

Civil servants' training needs for supporting Sustainable Development

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Abstract: Having a capable public administration that can achieve and implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) represents a well-known condition recognised by international organizations, academia and practitioners. Civil servants are asked to play a key role in meeting the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, but in many countries, the way forward is conditioned by the important structural reforms. ECOSOC/CEPA recommends implementation of several principles for an effective governance for sustainable development with an accent on quality and high performance. In this regard, Romania is planning to become a regional leader in implementing the SDGs and the Department for Sustainable Development (institution that is part of the Romanian Government working Apparatus) designed in partnership with Romanian universities a training program that aims to build civil service skills for a successful SDG implementation. Taking into consideration this national programme, the objective of this article is to investigate the training needs, skills and competences of the future experts in sustainable development, which are part of SD Hubs to support implementation of 2030 Romania's National Strategy for Sustainable Development. The methodological framework combines a quantitative and qualitative analysis, based on the relevant data collected from the representative survey carried out in 2022.