E.QU.A.L. Progress Report – Integration of info requested

***Q. 1 How come that implementation of WP2 (esp 2.2 and 2.3) and WP3 have been delayed? We understand that both were inverted and agreed it makes sense, but they were supposed to be both finished by now according to the initial proposal. I assume the timetable in the Quality Plan uploaded on the website indicates new dates/deadlines?***

The timetable attached to the Quality Plan is the one that, at the time of signing the contract, was updated considering the initial delay. It is on the basis of that one and of the observations emerged during the contacts with the partners that a new version has been prepared. Taking the opportunity of the response to the comments to the Progress Report, it was considered useful to upload the most recent version (Executive Timetable: <http://www.upskillingitaly.eu/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/TIMETABLE.pdf>) on the Website page dedicated to the presentation of the project (<http://www.upskillingitaly.eu/the-project/>).

It should be noted that this action was not considered necessary in the first phase, because it was considered useful only for internal reasons and not for broad dissemination objectives.

For the reasons explained in the Progress Report, the final result of the entire WP2 has been postponed, but this does not mean that some sub-activities have not been carried out in any case, since they were functional to the preparation of the Report foreseen in WP1. In particular, since for the activities 2.3 and 2.4 a description is given in response to the next question, regarding the Activity 2.2: *Identification of labor market relevant skills needs and learning needs*, the practices concerning the upskilling paths for workers and unemployed, that will be observed during the regional surveys envisaged in WP3, will be selected amongst those that have been started up, so as to properly match both individuals and labor market features and needs.

Each regional report will be introduced by a section describing the main local labour market trends and needs. Moreover, during the dissemination and sensitization campaign that is in progress, partnership members are emphasizing the importance of using the “Atlante del Lavoro” and the platform “Osservatorio delle Professioni” that, jointly with the Excelsior Survey results (national/regional figures collected by Chambers of Commerce), could be of support to better design the training and education supply for low skilled and low qualified adults.

***Q.2 Can you give a little bit more explanations on the work already performed for Activities 2.3 and 2.4?***

Concerning *Activity* *2.3: Scenario analysis, including social innovation and skills-biased technical change*, Inapp researchers are engaged in producing reports and organize events exactly on these issues. Specific paragraphs of the final Report will arise from these analyses.

To help and sustain the debate in the scientific and institutional communities, on the project website section a selection of papers and reports was uploaded and during the conference held Rome on 25th October 2019 (<https://inapp.org/it/eventi/competenze-abilità-e-conoscenze>), *beside the presentation of E.QU.A.L. offered by Claudio Vitali*, lectures from INAPP President (Prof. Stefano Sacchi) and from Dr Dario Guarascio and Dr. Manuela Amendola (E.QU.A.L. Research Team) was presented, concerning the consequences of digitalization and automatization in productive processes on competencies of workers and related upskilling and reskilling needs.

concerning*Activity 2.4***:** *finalisation of a model to identify sub-groups of low-skilled to be given*priority**,** the analysis carried out starting from the available data - sources LFS and PIAAC (national microdata) - has already enabled the preparation of a contribution that is already part of the stocktaking report foreseen in WP1 (currently in the translation phase).

Waiting to conclude the actions related to the entire WP2, postponed to the end of the fieldwork on a regional scale (WP3) - as already communicated in the Progress Report -, crossing indicators related to level of mastery in literacy, numeracy and digital competences, educational attainment, position in labor market and migrant background were defined some groups considered to be at risk (therefore, not necessarily priority, also following the indications received from the National Authorities during the drafting of the Implementation Report of the Upskilling Pathways Recommendation, in which it clearly emerges that interventions for low skilled and low qualified adults are independent of particular situations and a priority ranking definition). These “at risk” groups are:

* unemployed, retired persons and those who carry out unpaid household and care activities
* employed who carry out low value-added work
* People from disadvantaged socio-cultural backgrounds
* migrants
* Young adults who have left education early
* Young adults (Not Education, Employment or Training) - not covered by Youth Guarantee

***Q.3 Was there a launch event (activity 1.5) and when? Could you please make a small list of which events have taken place already, number of participants, date, place and purpose? It is not very clear from the report.***

