Department of Labor Announces \$40 Million to Address Rural Health Care Workforce Shortages, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington) 14 January 2021. Access Date: 8 April 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210114-0>

On 15 January 2021, the Department of Labor announced that it will allocate USD40 million to community colleges through the Strengthening Community College Training Grants program to increase their capacity to train workers for entering the labour market.³⁴⁰³ This action aims to help unemployed workers find employment by providing training, especially in “critical industries, such as health care, logistics and cybersecurity.”³⁴⁰⁴ Assistant Secretary of Labor for Employment and Training John Pallasch described the action as aiming to “help workers to reskill with industry-recognized credentials and accelerated pathways to degrees.”³⁴⁰⁵

On 19 January 2021, the Department of Labor announced that it will invest USD145 million in funding for reskilling and training programs as part of the H-1B One Workforce Grant Program.³⁴⁰⁶ This action aims to reskill current workers and train new workers for “critical industries, such as IT, advanced manufacturing and transportation.”³⁴⁰⁷ Assistant Secretary Pallasch described the action as reflecting One Workforce’s larger goal of creating “pathways for local job seekers to enter middle- to high-skilled occupations.”³⁴⁰⁸

On 31 March 2021, the White House announced the launch of President Joseph Biden’s American Jobs Plan, which includes a commitment to investing in workforce development.³⁴⁰⁹ Although no further actions have yet to be implemented in accordance with the plan, the plan itself calls on Congress to invest in worker training, including a USD40 billion investment “in a new Dislocated Workers Program and sector-based training.”³⁴¹⁰

On 9 April 2021, the White House announced President Biden’s Fiscal Year 2022 Discretionary Funding Request, which includes a commitment to investing in workforce development.³⁴¹¹ Although the budget will not come into effect until 1 October 2021, the budget plans to invest in worker training and reskilling, including a USD3.7 billion investment in “Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Grants to make training available to dislocated workers, low-income adults and disadvantaged youth hurt by the economic fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic.”³⁴¹²

On 29 June 2021, the Department of Labor announced an investment of approximately USD43 million towards grants for workers disproportionately affected by the economic challenges brought

³⁴⁰³ U.S. Department of Labor Awards \$40 Million in Strengthening Community College Training Grants, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington) 15 January 2021. Access Date: 7 April 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210115-1>

³⁴⁰⁴ U.S. Department of Labor Awards \$40 Million in Strengthening Community College Training Grants, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington) 15 January 2021. Access Date: 7 April 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210115-1>

³⁴⁰⁵ U.S. Department of Labor Awards \$40 Million in Strengthening Community College Training Grants, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington) 15 January 2021. Access Date: 7 April 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210115-1>

³⁴⁰⁶ U.S. Department of Labor Announces \$145 Million to Invest in Workforce Training for Key U.S. Economic Sectors, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington) 19 January 2021. Access Date: 9 April 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210119>

³⁴⁰⁷ U.S. Department of Labor Announces \$145 Million to Invest in Workforce Training for Key U.S. Economic Sectors, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington) 19 January 2021. Access Date: 9 April 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210119>

³⁴⁰⁸ U.S. Department of Labor Announces \$145 Million to Invest in Workforce Training for Key U.S. Economic Sectors, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington) 19 January 2021. Access Date: 9 April 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210119>

³⁴⁰⁹ Fact Sheet: The American Jobs Plan, The White House (Washington) 31 March 2021. Access Date: 9 April 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/03/31/fact-sheet-the-american-jobs-plan/>

³⁴¹⁰ Fact Sheet: The American Jobs Plan, The White House (Washington) 31 March 2021. Access Date: 9 April 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/03/31/fact-sheet-the-american-jobs-plan/>

³⁴¹¹ The President’s FY 2022 Discretionary Request, The White House (Washington) 9 April 2021. Access Date: 27 April 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/FY2022-Discretionary-Request.pdf>

³⁴¹² The President’s FY 2022 Discretionary Request, The White House (Washington) 9 April 2021. Access Date: 27 April 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/FY2022-Discretionary-Request.pdf>

upon by the COVID-19 pandemic.³⁴¹³ The grants will be managed by the Employment and Training Administration department and distributed to workers through the Equitable Employment Recovery National Dislocated Worker Grants program.³⁴¹⁴ The grants will primarily be targeted towards workers who are from “historically marginalized communities or groups, and those unemployed for an extended period or who have exhausted unemployment insurance or other pandemic unemployment insurance programs”.³⁴¹⁵ Applicants may choose to either develop “comprehensive workforce services – including career, training and supportive services – to help participants gain employment” or “purchase, build or expand virtual technology platforms, software systems, or services for job search, career guidance, training or other allowable activities.”³⁴¹⁶ The purpose of the grants is to assist workers in re-entering the workforce and further stimulate economic recovery.³⁴¹⁷

