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| Deliverable (Title): | | D1.8: Trend and scenario analysis | Date: | 30/07/2022 |
| Work package: | Skill Needs Identification | | | |
| External evaluator (Name): | | Juliet Achieng Owuor | | |
| 1. **Please provide a general evaluation of the deliverable in terms of:\*** | | | | |
| 1. **structure and content** | | | **Score**: 90/100 | |
| Great flow! Section 1.1 is titled structure of the report but the content is more about the task, it’s aim and justification and not about the structure of the report. Section 1.3 which is about the project’s dimensions is the one that mentions the structure of the report in the last paragraph. Maybe section 1.1 should be renamed to something else because the content does not live up to the expectation of the title.  Overview of the policy framework was great and so was how the project tried to link their work to the priority areas mentioned! | | | | |
| 1. **length** | | | **Score**: 100/100 | |
| Very appropriate! The Annex is long but that is not a problem. The main section is short enough and provides important insights at the EU level and a summary of the regional trends and scenarios and skills needs! | | | | |
| 1. **format** | | | **Score**: 85/100 | |
| Boxes, tables, maps, figures have helped in summarizing a lot of information and increased the visual appeal of the deliverable.  Consistent font type throughout the document up to the Annexes.  Highlighting main points in bold for the trends and scenarios identified makes it easy to spot them especially where the paragraphs are too long. Presenting a summary of the trends in a table before expounding on them is very helpful.  Different table styles have been applied, it would be great if they could all have same style, Table 2-7 have the same style which is different from Table 1, 8, 10, 11 and 12. Table 9 has the four dimensions of sustainability, digitalisation, bioeconomy and business models highlighted in blue.  The names of the projects in Annex 2 should be in bold to distinguish them from the rest of the text, they get lost making it difficult to know where information about the next project starts.  The Font sizes in the boxes with country scenarios in the Annex are too small, one can hardly read the information even when you zoom to 100%. | | | | |
| 1. **English language use** | | | **Score**: 100/100 | |
| Excellent, no mistakes. Simple to understand language. Correct tenses, conjugation, everything grammar is ok.  There is a minor spelling mistake on the title of Table 9, “h” has been omitted so instead of three scenarios the authors wrote tree scenarios. | | | | |
| 1. **Please evaluate the overall quality of the deliverable in terms of:** | | | | |
| 1. **relevance (e.g., does the information address all key issues compared to the objectives of the project?)** | | | **Score**: 85100 | |
| The deliverable builds up on the previous tasks of the project hence helping achieve several objectives at a go. The business models are the elements of management & entrepreneurship and soft skills that were included as dimensions in Task 1.3 -Country and Focus Group Discussions, and Task 1.4 - Bottom-up Surveys. This deliverable therefore contributes to the identification of global trends and skill gaps which will also contribute to the strategy which will be developed at the EU and Country level to improve the skills. | | | | |
| 1. **comprehensiveness (e.g., is there any missing information?)** | | | **Score**: 85/100 | |
| The trends and scenarios presented at the EU and country levels are very detailed. I like how the team went a step further to analyse the skills needs at country level based on the scenarios developed.  However, I expected to see trends on workforce related issues, health and safety challenges were mentioned in Table 2 but what about the ageing workforce and lack of sufficient replacement? What about green jobs in these sectors, wouldn’t this fit under sustainability? There is also the issue of short-term migrant workers from other EU countries and poor working conditions that they are subjected to, isn’t this a trend? Maybe something worth asking is the timeframe for the trends identified by Wepner et al., 2018? Considering that the project is focussed on skills, it would be important to also focus on the people who are supposed to benefit from the skills and ensure that the challenges they are experiencing are clearly highlighted to ensure that the proposals align well with the challenges and are able to solve them. Covering skills needs for each scenario is a step in the right direction!  The reason behind highlighting the countries in Table 8 has not been highlighted therefore confusing to the readers.  Time frame: the reasons why the project decided to go for 2020-30 is not stated. It would be interesting to see if the scenarios would have been different if the time frame was increased from 2030 to 2050 to match with the EU’s Green Deal target of making Europe climate neutral by 2050.  The potential of rural areas was briefly mentioned in the scenarios but the important role they play wasn’t highlighted enough. These areas create many jobs in the agriculture and forestry sectors, offer recreation and ecotourism opportunities. It was mentioned briefly in the scenarios.  The authors should have also included a step in the methodology where they asked the project team to provide any missing trend to ensure that everything has been captured.  The summary in Annex 2 about the scenario studies from other projects is great! | | | | |
