

LEVERAGING KNOWLEDGE

OF TRAINING PROVIDERS IN UPSKILLING AND RESKILLING OF SMES' MANAGERS AND EMPLOYEES
TOWARDS EMPOWERING THEIR DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION



1ST NEWSLETTER
FEBRUARY 2024





The Level Up project is a strategic effort funded by the Digital Europe Programme of the European Union, designed to enhance the digital competencies of the labor force within European SMEs. It is expected that more than 100 training courses will be created and also listed on the Digital Skills and Jobs Platform from the Level Up consortium, reaching out to an estimated number of 15000 participants from 3000 SMEs during the lifespan of the project.

This project delivers targeted, short-term, and industry-specific training courses for SMEs and job seekers alike, concentrating on pivotal capacity areas.

- ICT Skills
- Data Analytics, Data Literacy and Data Driven Decisions
- Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- Internet of Things (IoT)
- Cloud and Software/ Programming
- Cybersecurity
- 3D Printing / Engineering.

The training courses will be customised in order to be relevant to different industry sectors, including the healthcare sector, finance, insurance, but also, agriculture-food, agritech, energy, manufacturing and telecommunications sector.

Find out more at

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EMBARKING ON A DIGITAL JOURNEY: INSIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES





Introducing our newsletter, where we explore the evolving digital landscape. Discover insightful reports on labor market needs, explore core digital skills crucial for today's businesses, and learn how to stay ahead with our upcoming training opportunities tailored for dynamic professional growth.

Inside This Issue:

Market Analysis, Skill Gaps, and Training Insights

This issue covers the latest labor market analysis on emerging digital skills, a deep dive into essential digital competencies, and how to stay updated on our upcoming training opportunities.

Find out more at

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PROJECT RESULTS





Report on labour market needs of emerging advanced digital

This report consolidates findings from seven European countries, identifying key digital skill needs in SMEs. It forms the basis for tailored training initiatives, aiming to digitally transform the workforce and enhance competitiveness across the region.

Portfolio of Core Digital Skills in Key Capacity Areas

The portfolio investigates the critical digital skills required for SMEs' growth in the digital era, identifying key skill gaps and essential training areas across seven European countries, guiding targeted educational initiatives.

Find out more at

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KEY RESEARCH FINDINGS

KEY DIGITAL SKILLS INSIGHTS AND TRAINING NEEDS

Our survey, which garnered responses from 850 SMEs across seven European nations (Cyprus, Finland, Germany, Greece, Poland, Hungary and Italy) unveils critical insights into the digital skills landscape, highlighting the necessity for strategic training initiatives in cybersecurity, data analytics, AI, and foundational digital tools.

Prominent Skill Gaps: Identified gaps include Cybersecurity, Advanced Excel, Social Media Marketing and Analytics, Data Analytics, AI, and Machine Learning.





Importance of Digital Platforms and Programming Languages: Platforms like Microsoft Office Suite, Microsoft Power BI, Zoom/Teams, G-Suite, and Salesforce are crucial. Programming languages like Java, SQL, and Python are also significant.

Variation Across Countries: Surveys from different countries (Cyprus, Finland, Germany, Greece, Poland, Hungary, Italy) showed variations in the importance assigned to different digital skills.

Significance of Foundational Skills: There's an emphasis on foundational skills like Microsoft Office proficiency and familiarity with video conferencing tools as a basis for building more advanced digital competencies.

Training Needs: The research suggests a demand for various levels of training in areas like Cybersecurity, Data Analysis and Interpretation, AI, and Cloud Computing.

Find out more at

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TOP TRENDING DIGITAL SKILLS

Key research findings from a comprehensive survey conducted across seven countries (Greece, Poland, Cyprus, Hungary, Italy, Germany, and Finland) highlight crucial insights into digital competencies within SMEs. Engaging 848 participants, including SMEs business owners and managers, alongside focused group interviews and roundtable discussions in selected countries, the research activities explored the most important digital skills demanded in the labor market today. These are:

1. **Data Analysis and Interpretation**
2. **Social media marketing & Analytics**
3. **Advanced Excel**
4. **Cybersecurity**
5. **Artificial Intelligence / Machine Learning**
6. **Digital Project Management**
7. **Cloud Computing**
8. **Web Development /Software**
9. **Big Data management**
10. **e-Commerce Digital Skills**
11. **Agile Development**
12. **Blockchain**
13. **Virtual Comms Tools (Zoom, Teams, etc.)**
14. **UI/UX**
15. **DevOps**
16. **Scrum Master**

These findings will serve as a foundation for our upcoming initiative to develop and deliver funded courses tailored to address the identified needs, ensuring SMEs can access training on the key topics mentioned above.

Find out more at

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PROJECT UPDATES



**1st Consortium Meeting
Nicosia, CY**



The LEVEL UP project's kickoff meeting convened in Nicosia, Cyprus, on February 9th, 2023, facilitated by Project Coordinator GrantXpert Consulting and hosted by European University Cyprus. At this pivotal gathering, partners met, establishing vital connections, and collaboratively defined the project's goals and strategies.



**2nd Consortium Meeting
Berlin, DE**

In Berlin, the partners reconvened for the 2nd meeting on September 21st, 2023, to assess the project's progress. During this gathering, members of our consortium collaborated to finalize plans for the design and implementation of the initial Level Up courses. Set to be offered free of charge, these courses aim to elevate participant skills.

Find out more at

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STAY INFORMED ON OUR LATEST
TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Exciting news for all seeking to enhance their digital skills! Our training courses have commenced, offering a wealth of knowledge and expertise in various key digital areas. To ensure you don't miss out on these valuable learning opportunities, we encourage you to frequently visit our website and our social media accounts. Here, you will find detailed information about each course, including topics, schedules, and how to enroll.





Visit Our Course Page

Check out [Level Up Training Courses](#) regularly for the most current course offerings and updates.

Some of our recent and forthcoming courses:

- Introduction to Machine Learning
- Google tools to run your business more efficiently
- Artificial Intelligence in Businesses
- Power BI
- Introduction to Microcontrollers through Arduino

Find out more at

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Level Up

Coordinator



GrantXpert Consulting
Nicosia, Cyprus

Partners



JOIST Innovation Park
Larissa, Greece



**Association of Thessalian
Enterprises and Industries**
Larissa, Greece



**Centro per lo Sviluppo
Creativo Danilo Dolci**
Palermo, Italy



**Cyprus Information Technology
Enterprises Association**
Nicosia, Cyprus



**D. Kyriakatis - E.
Vafeiadis O.E.**
Athens, Greece



**Nicosia Chamber of
Commerce and Industry**
Nicosia, Cyprus



European University Cyprus
Nicosia, Cyprus



Hellenic Digital Health Cluster
Athens, Greece



ICT Association of Hungary
Budapest, Hungary



Prizztech Ltd
Pori, Finland



**Regionalna Izba Gospodarcza
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Gdansk, Poland







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Associated Partner



**Berlin Partner of Economics
and Technology GmbH**
Berlin, Germany

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This document was produced in the course of the Level Up project, which received funding from the Digital Europe Programme (DIGITAL) of the European Union under Grant Agreement no 101100679.

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