



# O GET GET READY

Foster greater gender equality and employability in the digital era

PR1 Digital readiness competences dictionary

Developed by Mindshift Talent Advisory





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COUNTRY	ORGANISATION
Belgium	FTU asbl [FTU]
Cyprus	CSI Center for Social Innovation [CSI]
Greece	Universal Certification Solutions S.A – UNICERT S.A. [UNICERT]
Ireland	Spectrum Research Centre [SRC]
Italy	IDP SAS di Giancarlo Costantino [IDP]
Poland	Danmar Computers [Danmar]
Portugal	Mindshift Talent Advisory LDA [Mindshift]
Spain	Iniciativas de Futuro para una Europa Social COOP V [IFESCOOP]





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# **OPENING NOTE**

#### What is the digital readiness competences dictionary?

This digital readiness competences dictionary is developed as part of a strategic partnership for the adult education project titled *WOMEN GET READY – Foster greater gender equality and employability in the digital era*. Funded by the Erasmus+ programme, this project aims to foster women's digital readiness, improve their participation in the labour market, and reduce gender inequalities of female workers through the creation of: a bespoke multi-level competences dictionary covering 11 skills areas; two high-quality MOOCs (massive open online course); a digital readiness self-assessment tool; eight inspiring female avatars; and a digital upskilling hub.

To design the digital readiness competences dictionary, all the participating organisations – FTU (Belgium), CSI (Cyprus), UNICERT (Greece), SRC (Ireland), IDP (Italy), Danmar (Poland), Mindshift (Portugal), and IFESCOOP (Spain) – worked closely with their Pool of Stakeholders (i.e., women, leaders, employers, and educational providers) to identify the core competences needed to thrive in the digital 21<sup>st</sup>-century labour market. This ensured that the competences dictionary is relevant and can generate a positive impact regardless of the industry sector and cultural context.

The dictionary was designed following a two-level progression model based on the European Qualifications Framework (EQF), ECVET, and EntreComp European frameworks, and it establishes the criteria for assessing growth related to the complexity required by each level. Each competence is detailed in terms of learning outcomes, i.e., knowledge, skills and attitudes. The framework of competences considers intermediate and advanced levels of proficiency. The first focuses on building the independence of the user, and the second on making them responsible for their decisions when working with others.

The competences dictionary includes the following content:

- A summary of key concepts to ease you into the document
- The digital readiness competences framework that includes a two-level progression model of all 11 competences
- The digital readiness competences "How-To Guide" explaining how to use the framework independently and in the context of the WOMEN GET READY project
- A list of references that informed our work and from which you may retrieve further information on any topic that you found particularly interesting.





# **KEY CONCEPTS**

### What you need to know?

4.0 INDUSTRY	The digital transformation of manufacturing and production, that integrates automation, data analytics, cloud computing, the Internet of Things, cybersecurity, and other digital solutions to maximise value creation.
ATTITUDES	The ability to develop tasks and solve problems of a higher or lower degree of complexity and different degrees of autonomy and responsibility
BENCHMARK ANALYSIS	A form of market research used by businesses who wish to compare their existing performance to the best practices in the industry. Organisations can gauge the best performance to be achieved and how to make changes in order to gain a competitive advantage
COMPETENCE	Proven ability to use knowledge, skills and personal, social and/or methodological abilities, in work or study situations and in professional and personal development.
CREATIVE PROBLEM-SOLVING	A creative approach to problem-solving driven by people's inherent innovative potential when designing an action plan based on out-of-the-box solutions.
DESIGN THINKING	A process for creative problem solving. It encourages organizations to focus on the people they're creating for, which leads to better products, services, and internal processes
DIGITAL READINESS	The set of digital competences a worker needs to thrive in the 4.0 industry labour market.
ECVET	The European Credit system for Vocational Education and Training (ECVET) is a tool that promotes mobility in Europe, lifelong learning, and flexibility in learning pathways by facilitating validation and recognition of work skills in different European countries.
EntreComp	The European Entrepreneurship Competence Framework (EntreComp) is an adaptable tool that defines learning outcomes for entrepreneurship as a competence in the context of work or lifelong learning. It aims to foster entrepreneurial activities in Europe and the entrepreneurial competence of European citizens.
EQF	The European Qualifications Framework (EQF) is a learning outcomes-based framework used to compare national qualifications among European countries and to promote learners and workers mobility in Europe.





