



#NoContagiamosAlEmpleo

Videoconference series: Vocational training in response to the COVID-19 crisis

The role of Quality Apprenticeships/Dual Training in Latin America during and after COVID-19

What do we need to do to turn these programmes into effective support mechanisms for vocational education in Latin America now and in the future?

23 April 2020 - 14:00 hs (Montevideo time)

Moderation: Michael Axmann, ILO/Cinterfor

Facebook live: <https://www.facebook.com/oitcinterfor/>

Background

With not even 2 months since the first official reporting of COVID-19 cases in Latin America, apart from the health and medical implications for many people in Latin America, we have also almost arrived at a regional paralysis of regular education and training provision on our continent. This unprecedented situation is affecting all learning at all levels. Basic and secondary education, initial and continuing training, vocational education and training and work-based learning and in particular quality apprenticeships have all been affected dramatically.

This disruption further complicates the unprecedented situation we find ourselves in with the closure of many industries and services, the unprecedented rise in joblessness and slowing of the global economy and the decline in productivity. It has upturned the world of education and training, especially in those cases where vocational education and training were carried out jointly in industry and services in so-called work-place learning programmes, particularly in quality apprenticeships. This is the case, because the learning places, both in vocational schools and in companies are no longer readily available. This development has seriously jeopardized the continuation of quality apprenticeship/dual training programmes in Latin America and it will need to be seen how programmes of this kind will get through the COVID-19 crisis and then ultimately position themselves as new support mechanisms for vocational education and training programmes after the COVID-19 crises.

Videoconference

This 4th ILO/Cinterfor videoconference is therefore trying to look at three country cases in Latin America where quality apprenticeships and dual training had been part of the portfolio of national TVET provision before and we will listen to some of the adjustment measures these countries have already taken during the Corona crises of the last 2 months in Latin America. The conference will also look into the future and assess ways how countries will position their quality apprenticeship/ dual training programmes as part of their revamped portfolio in vocational education and training.

The 90-minute webinar will first have three country presentations from Brazil (SENAI), Costa Rica (INA) and Paraguay (MTESS), and we will then listen to a short analysis of the situation in Latin America through the eyes of the BIBB in Germany.

After the first hour or so of presentations, there will be 30 minutes for a question and answer part with the participants and the webinar will close with the presentation of a short overview for a yet to be developed 2-3 day ILO/CINTERFOR course on “Quality Apprenticeships/Dual Training after the COVID-19 crisis in Latin America”.

Presenters

- Dr Carla Bacigalupo, Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Security (MTESS), Paraguay
- Andrés Valenciano, Executive Director, INA, Costa Rica
- Felipe Morgado, SENAI, Brazil
- Constanza Correa, BIBB, Germany

Some questions for during the confinement and closure of schools and companies during COVID-19

- What has COVID-19 done so far to Quality Apprenticeship Programmes/Dual Training in your countries and how do the programmes look like right now as opposed to 2 months ago?
- How do you keep contacts with the participating companies in the various sectors?
- Have the apprenticeship salaries been continued or have there been other unemployment measures for apprentices put in place, such as short work compensation schemes?
- Are you already working on new programmes for vocational orientation and guidance and employment services for quality apprenticeship programmes for when you will go back to the full implementation of your programmes?
- Do you find yourselves with more time for social dialogue on quality apprenticeships during the time of the crises or is social dialogue on apprenticeships not really on your mind now?

Some questions for after confinement and in the recovery stage when the COVID-19 crisis is over:

- Are you planning to restructure your apprenticeship programmes for the future along the lines of a new composition of programmes with companies, in vocational schools and maybe with some online offers?
- Are you discussing in your teams possible plans for shortening apprenticeship programmes?
- Will there be a recruitment of apprentices through online mechanisms in the future?
- As a consequence of the COVID-19 crisis, would you want to see more provisions for more online components as fall-back mechanisms in case we will see other epidemics in the future?
- Do your institutions already participate in areas of discussion on possible measures to promote job creation through more effective quality apprenticeships?
- Are we now going to see the Golden Era of Quality Apprenticeships in Latin America coming out of this crisis or will we rather witness the “kiss of death” to gold standard mechanisms in vocational education and training, such as quality apprenticeships?