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UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI BERGAMO

Workshop on: Impact of Vocational Education and Training (VET) on Individuals, Firms, and Society

17 September
2025

9:15-17:45

Aula Castoldi,
p.le Sant'Agostino, 2
University
of Bergamo
Italy

The event is part of the communication and dissemination activities of the PRIN Project "Vocational Education and Training (VET) in the post-Covid world. Impacts of the dual system and tertiary vocational education on individuals and firms"

- Principal Investigator: **Simona Lorena COMI**,
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- Responsabile Unità Locale: **Federica ORIGO**
Dipartimento di Scienze Economiche, Università degli studi di Bergamo

9:15 | Welcome and Opening Remarks

- Prof. **Mariafrancesca SICILIA**, Deputy Rector for Research, University of Bergamo

9:30 | INVITED LECTURE

Developing a skilled workforce for the future: the role of vocational education

- Sandra MCNALLY**, University of Surrey & Centre for Economic Performance, London School of Economics, UK

10:20 | PAPER SESSION I: Apprentices and firm performance

Technology, Capital Vintages and Training. Role of capital investments in firm's skill formation strategy

- Mantej PARDESI**, **Frank CORVERS** and **Harald PFEIFER**

The More, the Merrier? Scaling Up and Firm Performance

- Agata MAIDA**, **Filippo PASSERINI** and **Daniela SONEDDA**

11:10 | Coffee break

11:30 | PAPER SESSION II: Secondary VET and school to work transition

Enhancing Employment Outcomes of Vocational School Graduates

- Alessandro FABBRI**, **Michele PELLIZZARI**, **Paola MONTI**, **Marika FASOLA** and **Tito BOERI**

Job Search Assistance for Vocational High-School Students: Evidence from a National Field Experiment in France

- Pierre CAHUC**, **Jérémy HERVELIN** and **Arne UHLENDORFF**

Does Work-based Learning Facilitate the School to Work Transition? Evidence from an Italian Reform

- Martino BERNARDI**, **Marco BERTONI**, **Giorgio BRUNELLO**, **Clementina CROCE** and **Lorenzo ROCCO**

12:45 | Lunch Break + PRIN Poster Session

Non-academic tertiary education. An in-depth pedagogical study of Higher Technological Institutes

- Virginia CAPRIOTTI** and **Andrea POTESIO**

Do ITS Academies play a Reactive or a Proactive Role in the Italian Skill Ecosystem?

- Paolo BERTULETTI**

The impact of tertiary VET on local sustainable development

- Arif ANINDITA**, **Simona COMI**, **Annalisa CRISTINI**, **Mara GRASSEN** and **Federica ORIGO**

Trimming Inefficiency while Rewarding Excellence. Labor Market Returns to Tertiary Vocational Education and the Role of Course Quality

- Simona COMI**, **Federica ORIGO** and **Elena VILLAR**

Trained for success? The Impact of Vocational Education Training on Labor Market Outcomes and Family formation

- Arif ANINDITA**, **Simona COMI**, **Mara GRASSEN** and **Federica ORIGO**

The Value of Dual Education in Italy: Evidence from the Apprenticeship Reform.

- Simona COMI**

14:00 | INVITED LECTURE

How does vocational education and training contributes to fair and sustainable migration pathways?

- Vidmantas TŪTLYS**, Vytautas Magnus University, Kaunas, Lithuania

14:50 | PAPER SESSION III: Skills and aspiration

Vocational Education and Training (VET) as a Tool for Personal Fulfillment and Social Redemption: An Analysis of Two Case Studies

- Virginia RIVA DE CAPITANI**

Beyond technical skills. Labour market returns to skills in tertiary vocational education using a LLM approach

- Simona COMI**, **Sofia NARDANDREA**, **Federica ORIGO** and **Federico SEGATO**

15:40 | Coffee break

16:20 | PAPER SESSION IV: VET, skill (mis)match and career choice

Matching Adolescents to Occupations: Evidence from an Interactive Online Recommender Tool

- Madison DELL**, **Patricia PALFFY** and **Uschi BACKES-GELLNER**

Vocational Education and Underskilling: Lessons from European Skill Surveys

- Caroline NEUBER-POHL**, **Giovanni RUSSO**, **Giulia SANTANGELO** and **Katarina ZIGOVA**

17:10 | Closing Remarks

Organizing committee:

- Arif ANINDITA**, **Paolo BERTULETTI**, **Virginia CAPRIOTTI**, **Simona COMI**, **Annalisa CRISTINI**, **Mara GRASSEN**, **Federica ORIGO** and **Andrea POTESIO**.



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