On 15 July 2021, the Department of Labor announced that it will allocate USD92.6 million towards the Trade Adjustment Assistance for Workers Program.³⁴¹⁸ The program provides funding for both training and reskilling programs, in addition to financial supports for individuals enrolled in the training process.³⁴¹⁹ The purpose of this program is to help workers whose employment has been negatively impacted by foreign trade through providing training opportunities for said workers to transition into new employment.³⁴²⁰ Furthermore, this program aims to ensure an equitable economic recovery as a result of the economic challenges brought upon by the COVID-19 pandemic.³⁴²¹

On 19 August 2021, the Department of Labor announced that the allocation of funding for the Equitable Employment Recovery National Dislocated Worker Grants had been increased to 90 million USD. The grants are intended to provide identified workers with the training they need to re-

³⁴¹³ U.S. Department of Labor Announces Availability of \$43M in Funds to Support Reemployment of Workers Displaced by the Pandemic, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington) 29 June 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210629>

³⁴¹⁴ U.S. Department of Labor Announces Availability of \$43M in Funds to Support Reemployment of Workers Displaced by the Pandemic, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington) 29 June 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210629>

³⁴¹⁵ U.S. Department of Labor Announces Availability of \$43M in Funds to Support Reemployment of Workers Displaced by the Pandemic, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington) 29 June 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210629>

³⁴¹⁶ U.S. Department of Labor Announces Availability of \$43M in Funds to Support Reemployment of Workers Displaced by the Pandemic, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington) 29 June 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210629>

³⁴¹⁷ U.S. Department of Labor Announces Availability of \$43M in Funds to Support Reemployment of Workers Displaced by the Pandemic, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington) 29 June 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210629>

³⁴¹⁸ U.S. Department of Labor Announces More Than \$92M in Funding for Training, Employment Services, Wage Subsidies for Workers Harmed by Foreign Trade, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington) 15 July 2021. Access Date: 20 July 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210715-0>

³⁴¹⁹ U.S. Department of Labor Announces More Than \$92M in Funding for Training, Employment Services, Wage Subsidies for Workers Harmed by Foreign Trade, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington) 15 July 2021. Access Date: 20 July 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210715-0>

³⁴²⁰ U.S. Department of Labor Announces More Than \$92M in Funding for Training, Employment Services, Wage Subsidies for Workers Harmed by Foreign Trade, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington) 15 July 2021. Access Date: 20 July 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210715-0>

³⁴²¹ U.S. Department of Labor Announces More Than \$92M in Funding for Training, Employment Services, Wage Subsidies for Workers Harmed by Foreign Trade, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington) 15 July 2021. Access Date: 20 July 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210715-0>

enter the job market.³⁴²² Moreover, the purpose of these grants is for the government to “ensure an equitable recovery” by providing supports for workers who have been disproportionately affected by the economic challenges brought upon by the COVID-19 pandemic.³⁴²³

On 25 August 2021, the Department of Labor announced that they awarded USD22 million of a total of USD90 million allocated towards the Equitable Employment Recovery National Dislocated Worker Grants program.³⁴²⁴

On 10 September 2021, the Department of Labor announced funding availability towards the expansion of the registered apprenticeship programs in industries heavily impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.³⁴²⁵ As part of this funding availability, the Employment and Training Administration department requested proposals from intermediaries “looking to expand apprenticeship opportunities in industries affected disproportionately by the pandemic, increase opportunities for under-represented populations and leverage existing resources to support and sustain Registered Apprenticeship programs at the local and national level.”³⁴²⁶ The funding will be allocated for industries such as the care economy sector, transportation sector, supply chains, and electric power generation, transmission, and distribution.³⁴²⁷

The U.S. has fully complied with its commitment to supporting workers through implementing training and reskilling policies. It has done so by funding both public and private sector initiatives to provide training and reskilling opportunities to current and future workers, in addition to workers disproportionately affected by COVID-19.

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alexander Trachsell

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to supporting workers through training and reskilling policies.

