

# PORTABILITY BLUEPRINT



Vocational Education and Training, skills and social inclusion for a just transition in Europe's port city regions.

## CONTEXT

Port cities are being reshaped by digitalisation, changing labour markets, blue economy developments, urban regeneration and the green transition.

**PortAbility** is a European **Centre of Vocational Excellence (CoVE)** supporting just transition in the port cities of Taranto, Andalusia, Thessaly and Cyprus, drawing on Hamburg's example.

It brings together the people shaping the future of these port city regions – connecting education and training, ports, employers, research, unions and community organisations.

## What the Blueprint analysis shows

A just transition depends on more than infrastructure, technology and investment. The evidence points to four essentials:



**PEOPLE**



**SKILLS**



**SOCIAL INCLUSION**



**COOPERATION**

**Social inclusion is central.** Green and digital transitions can deepen existing barriers unless inclusion is designed into skills systems, learning pathways and regional cooperation from the start.

## HOW THE BLUEPRINT WAS BUILT

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Key informants

### ACADEMIC RESEARCH

Published literature review

### REGIONAL ANALYSIS

Four port city regions

### SOCIAL INCLUSION CASE STUDIES

Examples from partner regions

### STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

VET managers, businesses, employers, unions, public bodies, researchers, NGOs

## FIVE CONNECTED PRESSURES

were identified across the PortAbility regions in 2025:

### ECONOMIC TRANSITION

Diversification, tourism, circular economy and blue economy

### SOCIAL TRANSITION

Demographic change, labour market in flux and rising inequalities



### DIGITAL TRANSITION

Logistics data, automation and digital platforms

### GREEN TRANSITION

Decarbonisation, energy, environmental repair and resilience

### GOVERNANCE TRANSITION

Cooperation between ports, VET, employers, public bodies, unions and civil society

**Vocational Education and Training (VET) can drive just transition in port city regions.**

# SIX PRIORITIES FOR ACTION

**COMMON ACTION  
FRAMEWORK  
ACROSS REGIONS**

**DIGITAL SKILLS  
LINKED TO PORT &  
LOGISTICS NEEDS**

**GREEN LEARNING  
CONNECTING WORK,  
PLACE & INCLUSION**

**INCLUSION-FOCUSED  
FROM THE START TO  
REDUCE BARRIERS**

**FLEXIBLE PATHWAYS  
AND MICRO-  
CREDENTIALS**

**SKILLS FORESIGHT  
AND CHANGE-AGENT  
CAPACITY**

## WHAT COMES NEXT

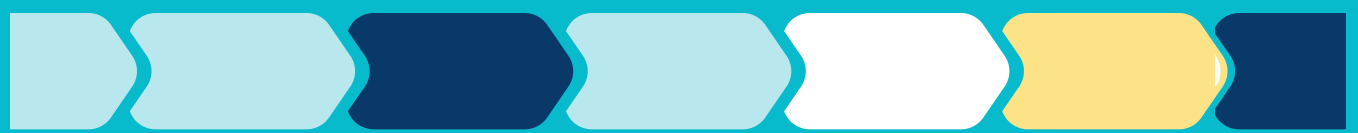
Practical activities and resources:

**COMMUNITIES OF  
PRACTICE AND  
OBSERVATORIES**

**TRAINING AND  
UPSKILLING  
ACTIVITIES**

**STUDY VISITS  
AND PEER  
LEARNING**

**NATIONAL  
EVENTS**



**GREEN, DIGITAL,  
INCLUSIVE SKILLS**

**COMPETENCY  
FRAMEWORK**

**LEARNING  
RESOURCES**

**MICRO-  
CREDENTIALS**

## JOIN OUR PORTABILITY COMMUNITY

We are setting up Local Communities of Practice in Italy, Spain, Greece and Cyprus to support a just transition in Europe's port city regions.

**Join us** to exchange knowledge, identify skills needs, share local experience and shape practical actions for training, inclusion and cooperation. The Communities will run from 2026 to 2028.

VET professionals, port authorities, employers, chambers of commerce, trade unions, researchers, NGOs, social enterprises, public bodies and local development actors join forces to strengthen VET and support just transition.

 [portability-project.eu](https://portability-project.eu)

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**DISCOVER OUR: BLUEPRINT EXECUTIVE SYNTHESIS · EVENTS ·  
NEWS UPDATES · CONNECT WITH PARTNERS IN YOUR COUNTRY**