

## ACTION SHEET



# Facilitating the free movement of people between countries of the Pacific Alliance (AdP) through the standardisation of professional skills

Line of action:  
**PROFESSIONAL SKILLS**

Subject area:  
**SOCIAL POLICIES**

Scope:  
**CHILE, MEXICO,  
COLOMBIA AND PERU**

## A CRUCIAL STEP TOWARDS REGIONAL INTEGRATION, ECONOMIC GROWTH AND IMPROVED COMPETITIVENESS

Belonging to one of the four countries of the Pacific Alliance (AdP), that is, Chile, Mexico, Colombia or Peru, and being able to work in the other three, is the objective of the process that is being undertaken regarding the standardisation of evaluation and certification systems of professional competences, which has the support of EUROsociAL+. The aim is that people's job qualifications can be recognised when, for reasons of personal motivation or job mobility, they move to another country of the Alliance.

The Programme's support is aimed at establishing an integrated system that allows the recognition of the labour certifications issued by

"The initiative promoted by the AdP reduces the asymmetry of information in the labour market and favours the employability of people" (Elizabeth Cornejo Maldonado, Director of Standardisation and Certification of Labour Skills, Ministry of Labour and Employment Promotion of Peru).



"The efforts of the AdP in the certification of labour competences are based on tripartite social dialogue, articulated with job training, professional technical training and the requirements and needs of the different productive sectors of our countries" (Francisco Silva Bafalluy, Executive Secretary Chile Valora).

the competent bodies in each of the countries according to the mandate of the presidents of the four countries of the AdP, who, in 2019, backed this action. To advance in this direction, the Programme has supported the creation of a network of experts from the Technical Labour Group of the Alliance, and the preparation, as a first step, of a comparative study of the 4 systems, in addition to the proposal of a shared catalogue of up to 30 professional profiles approved by the AdP. The comparative study has been enriched thanks to the analysis of other similar experiences in EU countries (Sweden, Spain, Italy, European Union), which has made it possible to highlight lessons learned for the process underway in the Alliance.

In the opinion of the EUROsociAL+ consultant and former director of Chile Valora, Ximena Concha, who has been part of the process together with the consultant Gloria Arredondo, "this process entails challenges,

“Each certificate of labour competence that we have issued tells a story of effort, dedication and personal improvement with the highest quality standards; they help the productivity and competitiveness of the region” (Rodrigo Rojas Navarrete, General Director of the National Council for Standardisation and Certification of Labour Skills – CONOCER – of Mexico).

because it involves agreeing on the rules of the game and knowing how each system operates to generate conditions of trust, legitimacy and validity towards the achievement of a framework agreement for the standardisation of professional competences in the AdP”.

## THE ADP COUNTRIES, COMMITTED TO ADVANCING TOWARDS THE STANDARDISATION OF PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

In December 2020, at the XV Summit of the Pacific Alliance, the four presidents of the AdP expressed in the final Declaration their satisfaction with the adoption of the Joint Declaration on a Partnership between the

### Key components of the EUROsociAL+ support:

- Creation of a Network of Experts to monitor and fulfil the presidential mandate.
- Carrying out a comparative study of the systems of evaluation and certification of labour competences of the AdP countries
- Proposal for a shared catalogue of standardised labour competences of AdP countries.
- General proposal for the operation of an AdP standardisation system for certifications of labour competences granted by the different national systems.

States party to the Framework Agreement of the Pacific Alliance and the European Union [...] which allowed the sharing of experiences on economic reactivation in the face of COVID-19, particularly in digital issues, in the implementation of the circular economy, in reactivating tourism and, in certification systems of labour competences.

On this last point - the certification of labour competences - Annex II of the Declaration of Santiago de Chile mandates the Technical Labour Group of the Alliance to “work closely with national labour competency certification institutions in defining the operating system for the standardisation of



“Getting to standardise this learning between our countries is another step that will allow us to facilitate labour mobility” (Andrés Uribe Medina, Vice Minister of Employment and Pensions of Colombia).

certifications granted based on the conclusions of the comparative study”, which represents the objective of a new phase of EUROsociAL+ support.

## VIRTUAL TRAINING OFFER IN TIMES OF COVID 19 FOR AFFECTED SECTORS

Within the framework of supporting the system for the standardisation of professional competences in AdP countries and in the face of the situation imposed by the pandemic, the EUROsociAL+ Programme supports the creation of a virtual training offer common to the four countries in sectors affected by the crisis (hotels, tourism and gastronomy). The purpose is to extend to the entire AdP region the training plans that countries have at the national level in this regard, to provide a global certification independent of the country from which the courses are received and create links with European institutions that teach training modules in the areas mentioned.

**Aim:** To strengthen the tourism sector through a shared offer of free online training courses and tools among AdP countries, focused on sectoral needs, promoting the future certification of the skills acquired and their recognition in each of the member countries.

The action contributes to

- Developing the offer that allows the strengthening of the competences of workers who, due to the pandemic, have suspended their functions in the sector.
- Providing a relevant offer for that group of people who will definitely not be returning to their functions in the same sector, providing tools so they can adapt their skills to suit other sectors.