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Let's green, digital and animate rural inclusive territories (UP-RURAL!)
2021-1-RO01-KA220-VET-000034694

Asociația Grupul de Acțiune Locală Napoca Porolissum – RESEARCH

Result 1 - Work based learning survey for a practical, green and digital job "Community development officer"

The purpose of the research is to gather from the labor market the exact job requirements that will make a graduate productive shortly after employment. This will indirectly lead to increased employment potential, objective 4 of the project.

A. National data

At a national level, in Romania there is no standard definition for green skills. Each national document regarding green skills development mentions that they are defined as skills meant to reduce the impact that human activities have on the environment, according to the ESCO definition (The European Classification of Occupations, Skills and Competences).

Green economy is characterized in Romania as having low carbon emissions and being efficient in a matter of resources. Moreover, a green economy is defined as supporting peaceful interaction between people and environment while trying to fulfill the needs of both in the same time. In this area, there are defined six sectors to which green economy applies: renewable energy, green buildings, sustainable transport and water, waste and land management.¹

Romania has a National Strategy for Green Jobs 2018-2025 and an Action Plan for the Implementation of the National Strategy for Green Jobs 2018-2025. The first mentioned is meant to fulfill and meet the European needs at a national level. The Ministry of Labor and Social Justice initiated the steps to develop a public policy document with the aim of guiding and coordinating social policies to facilitate the creation of green jobs. In addition, the National Strategy for Green Jobs mentions a few strategic answers for green jobs to emerge: closing

¹ Marshall, E., January 2022, „Ce înseamnă economia verde?”, <https://ro.ripleybelieves.com/what-does-green-economics-mean-10460>



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skills gap, anticipating changes, guaranteeing transitions and promoting mobility, supporting job creation and increasing the data quality.

The economic sectors in which you can find green jobs are:

- + Energy. Renewable energy jobs are high-demanding as the need to make the transition to alternative energies, different from those with greenhouse emissions used so far, is arising.
- + Agriculture. Organic farming is also reducing greenhouse gas emissions and help preserve the environment. The agriculture-related jobs are encouraging the consumption of plant-based and natural foods, whilst reducing pollution.
- + Environment. Identifying and managing indicators which have an impact on the environment will help preserve the environment.
- + Design. From building roofs to designing eco-friendly packaging, these jobs will have a significant impact on reducing the damage on the environment.
- + Tourism. These jobs support the environment by promoting a green and ecological tourism.
- + Transport. It is no surprise when it comes to the transport industry being one of the most polluting sources worldwide, thus related jobs such as transportation engineering are among the future green jobs.

In Romania there is a quite present green job demand, for such as:

- + Environmental officer, who carries out plans in order to reduce the pollution and implements different kinds of environmental management systems.
- + Environmental engineer, who is focusing on improving the recycling methods, waste disposal, public health sector and air pollution.
- + Agricultural engineer, whose job is to develop new technologies agriculture or forestry-related, can work on scientific and technological research.
- + Tourism consultant, who can create recommendations for future tourists to support green and ecological tourism, from transportation to travel packages.



- ✚ Construction engineer, who is able to make a difference on the environment by selecting the materials that are being used, as well as choosing photovoltaic and solar panels. ²

Quantifying the number of green jobs in Romanian economy and anticipating their evolution are difficult processes to achieve. There has been few data collected over the years and that was used for the creation of National Strategy for Green Jobs 2018-2025. However, at a statistical level there is a figure that reflects the evolution of the people employed in the sector of environmental goods and services, data collected by the Romanian National Institute of Statistics between 2011-2014.

