



REPUBLIKA SLOVENIJA
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 ZNANOST IN ŠPORT



Andragoški center Republike Slovenije
 Slovenian Institute for Adult Education



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European
 Basic Skills
 Network

ACCESS TO BASIC SKILLS



Annual Conference of the
 European Basic Skills Network 2018

Individual assessment Education & Skills Online

Estera Možina
 SIAE, Slovenia
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ocenjevanje spretnosti
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Federal Ministry
 of Education
 and Research

DiE



AlphaDekade
 2016 - 2026



Content

- 1. Introduction and rationale**
- 2. About the instrument E&S Online**
- 3. The plan of implementation in Slovenia**



Program za
mednarodno
ocenjevanje
kompetenc
odraslih

Raziskava
spretnosti odraslih



Introduction and rationale



Slovenia some advantages

- Relatively **prosperous country** with a good quality of life.
- One of the **highest standards of living** in Central Europe.
- One of the highest levels of **income equality** in the OECD, behind only Denmark, Norway and Iceland.
- Comparatively high levels of **personal security**, a relatively **unspoiled natural environment**.
- **High educational attainment**.



Slovenia major challenges

- **Slow recovery** from the global financial crisis.
- **Decline in the employment rate** once among the highest in the OECD.
- **Ageing**, the size of the prime **working-age population shrinking** more rapidly than in most other OECD countries.
- **Smaller pool of workers to meet skills needs.**
- **Fewer wage earners** to finance growing age-related public costs, such as pensions and health care.



Concerns
about skills of
working age
population

24%
OECD

Two consequent international surveys looking into the quality of human capital showed **major backlog of Slovenia in the area of basic skills** (IALS 2000, PIAAC 2016):

33% = 400,000 adults of working age are low skilled

- 250,000 in the labor market for another 10 years;
- 140,000 for another 20 years



Three
immediate
responses to
skills concerns
in 2016

1. Initiation of **OECD Strategy** on the development and use of skills in 2017 - 9 different ministries participate.
2. Initiation of **OECD Education and Skills Online Assessment** in 2017.
3. Adoption of the **New Law on AE** in 2018.



OECD Skills strategy – Diagnostic report 2017

9 challenges as regards adult skills in Slovenia



Developing relevant skills

1. Equipping young people with skills for work and life
2. Improving the skills of low-skilled adults

Activating the supply of skills

3. Boosting employment for all age groups
4. Attracting and retaining talent from Slovenia and abroad

Using skills effectively

5. Making the most of people's skills in workplaces
6. Using skills for entrepreneurship and innovation

Strengthening Slovenia's skills system

7. Inclusive and effective governance of the skills system

8. Enabling better decisions through improved skills information
9. Financing and taxing skills equitably and efficiently

OECD Skills strategy

Participating
countries so
far

1. Austria
2. Italy
3. Korea
4. Mexico
5. The Netherlands
6. Norway
7. Peru
8. Portugal
9. Slovenia
10. Spain





About the Education and Skills Online Assessment



About the Education & Skills Online Assessment



Education & Skills Online assessment (E&S Online) is a joint OECD and European Commission initiative.

Created after 2013 following the first publication of PIAAC results.

E&S Online

Available in
the following
languages
so far

1. Czech
2. English (Canada, Ireland, US)
3. Estonian
4. French (Canada)
5. Italian
6. Japanese
7. Russian (Russian Federation)
8. Slovenian
9. Spanish



The skills assessed in E&S Online

Reading components

Literacy skills



Problem-solving skills in technology-rich environments



Numeracy skills



Indicators of skill use, career interests and intentionality, subjective well-being and health, behavioral competences.

Short questionnaire on the social background featuring demographic characteristics, social and language background, education and employment status



E&S Online a reliable and valid assessment tool



Extensive field test required

- Double translation and review of the items.
- 1200 participants from required target groups (age, education, employment).
- More than 33 institutions involved in Slovenia in order to test the procedural demands and usefulness of the assessment.

Field test
(2017)



E&S Online

Some characteristics

Based on methodology and population estimates of PIAAC, can be implemented in PIAAC countries only:

- immediate, valid and reliable results of individual skills needed at work and in private life,
- individual results comparable to national and international results,
- available on-line only,
- accessible via personal computer, technically undemanding,
- fee required (for authorization codes).



