EU-ILO Project "Building partnerships on the future of work"

▶ Research webinar on big data and the future of work

Concept note and agenda

Background

The International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission (EC-JRC) are together implementing the **project "Building partnerships on the Future of Work"** funded by the EC Partnership Instrument.

The project aims at responding to two specific objectives:

- Developing new evidence around some specific, and understudied, future of work themes focusing on aspects of relevance to the EU and selected non-EU countries. **(Fact-based Analysis component)**

- Based on the findings and other interests expressed by partner countries, building or reinforcing strategic alliances linked to the future of work involving the EU, key international and multilateral actors, non-EU countries, and social partners. Four key partner countries have been proposed for the first stage of the project: **Canada**, Korea, **Mexico** and South Africa **(Strategic Alliances component)**

Research webinar

This webinar will be co-organized by the ILO, the EC-JRC and the Labour Market Information Council of Canada (LMIC). The objective is to bring together experts from the three institutions and external experts to discuss the possibilities of using big data sources to analyse ongoing future of work trends in both developed and developing economies.

In recent years, a lot of attention has been given to the use of alternative data sources to better monitor and anticipate ongoing changes on labour markets. For example, in 2019, the ILO played a key role in this debate by convening a group-of-experts meeting involving participants to discuss the feasibility of using online job vacancies. Since then, recent publications from the LMIC and the JRC have allowed to get a better understanding of the representativeness of online

job vacancies[1] and the quality of the information they provide on skills and tasks[2][3]. Other sources, such as online CVs, are also being explored by the ILO to analyse how ongoing future of work trends are reshaping workplaces and influencing the labour market transitions of individuals[4]. This evolution is not limited to developed economies as shown by the project DiCoDe (Diagnóstico de Competencias Demandadas) developed by the City of Mexico[5] which is a tool that collects, structures, and displays information on the profiles demanded and offered on the City's labour market.

Other big data sources are increasingly used by national and international institutions, including the ILO, in order to identify changes that remain difficult to perceive through traditional statistical instruments and design policies and programmes. Among these alternative sources, we can name for example geospatial data sources such as satellite images or mobile communication data. This webinar will also aim at presenting recent research work based on this type of data and discussing their use for policy purposes.

Co-organizers: ILO, European Commission (JRC) and Labour Market Information Council of Canada.

Purposes: Present and discuss recent research findings on the potential use of big data sources for the analysis of ongoing future of work-related changes.

Format: A fully virtual webinar (approx. 3h) with 5 to 7 presentations + discussion with audience.

Timing: February 3, 2022.

Language: English.

Preliminary agenda (Geneva time)

15h00 – 16h45   Session 1: Online job vacancies and CVs

Chair: Olga Strietska-Ilina (ILO)

Speakers:

- Tony Bonen (LMIC): "Challenges and opportunities leveraging online job ads to track labour shortages"
- Matteo Sostero and Enrique Fernandez-Macias (JRC): "The Professional Lens: What online job advertisements can say about occupational task profiles"
- Ekkehard Ernst and Daniel Samaan (ILO): "Who moves and who stays? Labour market transitions under automation and health-related restrictions "
- Hannah Liepmann and Veronica Escudero (ILO): "Using online vacancy and applicants' data to study skills dynamics"

Q&A

16h45 – 18h15   Session 2: Mobile and geospatial data sources

Chair: Aurelio Parisotto (ILO)

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[1] See LMIC. 2020, How representative are online job postings?, LMI Insight Report, N°36, October

[2] See LMIC. 2020, Through the looking glass : Assessing skills measures using 21st Century Technologies, LMI Insight Report, N°32, June (in collaboration with Statistics Canada)

[3] See Sostero, M., Fernandez-Macias, E. 2021, The Professional Lens: What online job advertisements can say about occupational task profiles, JRC Working Paper Series on Labour, education and Technology, 2021/13

[4] ILO Research brief: del Rio-Chanona, R.M., Ernst, E., Feyer, S., Samaan, D., Trivedi, S. 2021, Who moves and who stays? Labour market transitions under automation and health-related restrictions, ILO Research brief

[5] See https://www.trabajo.cdmx.gob.mx/comunicacion/nota/styfe-presento-el-diagnostico-de-competencias-demandadas or https://aclanthology.org/2020.lt4gov-1.3/

Speakers:

- Matthieu Charpe (ILO) : "Nightime lights as a proxy for local economic growth : an application to structural transformation"
- Cathy Riley and Linus Bengtsson (Flowminder): "Innovative data solutions for generating population information: the case of Call Detail Records used for analysing and estimating Population Movements"
- Nicholas Denis (Statistics Canada) : title forthcoming

Q&A