Year	2011	2012	2013	2014
Population	130,266	146,026	144,596	122,237

Table 1. Population employed in the sector of environmental goods and services 2011-2014

According to the NIS statistics, the demand for labor force does not indicate an important increase in the case of jobs in the green economy, for the period 2011-2016.³

Whilst the term „community development officer” has no stated definition in Romania, it is characterized as a person who has the role of improving the quality of life for various groups in the community by involving with council departments such as healthcare, housing, social services and community learning. The policy for community development aims to prevent issues like unemployment, discrimination, poor skills, low incomes, poor housing and to encourage social inclusion.⁴

Digital skills have become essential especially in this „digital” era we are living in. They are a set of skills meant to enable the use of information technologies safely and in an efficient way. Nowadays the digital skills are considered to be essential in the information society that we live in. Also known as e-skills, they represent the technical knowledge and

² February 2022, <https://www.bestjobs.eu/casual/2022/02/28/ce-este-un-green-job-locuri-de-munca-pentru-cei-care-vor-sa-schimbe-ceva/>

³ Ministerul Muncii și Justiției Sociale, 21.11.2017, „Strategia Națională pentru Locuri de Muncă Verzi 2018-2025”, <https://www.mmuncii.ro/j33/images/Documente/MMJS/Transparenta-decizionala/20171128-Anexa--Strategie-SNLMV-21112017.pdf>

⁴ <https://www.inputyouth.co.uk/jobguides/job-localgovernmentcommunitydevelopmentofficer.html>

skills that allow the use of different computer media correctly and effectively.⁵ Sadly, access to the internet and computers is still a critical problem at the national level in Romania, which has a major impact on the development of digital skills among young people. Regarding school curriculum, secondary school in Romania offers a dedicated course for digital skills. However, the curriculum is not aligned with the European Digital Competence Framework. It is mainly focused on working with Microsoft Office package, which is very helpful, but not enough. Also, teachers in this field consider that there are other school subjects more relevant than building digital skills, thus neither focusing on the curriculum, nor on the actual needs of the young. An even bigger problem is the fact that this curriculum is not available after secondary school for example in highschools with humanistic profile. In universities digital skills were nearly absent until the COVID-19 pandemic.⁶ Moreover, Eurostat has published earlier this year a statistic showing how many citizens had basic digital skills in 2021. Unfortunately, Romania occupies the last position among the other european states with only 28% of people aged 16-74 with at least basic overall digital skills.⁷

At a national level there is an analysis which states that digitization and robotization will bring over a milion new jobs in Romania over the next 10 years, which will be focused on creativity and support services in both public and private sectors. According to the economic analysis, the job at the bank has become uncertain, along with other professions such as broker, journalist or accountant. McKinsey Global Institute also suggests that worldwide 400 to 800 milions jobs will be lost to automation by 2030.⁸

B. EU data

The European Climate pact is a movement formed of people who fight for the same cause: building a more sustainable Europe for everyone. It has been launched by the European Comission and represents a part of the European Green Deal, helping towards a common EU goal, which is being the first climate-neutral continent in the world by 2050. In its initial form,

⁵ <https://ro.economy-pedia.com/11040825-digital-skills>

⁶ <https://www.digitalcitizens.net/analiza-privind-competentele-digitale-ale-tinerilor-romani/>

⁷ Eurostat, „How many citizens had basic digital skills in 2021?”, 30.03.2022, <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-eurostat-news/-/ddn-20220330-1>

⁸ <https://www.ceccarbusinessmagazine.ro/analiza-pestee-un-milion-de-noi-locuri-de-munca-vor-aparea-in-romania-in-urmatorii-10-ani-pe-fondul-digitalizarii-s9676/>



the pact is focusing on actions regarding specific domains that will offer immediate benefits for the climate, environment, health and citizens' well-being and green skills are one of them, along with green areas, ecological mobility and sustainable buildings.⁹ The pact will encourage businesses and organisations to get involved in the Pact for Skills whose aim is to help and re-skill workers.¹⁰

The ESCO (European Skills, Competences, Qualifications and Occupations) classifies the skills as follows:

Group colour	Definition – developed by the ESCO team	Example of string for training data (source)
Brown	knowledge and skills which increase the negative impact of human activity on the environment	Production of electricity by coal (<i>International Labour Organization, Skills for a Greener Future</i>)
White	knowledge and skills which do not increase nor reduce the negative impact of human activity on the environment	Test computer or software performance (<i>Australian Skills Classification</i>)
Green	knowledge and skills which reduce the negative impact of human activity on the environment.	Cogeneration of heat/cool and power from geothermal energy (<i>EU Taxonomy for Sustainable Activities</i>)