On 24 November 2020, the Council of the EU ratified a recommendation on vocational education and training for “Sustainable Competitiveness, Social Fairness and Resilience.”³⁴²⁸ This measure highlights the reforms necessary for building the lifelong systems required to support a resilient

³⁴²² U.S. Department of Labor Announces \$90M in Grants to support Training, Employment, Services for Workers Displaced by the Pandemic, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington) 19 August 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210819-0>

³⁴²³ U.S. Department of Labor Announces \$90M in Grants to support Training, Employment, Services for Workers Displaced by the Pandemic, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington) 19 August 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210819-0>

³⁴²⁴ U.S. Department of Labor Awards \$22M in grants for Training, Employment Services to Workers Displaced by Pandemic’s Impacts, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington) 25 August 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210825>

³⁴²⁵ U.S. Department of Labor Announces Available Funding to Promote, Develop, Expand Registered Apprenticeship in Critical, Non-Traditional Industries, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington) 10 September 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210910>

³⁴²⁶ U.S. Department of Labor Announces Available Funding to Promote, Develop, Expand Registered Apprenticeship in Critical, Non-Traditional Industries, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington) 10 September 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210910>

³⁴²⁷ U.S. Department of Labor Announces Available Funding to Promote, Develop, Expand Registered Apprenticeship in Critical, Non-Traditional Industries, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington) 10 September 2021. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20210910>

³⁴²⁸ EU policy in the field of vocational education and training, European Commission (Luxembourg) 2021. Access Date: 18 March 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/education/policies/eu-policy-in-the-field-of-vocational-education-and-training_vet_en

labour market in Europe.³⁴²⁹ The recommendation includes the support for granting additional funding to the Centres of Vocational Excellence, an institution that coordinates with local partners such as employers, research centres, and development agencies, to develop “skills ecosystems,” that aid in regional worker development.³⁴³⁰ The Centres of Vocation Excellence aim to provide jobseekers and existing employees with the skills and training needed by local employers.³⁴³¹

Starting in 2021, the European Commission sector on Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion released funding instruments for upskilling and reskilling workers, accessible through financial intermediaries, national authorities, and the European Commission.³⁴³² As part of the package of funding instruments, a program called “InvestEU” was created to provide social investment and offer its participants a skills-based curriculum that will encompass the demand and supply aspect of acquiring in-demand skills. This program is targeted towards students and learners, small and medium sized enterprises, and instructors.³⁴³³ The expected budget from 2021-2027 for the program is EUR26.2 billion.³⁴³⁴ The European Commission is also offering grants through the ESF + EaSI Strand, with a dedicated budget of EUR676 million to be released throughout 2021-2027.³⁴³⁵ This grant program offers “support for innovative approaches in the field of upskilling and reskilling.”³⁴³⁶ The European Commission is incentivizing member states to fund public and private initiatives toward training and reskilling the workforce.³⁴³⁷

On 4 March 2021, the European Commission released the European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan. This Action Plan outlines 20 key principles for “fair and well-functioning labour markets” and “proposes headline targets for the EU to reach by 2030.”³⁴³⁸ The three EU targets to reach by 2030 are to have 78 per cent of the population aged 20 to 64 employed by 2030, 60 per cent of adults participating in training every year by 2030 and the reduction of at least 15 million people at risk of poverty or social exclusion.³⁴³⁹ The Action Plan lays out quarterly deadlines regarding upskilling to be met during the current mandate which extends until the end of 2024.³⁴⁴⁰

³⁴²⁹ EU policy in the field of vocational education and training, European Commission (Luxembourg) 2021. Access Date: 18 March 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/education/policies/eu-policy-in-the-field-of-vocational-education-and-training-vet_en

³⁴³⁰ EU policy in the field of vocational education and training, European Commission (Luxembourg) 2021. Access Date: 18 March 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/education/policies/eu-policy-in-the-field-of-vocational-education-and-training-vet_en

³⁴³¹ EU policy in the field of vocational education and training, European Commission (Luxembourg) 2021. Access Date: 18 March 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/education/policies/eu-policy-in-the-field-of-vocational-education-and-training-vet_en

³⁴³² EU funding instruments for upskilling and reskilling, European Commission (Luxembourg) 2021. Access Date: 18 March 2021. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1530&langId=en>

³⁴³³ EU funding instruments for upskilling and reskilling, European Commission (Luxembourg) 2021. Access Date: 18 March 2021. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1530&langId=en>

³⁴³⁴ EU funding instruments for upskilling and reskilling, European Commission (Luxembourg) 2021. Access Date: 18 March 2021. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1530&langId=en>