E&S Online:

Added value
to PIAAC
investment



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- Identification of specific needs of the individual.
- Long-term planning of individual education and career development.
- Assessment of general skills that are hard to measure.
- (relatively) Easy administration of the assessment for professionals that are not experts in basic skills.
- New insights into skills for those groups not (sufficiently) represented in PIAAC (65+, inmates, immigrants etc.).

E&S Online

Advantages and opportunities

- The results are synthesis of several aspects, enabling long term and more accurate planning.
- Skills analysis enable better match between the existing skills and future needs of the labor market.
- Effective tool for many institutions and services practically in all sectors and industries, gives insight into the quality of human resources, and thus makes more meaningful investments.
- Tool to support informed decision-making.



E&S Online

Possible weaknesses and hazards



- Online assessment only.
- The diagnostic report difficult to understand by some adults.
- Career, education and employment guidance is needed for low educated and low skilled.
- Misuse of results for partial purposes, e.g. negative employment selection.
- Reluctance of adults to take the assessment for the same reason they refuse to participate in education and training.



Implementation E&S Online in Slovenia



Implementation of E&S Online in Slovenia



The Ministry of Education, Science and Sport - support to 5-years development project 2018–2022 in line:

- Slovenian strategic documents,
- an intention to provide an individual assessment of basic skills ,as a right‘ at least once in a life time,
- upskilling pathways – enabling the first step – assessing the individual skills needs and thus opening the doors to targeted education and training.

E&S Online

The plan for national implementation



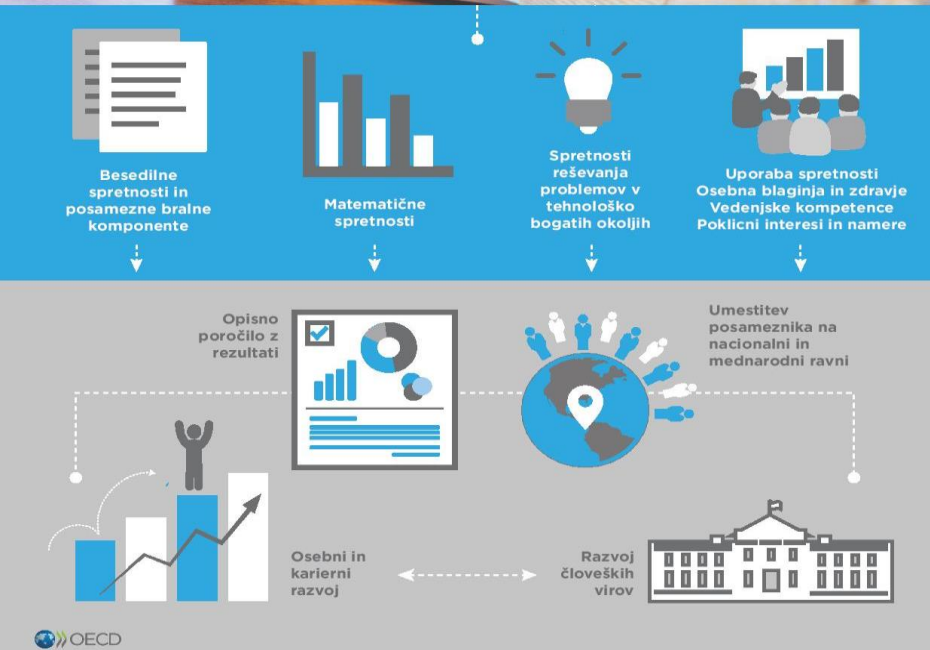
- A national contact point Adult Skills for organizational and technical support
- Analyses and annual reporting focusing on different target groups, sectors, geographical areas
- Development and training of adult education professionals in using the instrument
- Monitoring and quality control
- ‚Skills Lab‘ dealing with supply and demand of adult skills – connecting the researchers, guidance services, educators, representatives of chambers and , trade unions
- Promotion of the importance of skills of all groups of adults for social inclusion and participation in the labor market

The main
benefits and
potential users
of E&S
Assessment
foreseen
in Slovenia



The pilot confirmed the following potential users of the E&S Online assessment in Slovenia:

- employment services,
- employers,
- adult education institutions,
- other education institutions,
- government services,
- public or private companies,
- researchers,
- education and training providers,
- adults of different ages,



From this September on almost 20 000 adults in Slovenia will be able to take the assessment free of charge.





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Thank you for your
attention!

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