Table 2. Classifier for green skills¹¹

Based on the International Classification of Education Standards, most of the green skills belong to the following groups:

- ✚ Engineering, manufacturing, constructions: sustainable installation products, emission standards, types of wind turbines
- ✚ Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics: oceanography, ecological principles, biomass conversion

In the hierarchy of transversal competences, the five green ones belong to the same group: Life skills and competences, such as adopting ways to promote biodiversity and animal

⁹ <https://www.cjtimis.ro/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Pactul-verde-european.pdf>

¹⁰ https://europa.eu/climate-pact/about/priority-topics/green-skills_en

¹¹ European Commission, „Green Skills and Knowledge Concepts: Labeling the ESCO classification. Technical Report”, January 2022, http://www.anc.edu.ro/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/en_Green-Skills-and-Knowledge-Labeling-ESCO.pdf



welfare, adopting ways to reduce the negative impact consumption has, as well as assessing the environmental impact of personal behaviour.

According to the ESCO, some of the skills labeled as green are:

-  Informational skills
-  Communication, collaboration, creativity
-  Assistance
-  Managerial skills
-  Handling and movement
-  Constructions¹²

Green economy has many jobs with a high degree of participation, aiming to adapt to the new green reality. As a consequence of the decarbonisation of the economy and shifting to a green one, there are booming sectors with green jobs such as energy sector, agriculture, design, tourism and transport. Emerging green jobs are as follows: solar panel installation technician, drone engineer, operator in a renewable energy plant, sustainability supervisor, smart network manager, environmental scientist, recycling plant technician.¹³

C. Good practices

- a) ECO Bihor is considered to be a great practice in the green economy which aims to prevent the waste of resources. ECO Bihor society is based in Oradea, in the North-West region of Romania. The society has been established by KEVIEP Kft Hungary at the beginning of 2004, through a concluded contract between Oradea Local Council and KEVIEP. Through this partnership, all the waste generated at the county level from both the population and public institutions, is transported to ECO Bihor where it is further treated, recycled or stored in an ecologically controlled manner. The society

¹²<http://www.anc.edu.ro/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Rezumat-4-CONCEPTE-DE-ABILIT%C4%82%C8%9AI-%C8%98I-CUNO%C8%98TIN%C8%9AE-ECOLOGICE-CLASIFICARE-ESCO.pdf>

¹³ <https://www.iberdrola.com/sustainability/what-are-green-jobs>



exploits and administers for a 20 year-period the county ecological waste deposit, the sorting station and the mechano-biological treatment station. The waste goes through a modern technological process, which is carried out by careful mechanical and manual sorting in order to be transformed into secondary raw material. After sorting and bailing, the waste is delivered to specialized factories both in the country and abroad, where different types of materials are being recycled.¹⁴

- a. Contact details: <https://ecobihor.ro/prezentare/>, center@ecobihor.ro.
- b) ECOTIC is the first organization of producers and importers of electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) in Romania. Founded in 2006, its aim is to bring more efficiency in fulfilling the equipment's environmental responsibilities. ECOTIC manages waste of EEE on behalf of 700 affiliated manufactures and importers, ensures the collection, transportation process and recycling process of EEE with the aim that electrical and electronic equipment will no longer represent a danger. For the first time in Romania, ECOTIC has introduced the Green Stamp® symbol which has become a guarantee of EEE management.
 - a. Contact details: <https://www.ecotic.ro/despre-noi/>, office@ecotic.ro.

D. Interviews' analysis

The methods used for data collection consisted of semi-structured interviews with managers and experts of Local Action Groups or other potential employers of "Community Development Officers". These interviews took place online, with the participants signing a declaration of consent in advance.

1. Demographics

We have conducted interviews with 20 people, all of which born and living in Romania. Their age average is 38 years, but ranges from 22 to 60 years old. Among the interviewee's occupations we found that 20% are project evaluators, 15% work in rural development area,

¹⁴ <https://rocesp.ro/bune-practici/>



10% are social assistants, 10% are project managers, 10% are animators, 10% are trainers, 10% are LAG managers and the other 15% work as registry advisor, mountain rescuer and renewable energy expert. Their working experience ranges from 2 months to 16 years.