| 1. **reliability (e.g., is the information based on literature/field research?)** | | | **Score**: 100/100 | |
| The results presented are reliable since the data was obtained from diverse credible sources and using different methods hence minimising bias and ensuring that many important areas are covered.  The team did not try to re-invent the wheel but built on an already existing study from the Horizon2020 project Fit4Food2030 (Wepner et al., 2018), which is something that should be encouraged more so if they are relying on work from previous projects funded by the same source. Scenario analysis was also built from scenario development exercises by EU researchers in the past decade.  A lot of literature and policy documents have also been extensively analysed. | | | | |
| 1. **usefulness (e.g., are the outcomes/proposals applicable?)** | | | **Score**: 95/100 | |
| The outcomes are useful, the trends highlighted are exactly what is happening at the moment, none of them is out of place or irrelevant. Keeping the time frame short in this case up to 2030 has an advantage because there is a likelihood that the trends will continue therefore the scenarios presented are most likely going to take place.  The focus on EU followed by country level is also helpful because we know that the priorities for each country may not be the same with the other in as much as they are in the same region or are neighbours. | | | | |
| 1. **a) Has Sustainability domain of the project been adequately covered in the deliverable?**   *\*only for Sustainability External Expert* | | | **Score**: /100 | |
| N/A | | | | |
| **b) Has Digitalization domain of the project been adequately covered in the deliverable?**  *\*only for Digitalization External Expert* | | | **Score**: /100 | |
| N/A | | | | |
| **c) Has Bio-economy & Forestry domain of the project been adequately covered in the deliverable?**  *\*only for Bio-economy & Forestry External Expert* | | | **Score**: 90/100 | |
| The deliverable has done justice to the bioeconomy and forestry domain. Separating bioeconomy into agriculture, forestry and food industry sectors provides room for tackling them adequately. Focus on business models in forestry is crucial because this is something that tends to be overlooked many times but we need to focus on it because of the increasing demand for sustainably sourced forest products that is currently being witnessed.  It would have been interesting if trends that cut across the three sectors would also be highlighted in Table 2.  The results of the key issues for the scenarios in bioeconomy are interesting and would have been overshadowed by the others if bioeconomy way not focussed on separately.  Highlighting skills needs for bioeconomy under different scenarios and for different countries was useful!  What I missed were bioeconomy trends about the construction and fashion industries, they are growing so fast, I thought they would have been featured.  Very pertinent issues in forestry have been highlighted in the trends and scenarios as well as the skills. | | | | |
| 1. **Have the opinions of all responsible stakeholders been adequately reflected on the deliverable?** | | | **Score**: /100 | |
| N/A to this deliverable. | | | | |
| 1. **Has the methodology of the deliverable been described in a clear and adequate manner?** | | | **Score**: 95/100 | |
| The methodology has been very clearly described! No detail was left out, the names of the partners involved in the trend analysis at EU and country level was stated, aim was stated, definition of trends provided, list of trends identified and how they were applied to the four dimensions of the FIELDS study was stated. It’s good that literature and sector and policy documents analysed were not listed in this section but instead done in sections 2.3-2.6.  The aims should have been stated in a concise manner to make it easy to always double check if they have been achieved. A stronger justification on the need for the trends and scenario analysis should have been provided. | | | | |
| 1. Have the conclusions been clearly supported by the evidence presented in the deliverable? | | | **Score**: 90/100 | |
| The deliverable has provided sufficient justification for everything that has been presented! | | | | |
| 1. **Are the recommendations of the deliverable relevant, feasible, and/or useful?** | | | **Score**: 90/100 | |
| The identified trends and scenarios are very relevant. Climate change is the biggest challenge that many sectors have to deal with therefore focusing the trends on sustainability around climate change helps to identify very serious issues that the agriculture and forest sectors are currently facing.  Highlighting country specific trends, scenarios and skills needs increases the relevance of the deliverable. | | | | |
| **Overall satisfaction about the deliverable:** | | | **Overall Score**: 92.08/100 | |
| Very good! The results were very interesting and well described! I liked how the findings were focussed at EU level followed by country level. | | | | |
| Date of external evaluation review: | | | 07/08/2022 | |
| Signature/Name: A picture containing shape  Description automatically generated Juliet Achieng Owuor | | | | |

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| **Maximum number of points for a criterion** | **Range of scores** | | | |
|  | **Very good** | **Good** | **Fair** | **Weak** |
| 100 | 76-100 | 51-75 | 26-50 | 0-25 |