

## **Skills Development: Attitudes & Perceptions**

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This international survey explores the key issues, challenges and foci of both employers and professionals working in the skills development arena, with the aim of using the results to improve the policy and practice of skills development internationally. The research took place in four stages: desk research, qualitative research (focus groups and in-depth interviews), quantitative research (survey) and synthesis of results. Four concerns common across countries were found – quality of provision, supply and demand of skills, employer engagement, and the esteem attached to vocational education and training. Detailed highlights include:

- Employers believe that vocational education and training gets employees ready for the workplace, and that they get a return on their training investment.
- Esteem is improving, but the biggest perceived barrier to higher esteem lies in parental attitudes.
- An international 'skills crisis' presents challenges for future skills policy.