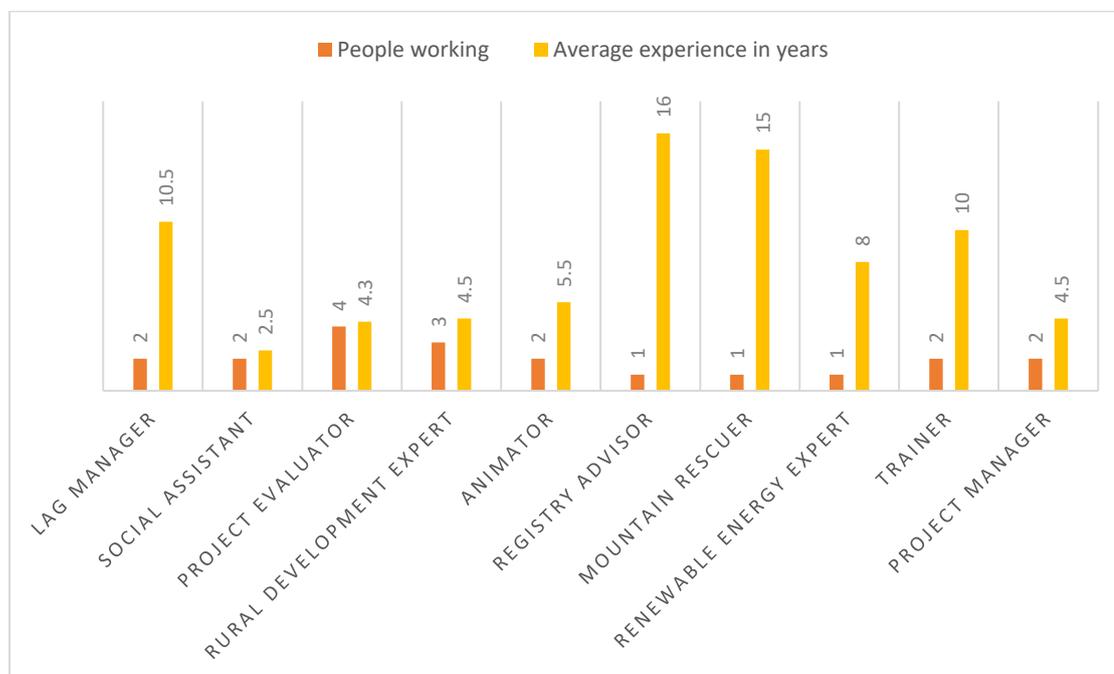


Table 3. Interviewees' occupations and their average experience

Among the most popular duties that the interviewees' have at their workplace we have found many common responsibilities, such as informing potential beneficiaries, project implementation, project monitoring, project evaluation.

Duty	Frequency
Informing potential beneficiaries	8
Project implementation	7
Monitoring projects, beneficiaries and activities	7
Project evaluation	6
Writing and submitting projects	5
Preparation of reports	4
Team coordination and activities	4
Making payments	2



Animation	2
Communication with third parties and management authorities	2
Preparation of business plans	2
Target group monitoring	2

Table 4. Interviewees' common duties at their workplace

However, some of the respondents have mentioned several distinct duties at their workplace, as follows:

- + Visiting elderly people at home and offering support for carrying out daily activities, as well as emotional support
- + Preparing social surveys
- + Obtaining the necessary documents to clarify the legal situation of disadvantaged persons
- + Reporting cases of abuse reported by disadvantaged people
- + Document archiving
- + Completion of the register
- + Being present 24/24 for 15 days a month at one of the rescue bases in the serviced area in order to prevent mountain accidents by maintaining tourist routes and paths
- + Providing support to tourists
- + Intervention in the event of an accident by tourists or locals
- + Carrying out actions to protect the environment
- + Writing course materials and training students
- + Coordination of study and observation activities of polluting factors
- + Activities to study renewable energy resources

