



NORRAG

Network for international policies and cooperation in education and training  
Réseau sur les politiques et la coopération internationales en éducation et en formation



Réseau Suisse  
Education et  
Coopération  
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# Launch and online discussion of the study The Education – Training – Decent Work Continuum

## Date and Registration

**When:** Thu 30.09.2021, 14:00 – 16:00 (CEST/Geneva)

**Where:** Online – Registration [here](#)

**Interpretation:** Available in EN – FR

This study examines the Continuum approach to tackle discontinuities between the education, training and work fields through a selection of different projects by RECI members. At this event, RECI and NORRAG will present the revised and translated version of the study. [Register](#) to participate in the discussion about how to overcome discontinuities in different contexts for improved learning and equality.

Discontinuities between education, training and work create and reinforce exclusion and inequality for disadvantaged groups. The inequalities and exclusions resulting from discontinuities in learning and work biographies can be observed in all countries. The Continuum approach proposed in the study aims to overcome these discontinuities by enabling learners to move between education, training and work at any point in their lives and in any order.

Michel Carton, NORRAG Senior Adviser, who led the study, will present the [concept](#) of the Continuum and the study, after which the topic will be explored in three workshops (see next page).

After a plenary in which the main ideas arising from the three workshops will be shared, [Crain Soudien](#), former Professor of Education and African Studies and former Deputy Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Town and at present member of NORRAG Consultative Committee will provide concluding remarks.

In the spirit of inclusion and accessibility, the study, published in [English in 2019](#), has been revised and translated into French. Simultaneous interpretation into French and English will be provided.

Agenda 14:00 - 16:00

### Opening and welcome

*Dr. Moira V. Faul*, Executive Director, NORRAG, Switzerland

*Beatrice Schulter*, Executive Director, RECI, Switzerland

### Presentation

*Prof. Michel Carton*, Senior Advisor NORRAG, Switzerland

### Q&A with the audience

Moderator : *Beatrice Schulter*

### Group work

**Workshop 1: Learning to work, transitions of youth in the informal economy in Africa**  
*Christine Hofmann*, ILO

**Workshop 2: Intergenerational approach to education and training for socio-professional inclusion**  
*François Niada*, Helvetas and Sapiens

**Workshop 3: The Continuum in the Geneva system: what transitions to prevent or remedy discontinuities that youth are facing?**  
*Natacha Juda*, Conseil Interprofessionnel pour la Formation (Geneva) and *Yves Chardonens*, Espace Entreprise – Centre de formation professionnelle à la pratique commerciale (Geneva)

### Plenary: Reflection on key ideas from group discussions

### Q&A with the audience

Moderator : *Dr. Moira V. Faul*

### Forward looking perspectives

*Crain Soudien*, former Professor of Education and African Studies and former Deputy Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Town and at present member of NORRAG Consultative Committee

NORRAG is an Associate Programme of the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID) and is supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and the Open Society Foundations (OSF).

## Workshop 1

Learning to work, transitions of youth in the informal economy in Africa ([watch a video presenting this workshop](#))

*Christine Hofmann*, ILO

As enrollment in secondary and tertiary education increases in many African countries, large numbers of young Africans continue to acquire vocational skills in the informal economy. They learn from family or friends, or as informal apprentices. More and more countries are putting in place measures to help strengthen these training systems, which are firmly anchored in social norms and traditions, in order to build better pathways to decent work. The presentation will provide some country examples and show how validation of prior learning can improve informal vocational learning and also contribute to transitions to formality. This latter step is an important one in an education, training, decent work Continuum perspective.

## Workshop 2

Intergenerational approach to education and training for socio-professional inclusion ([watch a video presenting this workshop](#))

*François Niada*, Helvetas and Sapiens

The intergenerational approach to education and vocational training, far from being a conceptual fact, is a reality that is sometimes overlooked in education and training practices. Intergenerational continuity is based on the fact that an act of education or training for the benefit of one generation has effects on the other. Ignoring dependence or intergenerational influence in the education and training process limits on the one hand lifelong learning but also creates breaks in the chain of transmission and generational interaction – sources of inequalities and exclusion. Through this workshop, fueled by field experiences, we will question the existing education and training processes and suggest ways to take into account this intergenerational continuity which improves the quality and efficiency of learning processes – a first step towards an education-training-decent work Continuum

## Workshop 3

The Continuum in the Geneva system: what transitions to prevent or remedy discontinuities that youth are facing?

([watch a video 'Des immersions en entreprise pour les jeunes en décrochage' - in French only](#))

*Natacha Juda*, Conseil Interprofessionnel pour la Formation (Geneva) and *Yves Chardonnens*, Espace Entreprise – Centre de formation professionnelle à la pratique commerciale (Geneva)

Although Switzerland benefits from a renowned vocational training system, the fact remains that there are discontinuities in the education-training-work Continuum. The speakers will, through the reality of the Canton of Geneva, explain the discontinuities faced by students of the school system as well as enterprise-based apprentices wishing to enter the labour market. They will present the avenues explored in order to reduce these discontinuities. This presentation could stimulate a knowledge and experience cross fertilization process, whereby Geneva could draw some innovative ideas as presented in the other “South” groups.

## Further information

**Concept Note:** Inequalities, exclusions and discontinuities: towards an education-training-work continuum?

**Note Conceptuelle:** Inégalités, exclusions et discontinuités : Vers un continuum éducation-formation-travail ?

**RECI Study:** The education – training – work and employment Continuum in Swiss development cooperation (2019 study)

**NORRAG:** Webpage of the event

**RECI:** Webpage of the event

The revised 2021 study will be published after the event.