GENDER	A spectrum of identities constituted by socially constructed norms, behaviours and roles that define one as a woman, man and/or non-binary. Gender is not the same as sex which is determined at birth based on one's primary sexual characteristics.
GENDER EQUALITY	The idea that all people should have the same rights, responsibilities, and opportunities, regardless of their gender.
KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	Key Performance Indicators (KPI) are a set of quantitative measures used to assess a company's performance in each time period.
KNOWLEDGE	The outcome of the assimilation of information through learning. It is the body of facts, principles, theories, and practices that is related to a field of work or study. In the EQF context, is described as theoretical and/or factual.
LEARNING OUTCOMES	Statements of what a learner knows, understands, and can do on completion of a learning process, which is defined in terms of knowledge, skills and attitudes.
NETIQUETTE	Etiquette in a digital context. It refers to a set of rules of propriety, politeness, and courteousness in online communication.
SKILLS	The ability to apply knowledge and use know-how to complete tasks and solve problems. In EQF context, are described as cognitive (use of logical, intuitive, and creative thinking) and/or practical and technical (manual dexterity and the use of methods, materials, tools, and instruments).
SWOT ANALYSIS	Analysis of the internal strengths (S) and weaknesses (W) of an institution, and the external opportunities (O) and threats (T) that may affect its performance positively or negatively.





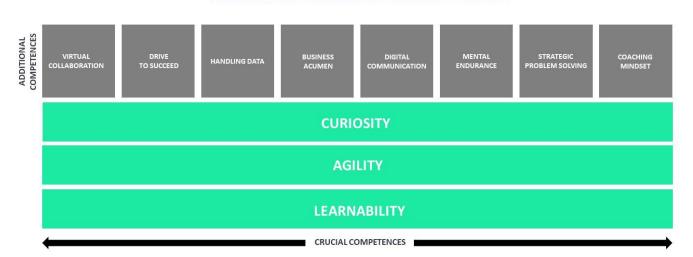
# THE DIGITAL READINESS COMPETENCES DICTIONARY

The digital readiness competences framework considers 11 competences likely to be required for digital readiness. There are two types of competences: crucial and additional.

Crucial competences are all those that are transversal to any job and include: learnability, agility, and curiosity.

Additional competences might vary according to the job. For example, as a social media copywriter, you may need to know how to handle data and communicate digitally but are unlikely to need a coaching mindset. It may happen that a job will demand a domain of all competences; nonetheless, some will be more relevant than others, depending on the job description and the industry sector.

#### **DIGITAL READINESS COMPETENCES**







The digital readiness competences framework was built according to the EQF, ECVET and EntreComp European orientations as a set of competences, detailed in terms of learning outcomes.

The EQF helps to compare national qualifications systems and enable communication among them. The core of the EQF is eight common European reference levels, which are described in learning outcomes: knowledge, skills and attitudes (i.e., responsibility and autonomy). This makes it possible to compare what a learner, with a qualification related to the EQF, knows, understands, and can do. The digital readiness competence framework is developed according to the EQF descriptors.

EQF level descriptors elements <sup>1</sup>						
knowledge	skills	Attitudes				
Described as theoretical and/or factual	Described as cognitive (involving the use of logical, intuitive and creative thinking) and practical (involving manual dexterity and the use of methods, materials, tools and instruments)	Described as the ability of the learner to apply knowledge and skills autonomously and with responsibility.				

EntreComp is an adaptable tool that defines learning outcomes for entrepreneurship as a competence in the context of work or lifelong learning. It aims to foster entrepreneurial activities in Europe and the entrepreneurial competence of European citizens and institutions, and it was launched in 2016 as part of the New Skills Agenda for Europe. The two proficiency levels of this digital readiness competences framework are based on the EntreComp progression model.

EntreComp progression model <sup>2</sup>						
foundation	intermediate	advanced	expert			
Relying on support from others	Building independence	Taking responsibility	Driving transformation, Innovation and growth			

The digital readiness competences dictionary considers the Intermediate and Advanced levels of the EntreComp progression model.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Description of the EQF elements: <a href="https://europa.eu/europass/en/description-eight-eqf-levels">https://europa.eu/europass/en/description-eight-eqf-levels</a> (last access 2022.01.18)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Description of the EntreComp progression model: <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/social/BlobServlet?docId=19110&langId=en">https://ec.europa.eu/social/BlobServlet?docId=19110&langId=en</a> (last access 2022.01.18)