2. Subject knowledge

The first question of this part targeted the interviewee's knowledge on green/ecological jobs. Each of the 20 participants answered affirmatively to this question, followed by their own



definition of green/ecological workplaces. It was expected that the 20 participants would know the terms, considering their occupations. According to the answers, the most common definition referred to green workplaces as a concept that promotes an approach oriented towards protecting the environment, followed by specific actions in this regard, as follows:

Participants' definition of green/ecological jobs	Frequency
Low energy consumption	6
Usage of modern and innovative technology	4
Selective recycling	4
Usage of alternative means of transportation	4
Responsible usage of resources	3
Compliance with EU pollution regulations	3

Table 5. Actions within a green/ecological workplace according to participants

The next question refers to participants' knowledge of green competences and their meaning. 19 respondents have defined the term as conducting specific actions that are eco-friendly and have a positive impact on the environment, such as selective recycling, purchasing eco-friendly equipments, encouraging green activities and volunteering in the field of greening. 1 respondent referred to the green competences as being communication related competences.

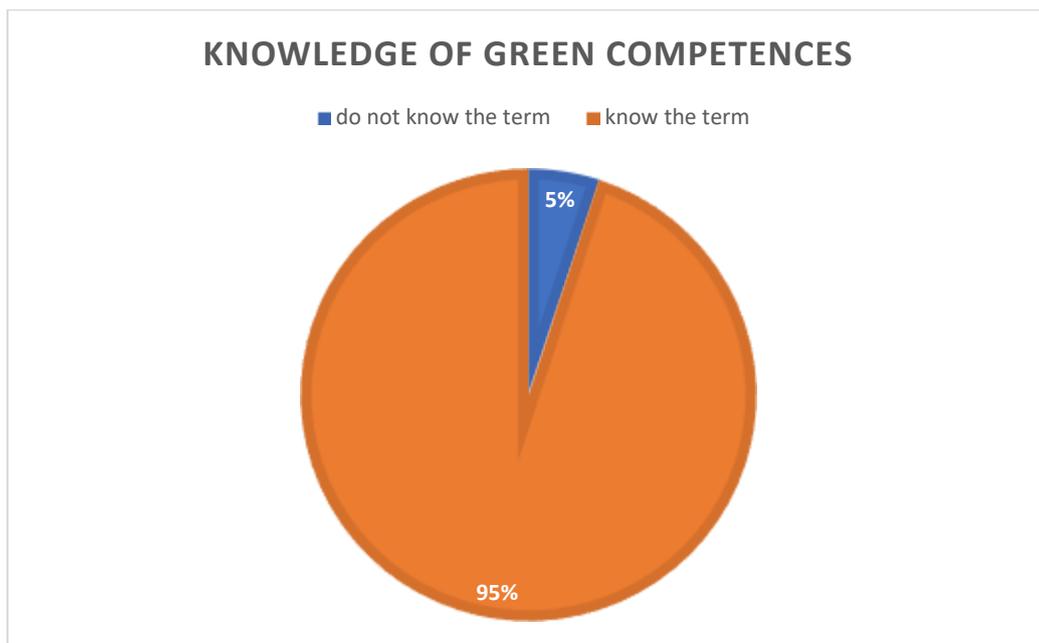




Table 6. Participants' knowledge of green competences

The 19 respondents have defined green competences as conducting specific actions meant to minimize the impact on the environment and implementing sustainable methods in order to protect it. Overall, the answers are comprehensive and include specific activities related to having a positive impact on the environment, as follows:

- ✚ Participating to greening actions, reforestation
- ✚ Selective recycling including equipment
- ✚ Promoting policies, measures and actions meant to prevent and reduce pollution and irresponsible consumption
- ✚ Purchase of photovoltaic panels
- ✚ Supporting the production of green energy
- ✚ Purchase of alternative means of transport
- ✚ Purchase of environmentally friendly equipment with low energy consumption which does not pollute
- ✚ Encouraging and participating in green activities and volunteer actions in the field of greening
- ✚ Encouraging and participating in reforestation actions
- ✚ Making employees responsible towards the usage of non-renewable resources
- ✚ Green management
- ✚ Organising green events