³⁴³⁵ EU funding instruments for upskilling and reskilling, European Commission (Luxembourg) 2021. Access Date: 18 March 2021. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1530&langId=en>

³⁴³⁶ EU funding instruments for upskilling and reskilling, European Commission (Luxembourg) 2021. Access Date: 18 March 2021. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1530&langId=en>

³⁴³⁷ EU funding instruments for upskilling and reskilling, European Commission (Luxembourg) 2021. Access Date: 18 March 2021. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1530&langId=en>

³⁴³⁸ The European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan, European Commission (Luxembourg) 4 March 2021. Access Date: 18 March 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/economy-works-people/jobs-growth-and-investment/european-pillar-social-rights/european-pillar-social-rights-action-plan_en

³⁴³⁹ The European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan, European Commission (Luxembourg) 4 March 2021. Access Date: 18 March 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/economy-works-people/jobs-growth-and-investment/european-pillar-social-rights/european-pillar-social-rights-action-plan_en

³⁴⁴⁰ The European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan, European Commission (Luxembourg) 4 March 2021. Access Date: 18 March 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/economy-works-people/jobs-growth-and-investment/european-pillar-social-rights/european-pillar-social-rights-action-plan_en

On 4 March 2021, Executive Vice-President of the European Commission Valdis Dombrovskis reflected on the Action Plan as he called for an investment in “high-quality and inclusive education, training, skills and innovation.”³⁴⁴¹ He called for EU members to look at how to invest in training and skills development, specifically, digital skills, as the EU copes with the new realities brought on by COVID-19.³⁴⁴² Executive Vice-President Dombrovskis also called on Member States to develop policy packages that combine temporary and permanent measures to address the labour market challenges caused by the pandemic.³⁴⁴³ These initiatives should reflect hiring and transition incentives, initiatives to boost up-skilling and re-skilling, and improving employment services.³⁴⁴⁴

On 22 April 2021, the European Commission launched a public consultation regarding the subject of life-long learning.³⁴⁴⁵ In an effort to build a diverse and sustainable workforce, the European Commission is considering the implementation of short, targeted learning courses to help workers gain accredited “micro-credentials.”³⁴⁴⁶ The goal of this initiative is to improve job opportunities by creating formal learning courses for workers to gain the skills demanded of them by the rapidly-evolving job market.³⁴⁴⁷ The COVID-19 pandemic, along with the green and digital transitions, have highlighted the necessity for up-skilling and re-skilling as a means of ensuring that citizens can fully participate in society and reach their fullest professional potential.³⁴⁴⁸ These goals are in unison with the European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan.³⁴⁴⁹

On 27 April 2021, Minister Bruno Le Maire and German Minister of Finance Olaf Scholz held a joint press conference regarding their national recovery and resilience plans. France and Germany announced plans for the EU to invest EUR750 billion towards support vocational training programs as part of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan.³⁴⁵⁰ The National Recovery and Resilience Plan

³⁴⁴¹ Remarks by Executive Vice-President Dombrovskis on the European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan and Effective Active Support to Employment following the COVID-19 crisis, European Commission (Brussels) 4 March 2021. Access Date: 18 March 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/SPEECH_21_1024

³⁴⁴² Remarks by Executive Vice-President Dombrovskis on the European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan and Effective Active Support to Employment following the COVID-19 crisis, European Commission (Brussels) 4 March 2021. Access Date: 18 March 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/SPEECH_21_1024

³⁴⁴³ Remarks by Executive Vice-President Dombrovskis on the European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan and Effective Active Support to Employment following the COVID-19 crisis, European Commission (Brussels) 4 March 2021. Access Date: 18 March 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/SPEECH_21_1024

³⁴⁴⁴ Remarks by Executive Vice-President Dombrovskis on the European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan and Effective Active Support to Employment following the COVID-19 crisis, European Commission (Brussels) 4 March 2021. Access Date: 18 March 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/SPEECH_21_1024

³⁴⁴⁵ Education and skills: Commission launches public consultation to support lifelong learning and employability, European Commission (Brussels) 22 April 2021. Access Date: 1 May 2021. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=9984&furtherNews=yes>

³⁴⁴⁶ Education and skills: Commission launches public consultation to support lifelong learning and employability, European Commission (Brussels) 22 April 2021. Access Date: 1 May 2021. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=9984&furtherNews=yes>