#### **LEARNABILITY**

#### the desire to develop and improve

	level			
	INTERMEDIATE		ADVANCED	
knowledge	Describe the importance of digital skills to succeed in any job within the 4.0 industry.  Explain which digital skills are necessary to succeed in 4.0 industry-related jobs.	Knowledge	Identify digital skills in high demand in the job market of the 4.0 industry.  Compare the relevance of different digital skills needed to succeed in the 4.0 industry.	
skills	Research for opportunities to improve the digital skills needed to succeed in the 4.0 industry.  Examine key areas of interest and own level of proficiency in digital skills.  Apply new digital skills in a safe learning environment.	Skills	Assess own digital skills development by key areas of interest and levels of proficiency.  Identify areas to improve own digital skills.  Prioritise opportunities to learn new digital skills.	
attitudes	Discuss opportunities to learn new digital skills with more experienced peers.  Recognise potential gaps in previous education or work experience as opportunities for learning.	Attitudes	Recommend resources and training content on digital technologies to less experienced peers.  Suggest how to address potential gaps in previous education or work experience.	





#### **AGILITY**

#### the capability to adapt quickly and effectively

	level			
	INTERMEDIATE		ADVANCED	
knowledge	Explain the importance of adapting quickly and effectively to technological changes.  Research for agile techniques to adapt quickly and efficiently to technological improvements.  Describe agile techniques to adapt quickly and efficiently to technological improvements.	knowledge	List the benefits of adapting quickly and effectively to technological changes.  Compare different agile techniques to adapt quickly and efficiently to technological improvements.	
skills	Identify own preferred learning methodologies to become more effective in the use of new digital technologies.  Experiment with different learning methodologies to become more effective in the use of new digital technologies.	skills	Apply own preferred learning methodologies to become more effective in the use of new digital technologies.  Assess areas to improve own preferred learning methodologies to become more effective in the use of new digital technologies.	
attitudes	Show interest in overcoming technological challenges in the ever-changing 4.0 job market.  Demonstrate a proactive attitude towards innovation in a workplace environment.  Adapt to new technologies and ever-changing market necessities.	attitudes	Recommend resources to become more tech-savvy to peers. Influence peers to show a positive outlook towards technological innovation and newness. Evaluate trends in the market of new digital technologies.	





#### **CURIOSITY**

being open to change, and inquisitive and enthusiastic about new approaches and initiatives

	level				
	INTERMEDIATE		ADVANCED		
knowledge	Explain the importance of being open-minded to succeed in the 4.0 industry.  List the benefits of being enthusiastic about new approaches and initiatives in a workplace environment.	knowledge	Illustrate ways of being open-minded in a 4.0 industry workplace.  Elaborate on the benefits of being enthusiastic about new approaches and initiatives in a workplace environment.		
skills	Discuss new ways of working in the 4.0 industry with peers. Identify key work processes that could benefit from new digital approaches. Suggest implementing new technologies to make work processes more efficient.	skills	Compile information about best-case practices in new ways of working in the 4.0 industry  Design a plan to implement new digital technologies to make work processes more efficient.  Implement a plan to implement new digital technologies to make work processes more efficient.		
attitudes	Communicate enthusiasm about new approaches and initiatives to peers.  Demonstrate openness to an ever-changing working environment.	attitudes	Influence peers to become enthusiastic about new approaches and initiatives.  Support the creation of an open working environment.		





#### **VIRTUAL COLLABORATION**

inspiring and interacting with others remotely, and working together towards common goals

	level			
	INTERMEDIATE		ADVANCED	
knowledge	Explain the importance of being able to work and collaborate remotely to succeed in a 4.0 industry role.  Name virtual platforms commonly used to work and collaborate remotely.  List netiquette rules for online communication	knowledge	Highlight best-case practices related to virtual collaboration in the 4.0 industry.  Match virtual collaboration platforms with different workplace needs.	
skills	Experiment with different virtual collaboration platforms to become acquainted with new ways of working in the 4.0 industry.  Make use of virtual collaboration tools to make own work more effective.  Communicate with peers in virtual collaboration platforms.	skills	Solve workplace communication setbacks with virtual collaboration platforms.  Design a plan to implement virtual collaboration tools in own workplace.  Implement a plan to implement virtual collaboration tools in own workplace.	
attitudes	Respect netiquette rules for online communication.  Search proactively for new virtual collaboration tools.	attitudes	Support peers by using new virtual collaboration tools.  Maximise workplace efficiency by using new virtual collaboration tools.  Network with peers by using virtual collaboration platforms.	