Further we have asked interviewees if they know what digital skills refer to. Giving the fact that we are living in a digital era, it came with no surprise that all of the participants not only know but also use the digital skills in their day-to-day life. Respondents have

Digital skills definition	Frequency
Ability to work with the computer	20
Knowledge of digital communication means (eg. Zoom, Microsoft Teams etc.)	11



Knowledge of data processing programs (eg. Microsoft Office, Adobe, Google Drive etc.)	9
Usage of the internet	4
Computer programming	3
Use of gadgets	3

Table 7. Participants' knowledge of digital skills

Participants have also considered the following when talking about digital skills:

- ✚ Use of electronic post
- ✚ Use of digital signature
- ✚ Web design
- ✚ Software development
- ✚ Solving cyber security problems

The next question targets interviewees' knowledge of the green economy. 20 out of 20 participants were aware of the term and they even implemented actions for this matter. Mostly they defined green economy as being environmentally friendly and taking climate changes into account, contributing financially to prevent and stop degradation of the environment. Participants mentioned which activities are involved from the point of view of the green economy, as following:

- ✚ Purchase of equipment with low energy consumption or that produces green energy using renewable resources
- ✚ Using alternative means of transportation
- ✚ Selective collection of waste
- ✚ Responsible use of resources
- ✚ Green travel
- ✚ Slow tourism
- ✚ Reforestation



- + Adoption of environmental protection policy
- + The reduction and elimination of subsidies granted for activities that affect the quality of the environment and their redirection towards the green economy

The next question refers to how green/digital skills generally influence jobs or the work environment. The participants have multiple and similar answers on both skills, showing that these have a significant impact in the working sector.

Influence of green skills on jobs/work environment

more environmentally efficient workplace
 reducing the irresponsible consumption of resources
 causes other employees to have a proactive attitude towards the environment

Influence of digital skills on jobs/work environment

increase both the efficiency of the work process and productivity
 reducing the use of resources (eg. paper)
 contributes to the increase of the quality level of the products and services obtained

Table 8. Influence of both green and digital skills on jobs/work environment

Further we have asked participants if there are any practical green actions that employees need to participate in during their employment, according to their knowledge. Not only do they know but also most of them are involved in such actions. The most popular answer is selective waste collection with a frequency of 16, followed by: the use of equipment with low energy consumption (13), reforestation activities (6), the use of technology in favor of the use of paper and various stationery products (4), usage of biodegradable materials (3), reducing the consumption of non-renewable resources (2), consuming from local producers (1),



organizing such activities to inform and raise awareness of the community in collaboration with local public institutions (1), cleaning green spaces (1).

Next we have asked participants if they know which are the soft skills that employees need to work to reach sustainability objectives, as well for digital communication. The respondents have had similar answers despite their work titles.

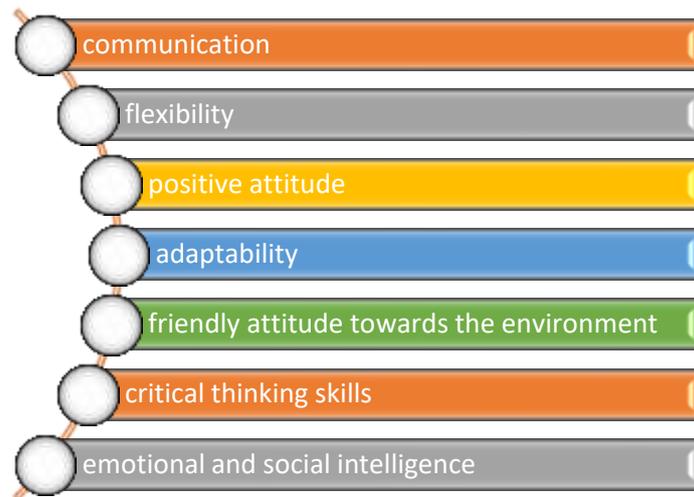


Table 9. Soft skills for sustainability objectives/digital communication

3. Job specific

On this part of the interview we have asked participants about the responsibilities with regards to digital communication and green actions in a Community Development officer’s role. An answer that turned out to be very popular was implementing campaigns in the community regarding environmental protection awareness, having a frequency of 16. People have also pointed out that is highly important to have a proactive attitude (f. 7) and to encourage the use of modern technological means (f. 6).