³⁴⁴⁷ Education and skills: Commission launches public consultation to support lifelong learning and employability, European Commission (Brussels) 22 April 2021. Access Date: 1 May 2021. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=9984&furtherNews=yes>

³⁴⁴⁸ Education and skills: Commission launches public consultation to support lifelong learning and employability, European Commission (Brussels) 22 April 2021. Access Date: 1 May 2021. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=9984&furtherNews=yes>

³⁴⁴⁹ Education and skills: Commission launches public consultation to support lifelong learning and employability, European Commission (Brussels) 22 April 2021. Access Date: 1 May 2021. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=9984&furtherNews=yes>

³⁴⁵⁰ Joint Press Conference by Bruno Le Marie and Olaf Scholz to Present the French and German National Recovery and Resilience Plans, Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Relaunch (Paris) 27 April 2021. Access Date: 27 April 2021. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/conference-presse-conjointe-bruno-le-maire-olaf-scholz-pnrr>

details plans on the allocation of funds provided by the European Union's Recovery and Resilience Facility.³⁴⁵¹

On 28 April 2021, the European Commission launched an additional public consultation forum in regards to individual learning accounts, which is a training incentive program that grants individuals training whether be spent on “quality-assured training, guidance, or validation services.”³⁴⁵² The public consultation was conducted via online survey to promote organizations and private citizens to share their opinions on whether or not individual learning accounts are effective in helping adults learn necessary job skills.³⁴⁵³

On 25 June 2021, the European Commission announced the adoption of the 2021-2027 Cohesion Policy Legislative Package by the European Parliament.³⁴⁵⁴ The legislation comprises of EUR373 billion in funding for social, climate change, and economic policies identified through the European Social Fund Plus, Common Provisions Regulation, Just Transition Fund, European Regional Development Fund, Cohesion Fund Regulation, and Interreg.³⁴⁵⁵ Notably, Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights Nicolas Schmit stated that “The European Social Fund Plus invests in people. It helps workers to re-skill and up-skill, to be ready for the transition to a green and digital economy.”³⁴⁵⁶ This package places an emphasis upon the need for digital and green skills training for workers to meet evolving economic demands.³⁴⁵⁷

On 1 July 2021, the 2021-2027 Cohesion Policy Legislative Package came into effect.³⁴⁵⁸

On 1 July 2021, the European Commission endorsed Slovenia's EUR2.5 billion recovery and resilience plan, established to embrace green and digital transformations to strength economic resilience. Of the funds administered, the Commission found that EUR114 million would be devoted to strengthening digital skills of students, employees, and public servants.³⁴⁵⁹ The plan also includes investments to reduce the digital divide through strengthening digital skills at all levels of the education system, life-long learners, and the workforce, particularly healthcare workers.³⁴⁶⁰ The

³⁴⁵¹ Joint Press Conference by Bruno Le Marie and Olaf Scholz to Present the French and German National Recovery and Resilience Plans, Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Relaunch (Paris) 27 April 2021. Access Date: 27 April 2021. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/conference-presse-conjointe-bruno-le-maire-olaf-scholz-pnrr>

³⁴⁵² Individual learning accounts: public consultation launched, European Commission (Brussels) 28 April 2021. Access Date: 1 May 2021. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=1511&newsId=9994&furtherNews=yes>

³⁴⁵³ Individual learning accounts: public consultation launched, European Commission (Brussels) 28 April 2021. Access Date: 1 May 2021. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=1511&newsId=9994&furtherNews=yes>

³⁴⁵⁴ Commission welcomes the adoption of €373 billion Cohesion policy legislative package 2021-2027, European Commission (Brussels) 25 June 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3058

³⁴⁵⁵ Commission welcomes the adoption of €373 billion Cohesion policy legislative package 2021-2027, European Commission (Brussels) 25 June 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3058

³⁴⁵⁶ Commission welcomes the adoption of €373 billion Cohesion policy legislative package 2021-2027, European Commission (Brussels) 25 June 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3058

³⁴⁵⁷ Commission welcomes the adoption of €373 billion Cohesion policy legislative package 2021-2027, European Commission (Brussels) 25 June 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3058

³⁴⁵⁸ New Cohesion legislation has entered into force on 1 July, Association of European Border Regions (Gronau) 6 July 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <https://www.aebr.eu/new-cohesion-legislation-enters-into-force-on-1-july/>

³⁴⁵⁹ NextGenerationEU: European Commission endorses Slovenia's €2.5 billion recovery and resilience plan, European Commission (Brussels) 1 July 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3330