#### competence 5

#### **DRIVE TO SUCCEED**

proactively taking initiative and following through to accomplish objectives

	level			
	INTERMEDIATE		ADVANCED	
knowledge	<b>Describe</b> the importance of being proactive and taking initiative in the 4.0 industry. <b>Summarise</b> the value that a proactive attitude brings to a 4.0 industry workplace.	knowledge	<b>Describe</b> the importance of establishing objectives and KPIs in the 4.0 industry. <b>Name</b> different ways to be proactive and to follow through in the workplace.	
skills	Establish objectives and key performance indicators (KPI).  Assess own performance by referring to previously determined KPIs.  Prioritise tasks according to workplace objectives.	skills	Adapt objectives and KPIs to new workplace needs.  Revise metrics to better suit different KPIs and maximise own performance.  Plan tasks according to workplace objectives.	
attitudes	Show initiative and a proactive attitude towards work.  Demonstrate a result-oriented mindset.	attitudes	Influence peers to take initiative and strive for excellence at work.  Facilitate a result-oriented working culture.	





#### competence 6

#### **HANDLING DATA**

evaluating situations and analysing information to form data-driven decisions

	level				
	INTERMEDIATE		ADVANCED		
knowledge	<b>Explain</b> the importance of data to make informed decisions in the 4.0 industry. <b>List</b> the benefits of evaluating situations and analysing information to make decisions in the workplace.	knowledge	Identify best-case practices for handling data in the 4.0 industry.  Elaborate on the benefits of evaluating situations and analysing information to make decisions in the workplace.		
skills	Analyse data to withdraw useful information.  Compare information to reach data-driven conclusions.  Report data-based information effectively.	skills	Compare sets of data to make strategic decisions.  Predict industry trends and results based on data- driven information.  Model decisions after data analysis.		
attitudes	Recognise the value of data-driven decisions in the 4.0 industry.  Show openness to continuously learn data analysis tools.	attitudes	<b>Create</b> workplace data-based procedures. <b>Demonstrate</b> proficiency in the use of data-driven information to make decisions.		





#### **BUSINESS ACUMEN**

understanding the business, the needs of customers, and developing new opportunities

	level			
INTERMEDIATE		ADVANCED		
knowledge	Explain the importance of being customer-oriented in the 4.0 industry.  Explain the importance of understanding the business and the industry.  List the benefits of developing a customer-oriented business.	knowledge	Elaborate on the value-for-money of being customer- oriented in the 4.0 industry. Elaborate on the value-for-money of understanding the business and the industry. Identify best-case practices for customer-oriented businesses.	
skills	Identify main competitors in the industry.  Perform a SWOT analysis.  Perform a benchmark analysis.	skills	Predict business trends based on own and competitors' performance.  Define short, middle, and long-term goals based on the conclusions of a SWOT analysis.  Identify competitive advantages based on the conclusions of a benchmark analysis.	
attitudes	Communicate with customers about their needs and how to satisfy them.  Show a creative attitude towards product/service development.	attitudes	Communicate with peers and employees about customers' needs and how to satisfy them. Create opportunities for creative product/service development.	





#### **DIGITAL COMMUNICATION**

communicating, influencing, and maintaining a rapport with others via technology

level			
INTERMEDIATE		ADVANCED	
knowledge	<b>Explain</b> the importance of being proficient in digital communication in the 4.0 industry. <b>Identify</b> the main social networks and digital communication platforms.	knowledge	<b>List</b> tools to become more proficient in digital communication in the 4.0 industry. <b>Identify</b> trends in the use of social networks and digital communication platforms.
skills	Communicate with customers via social networks, applying and respecting netiquette rules.  Generate relevant content for the company's social networks and digital presence in general.  Communicate with peers via digital communication tools, applying and respecting netiquette rules.	skills	Implement a social media strategic plan to communicate with customers.  Make use of social networks analytics to learn more about the company's customer base.  Decide the best digital communication tools to communicate with peers and costumers.
attitudes	Demonstrate enthusiasm about new social networks and digital trends.  Show concern in maintaining a good online presence.  Build interest in maintaining a rapport with others via technology.	attitudes	Demonstrate proficient knowledge about new social networks and digital trends.  Show concern in becoming an online influencer.  Maximise the potential of networking by maintaining a rapport with others via technology.