Responsibilities	Frequency
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Implementing campaigns in the community regarding environmental protection awareness	16
Having a proactive attitude	7
Encouraging the use of modern technological means	6
Being aware of the problems	4
Identifying solutions	3
Reforestation	2
Selective collection	1
Responsible use of resources	1

Table 10. Responsibilities with regards to digital communication and green actions in a Community Development officer's role according to the interviewees

Further we have asked participants if they are in knowledge of what are the employees' decisions that influence green and digital practices in the work place. Within the answers, the one that the respondents opted for the most was selective collection and recycling with a frequency of 12. Participants think that it is also important to use modern and innovative equipment that is designed according to the eco-friendly principle and respects the norms of the European Union, as well as limiting paper consumption in favor of electronic communication.

- selective collection and recycling
- the use of modern and innovative equipment that is designed according to the eco-friendly principle and respects the norms of the European Union
- awareness of the importance of saving energy resources
- responsible use of resources
- the use of alternative means of transport
- limiting paper consumption in favor of electronic communication
- proactive attitude
- learning ecology concepts in administration



Table 11. Employees' decisions that influence green and digital practices in the work place

When asked about the practical methods which employees must apply to increase the engagement from local communities towards green skills, participants gave both similar and non-similar answers. From their point of view, it is crucial that employees conduct greening actions for this matter. Teaching others to have a proactive attitude has also been a very popular answer among the respondents, together with:

-  Reforestation
-  Organising training events to raise awareness
-  Informing the community about green competences
-  Selective waste collection actions
-  Offer people the opportunity to involve
-  Earth hour-like actions
-  Start up projects for this matter
-  Developing an intervention plan together with local authorities and actors involved in environmental protection actions

It seems that employees perform digital communication and green activities easier with the help of digital tools. The respondents think that Zoom platform is the most useful one in our day-to-day life (frequency 19), mentioning that everyone gets to protect the environment by using the platform instead of traveling by car to the meeting place. Social media is next (f. 18), which includes Facebook, Instagram etc. The interviewees also opted for the following, in descending order of frequency: Skype (f. 17), Canva (f. 15), Trello (f. 14), Moodle (f. 12), Miro (f. 12), Microsoft Teams (f. 10), Google Teams (f. 7), specialty sites (f. 2), Whatsapp (f. 1), platforms which offer free courses (f. 1).

We closed the job specific section with asking the participants which work-based methods are considered by employers most effective in obtaining maximum productivity in short time. Training/improvement courses was the most popular answer with a frequency of 18, followed by internships (f. 5), a proactive approach (f. 3), internships (f. 3), continuous learning (f. 3), development of the teamwork (f. 2). Two people mentioned as well trial periods and job



shadowing as being effective methods in order to obtain highest productivity level in a short period of time.

4. Country specific approach

In this final section we focused on participants' knowledge about the existing approach on green economy in Romania. Overall, 18 respondents (90%) shared similar views, while 2 participants (10%) were not aware of their country's approach to green economy. The transition to a green economy in Romania, according to interviewees, is being attempted through the following measures or policies:

- ✚ The government assigns money for protecting the environment, for water cleaning, soil and to reduce pollution (frequency 9)
- ✚ The RABLA program for the purchase of electric cars, electrical and electronic devices with as little energy consumption as possible (frequency 7) - by granting a scrapping premium for cars that meet certain conditions, the RABLA Program is composed of: RABLA Classic and RABLA Plus. The rabla program is intended both for people who want to buy a car, either fuel, hybrid or electric, by offering an old car in exchange, but also for people who want to buy new household appliances, in exchange for old ones
- ✚ We rely on EU principles: green, digitized, sustainable. Attempts are being made to implement these policies, especially through European projects (frequency 5)
- ✚ There are energy efficiency programs for buildings; subsidies granted for green equipment that produce green energy, using renewable resources (frequency 4) – in addition, in the rural areas in the North-West of the country there are financing lines accessible to local residents to purchase and install systems for the use of renewable energies.
- ✚ Greening program: Let's do it, Romania! (frequency 4) - The organizers managed to mobilize over 1,900,000 volunteers in the 7 actions, transforming "Let's Do It, Romania!" in the largest social movement in Romania. In the