³⁴⁶⁰ Questions and answers: European Commission endorses Slovenia's €2.5 billion recovery and resilience plan, European Commission (Brussels) 1 July 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/qanda_21_3331

Commission considers Slovenian plan to address both social and economic challenges brought on by COVID-19.³⁴⁶¹

On 2 July 2021, the European Commission endorsed Lithuania's EUR2.2 billion recovery and resilience plan. This plan has a stated intention to improve the modernize healthcare facilities through general education, vocational training, adult learning, and increased funding of higher education. Lithuania's plan allocates 32 per cent of its funding to digital transition, aimed to support private and public sector, skills and connectivity to increase the competitiveness of the Lithuanian economy.³⁴⁶²

On 8 July 2021, the European Commission endorsed Croatia's recovery and resilience plan. Croatia's plan includes support for new labour market policies, through helping people develop green and digital skills. Croatia also proposed EUR789 million toward public and private building renovations and the upskilling and education of workers in the energy and post-earthquake renovation sector.³⁴⁶³

On 8 July 2021, the European Commission endorsed Cyprus's EUR1.2 billion recovery and resilience plan. The plan contributes 23 per cent of the EUR1.2 billion toward digital transition through training teachers and implementing skills training programs for the broader community.³⁴⁶⁴ Furthermore, the plan seeks to improve education and training through reforming secondary school curricula, establishing vocational education and training schools and introducing a higher education graduate tracking system to address skill mismatches. These plans are made with the intention of improving the quality and resiliency of the labour market, through improving digital literacy, soft skills, and entrepreneurship skills of the workforce.³⁴⁶⁵

On 13 July 2021, the European Council adopted the proposals set forth by the European Commission to disburse the first round of resilience and recovery grants to Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, Portugal, Slovakia, and Spain.³⁴⁶⁶ This first round of grants will serve as pre-financing for each member's recovery and resilience plan.³⁴⁶⁷ Upon satisfactory completion of targets as determined by the Council, each member will be eligible for further funding.³⁴⁶⁸ Overall, the EU has allocated EUR672.5 billion in funding for its

³⁴⁶¹ NextGenerationEU: European Commission endorses Slovenia's €2.5 billion recovery and resilience plan, European Commission (Brussels) 1 July 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3330

³⁴⁶² Questions and answers: European Commission endorses Lithuania's €2.2 billion recovery and resilience plan, European Commission (Brussels) 2 July 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/qanda_21_3369

³⁴⁶³ NextGenerationEU: European Commission endorses Croatia's recovery and resilience plan, European Commission (Brussels) Access Date: 24 September 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3487

³⁴⁶⁴ Questions and answers: European Commission endorses Cyprus's €1.2 billion recovery and resilience plan, European Commission (Brussels) 8 July 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/qanda_21_3486

³⁴⁶⁵ Questions and answers: European Commission endorses Cyprus's €1.2 billion recovery and resilience plan, European Commission (Brussels) 8 July 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/qanda_21_3486

³⁴⁶⁶ Council gives green light to first recovery disbursements, European Commission (Brussels) 13 July 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/07/13/council-gives-green-light-to-first-recovery-disbursements/>

³⁴⁶⁷ Council gives green light to first recovery disbursements, European Commission (Brussels) 13 July 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/07/13/council-gives-green-light-to-first-recovery-disbursements/>

³⁴⁶⁸ Council gives green light to first recovery disbursements, European Commission (Brussels) 13 July 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/07/13/council-gives-green-light-to-first-recovery-disbursements/>

members' recovery and resilience plans.³⁴⁶⁹ Several of the individual plans commit to funding vocational training, apprenticeships, and skilling, upskilling, and reskilling programs.³⁴⁷⁰ The plans are part of the EU's broader NextGenerationEU (NGEU) fund, which is a stimulus package to assist the members of the EU with their post-COVID-19 recovery.³⁴⁷¹

On 16 July 2021, the European Commission endorsed Ireland's recovery and resilience plan.³⁴⁷² Ireland's plan will allocate 32 per cent of total funding toward digital transition measures; specifically, digital upskilling in public administration, school administration and private businesses.³⁴⁷³

On 19 July 2021, the European Commission endorsed Czechia's EUR7 billion recovery and resilience plan. Czechia's plan will allocated 22 per cent of total funding towards digital skills education, with a focus on upskilling and reskilling programs.³⁴⁷⁴