#### **MENTAL ENDURANCE**

resilience and the ability to cope with pressure and setbacks

	level			
INTERMEDIATE		ADVANCED		
knowledge	Describe the importance of being resilient and having the ability to cope with pressure and setbacks.  List strategies to be able to cope with pressure in the workplace.	knowledge	Identify key benefits of being resilient and having the ability to cope with pressure and setbacks.  Select strategies to be able to cope with pressure in the workplace based on own's personal needs.	
skills	Plan tasks ahead. Organise your own calendar to reconcile work and leisure.	skills	Compile minor tasks to delegate to other members of the team.  Organise the team's work calendar to reconcile your own work and leisure.  Design a team-building calendar of activities to relax and enjoy time with peers.	
attitudes	Assess when to ask for help.  Create moments to relax and enjoy time with peers.  Discover new ways to deal with setbacks at work.	attitudes	Create moments for peers to talk about setbacks at work.  Suggest new ways to deal with setbacks at work to peers.	





#### STRATEGIC PROBLEM-SOLVING

solving problems creatively and balancing the needs of all stakeholders

level			
INTERMEDIATE		ADVANCED	
knowledge	Define creative problem-solving. Identify the 4 core principles of creative problem-solving. Identify key business stakeholders.	knowledge	Identify strategies to solve problems at work creatively.  Elaborate on the 4 core principles of creative problem-solving.  Assess the needs of key business stakeholders.
skills	Utilise brainstorming techniques to address problems at work.  Create mind maps to organise your own thought pattern.  Survey stakeholders to address their needs.	skills	Create opportunities for peers and employees to brainstorm about solutions to problems at work.  Make use of design thinking strategies to solve problems creatively.  Improve business relations with stakeholders with an effective networking strategy.
attitudes	Show creativity and enthusiasm about new approaches to problem-solving.  Demonstrate a positive attitude at work.	attitudes	Suggest new strategies of creative problem-solving to peers. Influence others to show a positive attitude at work.





#### **COACHING MINDSET**

supporting the development of others and motivating them through feedback and encouragement

	level			
Intermediate		Advanced		
Knowledge	Define coaching. List different coaching techniques. Identify main strategies to motivate peers through feedback and encouragement.	Knowledge	Describe how coaching improves employees' performance at work.  Explain different coaching techniques.  Describe the main strategies to motivate peers through feedback and encouragement.	
Skills	<b>Experiment</b> with different techniques to practice active listening, effective questioning (inquisitiveness), feedback and encouragement. <b>Analyse</b> the importance of communication dynamics in coaching relationships.	Skills	Select your preferred techniques to practice active listening, effective questioning (inquisitiveness), feedback and encouragement.  Apply different techniques to practice active listening, effective questioning (inquisitiveness) and feedback and encouragement.	
Attitudes	Assess own coaching skills.  Support the development of others to become more successful at work.	Attitudes	Research opportunities to improve your coaching skills Assess peers' responses to different coaching techniques.	





# **HOW-TO GUIDE**

#### How to use the digital readiness competences dictionary?

The digital readiness competences dictionary was created having in mind the 11 competences that female workers should acquire to be successful in the labour market of the 4.0 industry. The dictionary offers a comprehensive description and framework of learning outcomes in a two-level progression model that addresses intermediate and advanced proficiencies while helping the user assess their or their learners' development.

WOMEN GET READY provides two MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) for women to develop all the 11 competences at intermediate and/or advanced levels. The contents of the MOOCs are developed for microlearning-based training and are structured by competence. The aim is to empower women to enter the current labour market and give them greater control in defining a personalised and flexible learning path. While going through the videos, lectures, texts, visual aids, quizzes, and user forum, women can refer to the digital readiness competences dictionary for further clarification on the expected learning outcomes.

WOMEN GET READY also provides a self-assessment tool that women can use to evaluate their progress in any of the 11 competences defined in the dictionary. This is a user-friendly tool that enables individuals to reflect on the extent to which one of the 11 competences is currently embedded in their practices. This will support them to choose the respective level of training required. The result of the assessment will be a guidance report, including suggested training by using the respective MOOC content. To use the self-assessment tool in a more efficient manner, women may refer to the digital readiness competences dictionary to understand their level of proficiency at a given competence and which learning outcomes, i.e., knowledge, skills, and attitudes they should master as an intermediate or advanced learner.

WOMEN GET READY also provides a digital upskilling hub with eight female avatars representing different sectors/industries/jobs with whom women can identify. These will act as role models and represent a meaningful and effective way to engage women and help them visualise concrete vocational profiles, as well as recognise the competences they need to either develop or strengthen. The avatars are connected to relevant interactive exercises and additional resources. Women may refer to the digital readiness competences dictionary to learn more about the competences they need to develop to achieve their professional goals as per the avatars' suggestions.

All these resources provide women with an opportunity to upskill and enhance their digital competences and take a step towards greater gender equality in the workplace and labour market of the 4.0 industry.





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