period 2010-2019, the volunteers managed to collect over 2,850,000 bags of waste, representing 22,700 tons. From 2010 until today, over 12,000,000 volunteer hours have been dedicated to the project. Among the volunteers who participated in the National Cleanup Day, 850,000 were students. At the national level, over 2,600 volunteers were part of the organizing team, all counties in Romania being involved

- ✚ The government encourages the principle of green travel (frequency 3)

Sectors in the government that deal with green economy/jobs/skills

- The Ministry of the Environment has various departments dealing with the environment: water, selective recycling, forests, nature protection, etc
- Ministry of Research and Digitization
- Ministry of Labour
- Ministry of European Funds

Private organisations/NGOs/ other entities that deal with green economy/jobs/skills:

- ✚ Greenpeace
- ✚ World Wildlife Fund (WWF)
- ✚ Environmental NGOs
- ✚ Awareness and greening campaigns run by local public administration
- ✚ Let's do it, Romania!
- ✚ Red Cross
- ✚ Ministry of the Environment, Waters and Forests
- ✚ Agency for Protected Areas

Participants believe that the most important, effective and useful mechanisms to foster green skills are partnerships between NGOs, environmental agencies and activists (most popular answer with a frequency of 19). These partnerships carry out programs that aim to protect the environment and reduce, and eventually eliminate environmental pollution. The



respondants also mention environmental reports as being effective when it comes to green skills fostering, along with projects dedicated to this objective.

When asked if Romania provides support to people or entities that foster green skills, it came with no surprise that EU funding is the most popular answer (having a frequency of 17). Programs and projects are funded through which the reduction of pollution is pursued and the elimination of harmful factors for the environment is attempted. There are many projects that offer benefits for devices with low energy consumption, for electric cars, for environmentally friendly actions. In addition, same as the EU, Romania adopts sustainability policies, such as green travel, green tourism, offering special bins for the selective collection of waste. Interviewees think that there is also a need for greater community involvement and accountability of employees and those responsible for such environmental actions, because it is imperative to promote the effects of environmental actions and the effects of pollution due to the irresponsibility and unconsciousness of many people who do not know the results of harmful actions on the environment. People need to be taught. Those who have this knowledge, related to the environment, could cooperate with companies or various institutions to make courses where those present will acquire green competences.

Other EU/national projects that deal with green skills	Frequency
LIFE program (run by Ministry of the Environment)	9
SUERD program (run by Ministry of the Environment)	9
POCU/Erasmus/cooperation projects	4
Life program	1
InfoClima	1
Pos Environment	1
Natura 2000	1

For the end of this research we thought it would be interesting to hear stories, impressions or testimonials from participants. A very popular recommendation is that Romania is in need of financing more programs and projects in order to support the green economy with everything it implies: responsible consumption, reducing pollution, eliminating harmful factors etc. Respondants agree that more programs must be carried out to raise the awareness of the population on these aspects related to the polluting factors and their elimination or reduction.



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In digital terms, there is a need for ICT training of teaching staff, professional training programs, including at the workplace; the use of as many digital programs as possible in institutions, a greater digitization of the services provided in all public and private institutions. As a general opinion, interviewees agree with the fact that we as population must be more responsible and have a proactive approach to the environment.

Finally, one of the respondents shared with us a brief description of a law from the United Kingdom, whilst emphasizing the need to adopt a good practice model in the context of the transition to a green economy:

„In Wales, part of the United Kingdom, there is a law (Earth Law) that directly encourages and supports the implementation of sustainable technologies and the use of renewable energy. A simplified description of it would be the following: If an individual, a family or a small community finds a public land that has no use, they can take it into custody. If in 5 years 75% of the energy and food needs are met only with the resources on the land and in the immediate surroundings, the land legally becomes theirs. They are established as rightful owners.”



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