On 29 July 2021, the European Commission approved EUR4.7 billion in funding to Spain as part of the Recovery assistance for cohesion and the territories of Europe (REACT-EU) plan.³⁴⁷⁵ Through this funding instrument, the EU will grant EUR3.7 billion to Spain to support employment in industries hard-hit by the COVID-19 pandemic.³⁴⁷⁶ Most notably, Spain will invest in vocational training opportunities for students in higher education and skills development provided by municipalities and non-profit organizations for individuals seeking employment in Castilla – La Mancha.³⁴⁷⁷ As well, the EU will fund vocational and professional training systems in Cantabria, launch a vocational training centre in Melilla, and invest in vocational education and training programs in Ceuta.³⁴⁷⁸

On 29 July 2021, European Union and its Member States attended the Global Education Summit as Team Europe and reaffirmed their commitment towards investing in skills training for teachers and ensuring adequate skills training for future workers.³⁴⁷⁹ As part of this commitment, Team Europe

³⁴⁶⁹ Council gives green light to first recovery disbursements, European Commission (Brussels) 13 July 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/07/13/council-gives-green-light-to-first-recovery-disbursements/>

³⁴⁷⁰ Council gives green light to first recovery disbursements, European Commission (Brussels) 13 July 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/07/13/council-gives-green-light-to-first-recovery-disbursements/>

³⁴⁷¹ Recovery plan for Europe, European Commission (Brussels) 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/recovery-plan-europe_en

³⁴⁷² NextGenerationEU: European Commission endorses Ireland's recovery and resilience plan, European Commission (Brussels) 16 July 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/el/ip_21_3727

³⁴⁷³ NextGenerationEU: European Commission endorses Ireland's recovery and resilience plan, European Commission (Brussels) 16 July 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/el/ip_21_3727

³⁴⁷⁴ NextGenerationEU: European Commission endorses Czechia's €7 billion recovery and resilience plan, European Commission (Brussels) 19 July 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3745

³⁴⁷⁵ EU Cohesion policy: €3.7 billion from REACT-EU to support measures for recovery and digital and green transition in Spain, European Commission (Brussels) 29 July 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3867

³⁴⁷⁶ EU Cohesion policy: €3.7 billion from REACT-EU to support measures for recovery and digital and green transition in Spain, European Commission (Brussels) 29 July 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3867

³⁴⁷⁷ EU Cohesion policy: €3.7 billion from REACT-EU to support measures for recovery and digital and green transition in Spain, European Commission (Brussels) 29 July 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3867

³⁴⁷⁸ EU Cohesion policy: €3.7 billion from REACT-EU to support measures for recovery and digital and green transition in Spain, European Commission (Brussels) 29 July 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3867

³⁴⁷⁹ Global Education Summit: Team Europe pledges leading contribution of €1.7 billion to the Global Partnership for Education, European Commission (Brussels) 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3906

announced an allocation of EUR1.7 billion for the Global Partnership for Education to fund the transformation of education infrastructure in up to 90 countries and territories.³⁴⁸⁰

On 3 August 2021, the European Commission released EUR12.1 million in pre-financing to Luxembourg, which meets approximately 13 per cent of the total financial allocation for Luxembourg under the EU's Recovery and Resilience Fund.³⁴⁸¹ Additionally, the European Commission released EUR770 million in pre-financing to Belgium, which meets approximately 13 per cent of the total financial allocation for Belgium under the EU's Recovery and Resilience Fund.³⁴⁸²

On 9 August 2021, the European Commission released EUR4 billion in pre-financing to Greece, which meets approximately 13 per cent of the total financial allocation for Greece under the EU's Recovery and Resilience Fund.³⁴⁸³

On 17 August 2021, the European Commission released EUR9 billion in pre-financing to Spain, which meets approximately 13 per cent of the total financial allocation for Spain under the EU's Recovery and Resilience Fund.³⁴⁸⁴ Moreover, the European Commission also released EUR289 million to Lithuania, which meets approximately 13 per cent of the total financial allocation for Spain under the EU's Recovery and Resilience Fund.³⁴⁸⁵

On 19 August 2021, the European Commission released EUR5.1 billion in pre-financing to France, which meets approximately 13 per cent of the total financial allocation for France under the EU's Recovery and Resilience Fund.³⁴⁸⁶

On 26 August 2021, the European Commission released EUR2.25 billion in pre-financing to Germany, which meets approximately 9 per cent of the total financial allocation for Germany's Recovery and Resilience Plan.³⁴⁸⁷

