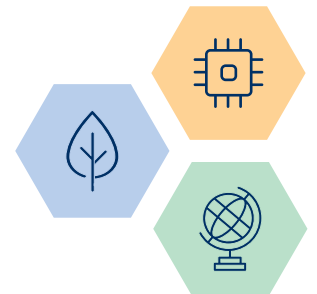


The nature of work is being rapidly and profoundly changed by digitization, automation, and artificial intelligence; climate change; and interconnected remote work.

In this new world of work, employers need people who can collaborate to solve complex problems, innovate, and work digitally. In response, EDC developed Future Proof Skills, a comprehensive work-readiness and skills-development program for higher education students and graduates to enable them to thrive in any type of work environment.



Youth Workforce Skills and Learning Outcomes

Moving beyond traditional technical skills, Future Proof Skills prepares students with the competencies, behaviors, and abilities required for today's and tomorrow's labor markets so they can join the workforce, be resilient in the face of change, and live sustainably.

IN FUTURE PROOF SKILLS, STUDENTS DEVELOP COMPETENCIES IN EIGHT SKILL AREAS

Resilience, Adaptability, and Continuous Learning

Collaboration

Critical Thinking

Creativity and Innovation

Digital Skills

Navigating Career Pathways

Diversity and Inclusion Skills

Green and Blue Skills

Impact

Future Proof Skills partners with colleges, universities, and TVETs to align academic programs, prepare graduates for local labor market needs, and strengthen local education and economic systems. It is highly adaptable and can be delivered by employers and private sector associations.

Liberia: By 2026, 2,600 youth from 11 institutions will have completed Future Proof Skills, graduating with improved job readiness, economic self-reliance, and resiliency.

Lebanon: EDC prepared 10 universities to enhance graduates' job readiness for local and global markets, training over 1,000

staff across 39 campuses in *Work Ready Now*, the predecessor of Future Proof Skills.

Vietnam: Vietnam National University will use Future Proof Skills for their new regional leadership training program.

How Students Learn Is as Important as What They Learn

Future Proof Skills uses work-integrated learning, in which students develop and implement workplace projects for local businesses, providing them with real-world experience solving problems and developing creative solutions.

This course prepares students for digital workplaces. Every lesson includes online and in-person components to increase students' comfort level in working digitally.

TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODOLOGIES



Blended learning:

- e-learning lessons
- In-person classes deepen learning



Student-driven learning:

- Self-paced learning requirements
- Opportunities to make choices



Work exposure:

- Workplace observations
- Informational interviews



Workplace projects:

- Work with a host organization
- Address a workplace problem
- Create a final product



Digital skills development:

- Improve a digital skill
- Aligns with skills and goals

COURSE STRUCTURE

Students progress through three phases: Career pathways, workplace project preparation, and workplace project implementation. Depending on the program, the workplace project process can follow career pathways or be done in parallel.

CAREER PATHWAYS

Students:

Identify local and global industry trends

Improve **core skills**: resilience, professional behaviors, emotional intelligence, and networking

Develop a career portfolio and a professional development plan

Evaluate and compare their skills to local demand

WORKPLACE PROJECT PREPARATION

Students:

Conduct informational interviews with workplace staff

Explore workplace problems

Co-create a workplace project

Develop a digital skill

WORKPLACE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Students:

Implement a workplace project

Apply a digital skill

Analyze data for decision-making

Consider **inclusion** and **environmental** factors

Produce a final deliverable

Supporting Youth to Address Climate Change

EDC is committed to supporting and integrating youth into the green and blue economies, empowering them in their efforts toward climate awareness and action.

INITIATIVES INCLUDE:

Environment, Climate, and Biodiversity of the South East Asia Region, developed with Columbia University: Using data-driven and practice-informed methods, youth explore environmental, climate, and biodiversity issues; develop foundational knowledge; and identify solutions.

Future Proof Skills for Leadership: With the aim to develop young environmental leaders, this training focuses on sustainability in the workplace and one's career path in the green and blue economies.

Leadership in Action: An adaptation of the workplace project process where young leaders tackle environmental issues in collaboration with local organizations.



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