The expected launch event, in view of the delays accumulated during the signing of the agreement, has been replaced by a communication method based on a different strategy, reaching, however, a greater number of potential recipients. In a first implementation phase, the sensitization and information objective of E.QU.A.L. foresaw a predominantly institutional target, that is, stakeholders entitled to design and implement policies or, in the case of the social partners and third sector organizations, to orient them: it was in fact, in the original conception, first to start a reflection on the contents of the Recommendation and subsequently to accompany its implementation at national level and in all relevant sectors. In a second phase, the dissemination and broad information action would also have involved operators, experts, teachers and trainers: this would have been made possible by the availability of interesting products and deliverables also for this broader target.

Furthermore, the same lines of action foresaw a more direct involvement of these target groups (for example, the observation of practices envisaged in WP3 would have offered the opportunity to intercept even operators and practitioners active on the territory).

Therefore, with respect to the more institutional target group, it is useful to remember how the project had already been presented at the II workshop (MLW) held in Rome in April 2018, to which participated, in addition to the delegations of other 6 EU countries, also the members of the Italian delegation representing the Ministries of Labor and Social Policies and Education, University and Research, Regions, Social Partners, ANPAL, Training providers and Indire (managing Epale Platform).

At the time of the formal approval and signing of the agreement, each institutional partner (Region of Lombardy, Region of Lazio and Autonomous Province of Trento) arranged for a presentation and approved the text uploaded on the Home Page of the INAPP site through which the broader public was officially informed about the launch of the project (https://inapp.org/it/inapp-comunica/notizie/inapp-vince-la-call-europea-easi-progress). Note that (according with Google Analytics data, the Inapp site has been visited in 2018 by 53.956 diverse users, with 290.390 contacts (more than 24.000 per month in average).

It is also to be remarked that the project start-up phase coincided with the period in which the MS were asked to produce the Implementation Report of the Upskilling Pathways Recommendation. Its preparation, the contents of which were largely coincident with those of the Report envisaged in WP1, was largely supported both by the National Coordinator of the European Agenda for Adult Learning and by the EQUAL scientific committee, which met for the first time in June 2018 (see minutes on the project website <http://www.upskillingitaly.eu/2018/10/25/e-qu-al-has-started-the-kick-off-meeting/>).

Conference held in Rome on October, with more than 120 participants, has been mentioned (<https://inapp.org/it/eventi/competenze-abilità-e-conoscenze>)

The Province of Trento also presented the Project during the Seminar organized by the University of Florence on November 13th, 2018, International Conference "Ecology of employability: Organization of Employment Centers" (more than 120 participants). Materials and presentation will be soon uploaded on project website.

***Q.4 A deliverable was uploaded on the website entitled “La Formazione per una nuova fase del mercato del lavoro: la situazione e le prospettive a livello locale” but it is not clear to which activity it corresponds. Could you please clarify?***

The content of the requested in-depht information has stimulated the rethinking of the structure of the website contents. In fact, the choice to have an easily navigable tool, with a light architecture, has obviously penalized the necessary clarity of those who are most interested in verifying the regularity of the implementation process. It was therefore decided to associate to each published text an explicit reference to the WP concerned (at least predominantly). If this appears extremely useful for the Results section (sub sections Deliverable and Outputs: <http://www.upskillingitaly.eu/project-outputs/>), this approach has also been extended to the Resources section (<http://www.upskillingitaly.eu/resources/>). This part of the site is in fact dedicated to the collation of documents that are believed to be generically supportive to all those who work (as practitioners or experts) in the Project intervention sector, providing them with a thematic selection.

As regards, therefore, the contribution mentioned in the question, besides being associated with the reference WP (see # WP1 <http://www.upskillingitaly.eu/resources/>), it is a text that not only appears briefly in the Report of WP1, but which also constituted one of the bases to guide the realisation of the Trento Seminar on March 21st (not mentioned in the Report because not pertaining the period considered).  
In addition, some concrete actions that the Province of Trento carries out to support the upskilling paths for adults (mainly unemployed) in their own territory, are synthetically presented: some of these activities will be the subject of further study during the implementation of WP3.