ROMANIAN ENERGY CENTER ASSOCIATION AT THE PACT FOR SKILLS NETWORKING EVENT

19th of July 2022, Carina Ioana ZIDARU

The representatives of the Romanian Energy Center (CRE) Association participated at the "*Networking Event for Pact for Skills Members*", organized as an online event, by the European Commission (EC), on Tuesday, 31st of May 2022. The Pact for Skills was launched in November 2020 by the European Commission as a shared engagement model for skills development in Europe aiming to maximise the impact of investing in upskilling and reskilling. Since 2020, more than 650 organisations, among them companies, workers, national, regional, and local authorities, social partners, cross-industry and sectoral organisations, education and training providers, chambers of commerce and employment services have joined the Pact.

The Pact for Skills is the first of the flagship actions under the [European Skills Agenda](#) and is firmly anchored in the [European Pillar of Social Rights.](#)

The Networking Event was the first opportunity for the members of the Pact to gather, to learn more about the Pact, the activities organized under it and discover what initiatives have been implemented by other members.

The Agenda of the [Pact for Skills Networking Event](#) highlighted several presentations that includes updates on the latest policy developments, as well as an overview of the tools and resources offered by the recently launched Pact for Skills Support Services. Moreover, the participants were able through the website to read about other attendees, identify key potential peers for networking and organise one-to-one meetings. Additionally, the participants had the opportunity to meet the coordinators of the Large-scale Skills Partnerships developed under the Pact and to learn more about the initiatives launched in the different ecosystems. Pact for Skills Commitments, Regional Dimension and Ecosystem in the Pact for Skills, Cross-Ecosystem Parallel Session: Construction, Renewable Energy were key subjects tackled during the Event.

During the discussions, Manuela GELENG – Director of Jobs and Skills, DG EMPL underlined interesting aspects: "*We need to invest more in upskilling and reskilling opportunities. The Pact for Skills is based on skills actions that are shared between many actors, and there is a need to work together to maximise the impact in upskilling and reskilling. This Pact is not just about commitments, is also about concreate actions, with real impact*".

"*One of crucial components of transition pathways which is indeed related to very strategic visions, but is oriented also to very practical measures that needs to be taken concerning investments, regulatory environment and notably, skills. The final goal is to have a successful transition where employees will find for themselves the necessary skills*", pointed out Jakub BORATYNSKI – Director of Networks and Governance, DG GROW.

The objectives of Pact for Skills Support Services are the following: to strengthen the capacity of large-scale skills partnerships to deliver quality upskilling and reskilling for people of working age; to develop viable large-scale skills parentships among the European industrial ecosystems; and to promote the awareness of benefits and need for quality upskilling and reskilling.

The Pact for Skills Event was relevant for the association as CRE is a partner in *EDDIE Project - EDucation for DIgitization of Energy*, an Erasmus+ funded by the EU Commission aiming to create a Sector Skills Alliance (SSA) by bringing together all the relevant stakeholders in the Energy value chain. The main objective of this SSA is to develop a long-driven Blueprint for the energy sector to enable the matching between the current and future demand of skills necessary and the supply of improved Vocational Education and Training systems and beyond.

CRE already implemented five European H2020 Projects: **SUCCESS**, **RESERVE**, **NRG5**, **WISEGRID**, **SOGNO**, and is currently implementing other six projects: **CROSSBOW, PHOENIX, TRINITY**, **EDDIE**, **EDGEFLEX** and **CYBERSEAS**.