On 2 September 2021, the European Commission released EUR201 million in pre-financing to Denmark, which meets approximately 13 per cent of the total financial allocation for Denmark under the EU's Recovery and Resilience Fund.³⁴⁸⁸

³⁴⁸⁰ Global Education Summit: Team Europe pledges leading contribution of €1.7 billion to the Global Partnership for Education, European Commission (Brussels) 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3906

³⁴⁸¹ NextGenerationEU: European Commission disburses €12.1 million in pre-financing to Luxembourg, European Commission (Brussels) 3 August 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_4024

³⁴⁸² NextGenerationEU: European Commission disburses €770 million in pre-financing to Belgium, European Commission (Brussels) 3 August 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_4023

³⁴⁸³ NextGenerationEU: European Commission disburses €4 billion in pre-financing to Greece, European Commission (Brussels) 9 August 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_4068

³⁴⁸⁴ NextGenerationEU: European Commission disburses €9 billion in pre-financing to Spain, European Commission (Brussels) 17 August 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_4223

³⁴⁸⁵ NextGenerationEU: European Commission disburses €289 million in pre-financing to Lithuania, European Commission (Brussels) 17 August 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_4224

³⁴⁸⁶ NextGenerationEU: European Commission disburses €5.1 billion in pre-financing to France, European Commission (Brussels) 19 August 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_4225

³⁴⁸⁷ NextGenerationEU: European Commission disburses €2.25 billion in pre-financing to Germany, European Commission (Brussels) 26 August 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/da/ip_21_4402

³⁴⁸⁸ NextGenerationEU: European Commission disburses €201 million in pre-financing to Denmark, European Commission (Brussels) 2 September 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_4532

On 9 September 2021, the European Commission released EUR157 million in pre-financing to Cyprus, which meets approximately 13 per cent of the total financial allocation for Cyprus under the EU's Recovery and Resilience Fund.³⁴⁸⁹

On 10 September 2021, the European Commission released EUR237 million in pre-financing to Latvia, which meets approximately 13 per cent of the total financial allocation for Latvia under the EU's Recovery and Resilience Fund.³⁴⁹⁰

On 15 September 2021, the European Commission delivered a State of the Union address where they reaffirmed their commitment to embarking on a Path to the Digital Decade.³⁴⁹¹ The proposed path aims to embark on the digital transformations of the economy and broader society by 2030.³⁴⁹² The address highlighted the importance of investing in digital skills training.³⁴⁹³

On 17 September 2021, the European Commission approved EUR4.7 billion in funding to Italy as part of the (REACT-EU) plan.³⁴⁹⁴ Through this funding instrument, the EU will grant EUR 4.7 billion to Italy to support employment in industries hard-hit by the COVID-19 pandemic.³⁴⁹⁵ Most notably, Italy will invest in youth employment and allocate EUR1 billion towards the creation of the New Skills Fund. The New Skills Fund will provide emergency training courses for workers and provide supplemental funding for working hours that are missed due to extenuating external factors beyond the workers' control.³⁴⁹⁶

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to supporting workers through implementing training and reskilling policies by investing in skills training centres, providing additional funding in the education and training sectors to bolster skills development, launching a social program to support the training, reskilling, and upskilling of workers, and creating a targeted program for students and small businesses to acquire in-demand skills.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Bianca Piccone

³⁴⁸⁹ NextGenerationEU: European Commission disburses €157 million in pre-financing to Cyprus, European Commission (Brussels) 9 September 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_4624

³⁴⁹⁰ NextGenerationEU: European Commission disburses €237 million in pre-financing to Latvia, European Commission (Brussels) 10 September 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_4625

³⁴⁹¹ European Commission disburses €2.25 billion in pre-financing to Germany, European Commission (Brussels) 15 September 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_4630

³⁴⁹² European Commission disburses €2.25 billion in pre-financing to Germany, European Commission (Brussels) 15 September 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_4630

³⁴⁹³ State of the Union: Commission proposes a Path to the Digital Decade to deliver the EU's digital transformation by 2030, European Commission (Brussels) 26 August 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

³⁴⁹⁴ REACT-EU: €4.7 billion to support jobs, skills and people most in need in Italy, European Commission (Brussels) 17 September 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_4731

³⁴⁹⁵ REACT-EU: €4.7 billion to support jobs, skills and people most in need in Italy, European Commission (Brussels) 17 September 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_4731

³⁴⁹⁶ REACT-EU: €4.7 billion to support jobs, skills and people most in need in Italy, European Commission (Brussels) 17 September 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2021.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_4731