# MDEC's Enhanced Digital Skills Training Directory Helps Companies in Digital Reskilling and Upskilling

- *Launched on 24 August 2020, the Digital Skills Training Directory serves as a one-stop guide to digital reskilling and upskilling*
- *Catalogue of courses and online training providers have been reviewed and endorsed by MDEC's Talent Expert Network*
- *Updated and enhanced Directory includes new Learning on Demand category, featuring a list of nine MOOCs (massive open online courses) platform partners*

**CYBERJAYA, 16 AUGUST 2021:** There is urgent need for companies to reskill their workers in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting shift in socio-economic norms.

According to a [2021 McKinsey Global Survey](#), most respondents say that skill building – more than hiring, contracting or redeploying employees – is the best way to close the skills gap across industries. These companies have also doubled down on their efforts to reskill or upskill their employees since the pandemic began.

Reskilling and upskilling employees is also vital for companies embracing digitalisation. [The Future of Jobs Report 2020](#) by the World Economic Forum indicated that the COVID-19 pandemic has greatly accelerated the digitalisation of work processes, which increases the necessity of upskilling and reskilling employees in digital skills.

The report additionally forecasted that 50 percent of all employees will need reskilling by 2025. The skills in demand would be Data Analysts, Scientists, Internet of Things (IoT) Specialists, Digital Transformation Specialists, and Cybersecurity Specialists.

"There has never been more urgent need for companies to reskill and upskill their employees. This doesn't just concern large companies – a 2019 SME report from Huawei Malaysia revealed that 48% of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) recognise they lack digital skills," said Dr Sumitra Nair, Vice President and Head of Digital Skills and Jobs, MDEC, Malaysia's lead agency in digital transformation.

"While there are increasingly large numbers of training and reskilling resources that companies can tap into, finding the right course or online training provider can prove challenging. The Digital Skills Training Directory, launched by MDEC, helps companies to more easily discover training courses that meet their reskilling and upskilling needs," Dr Sumitra continued.

Launched in 24 August 2020, the Digital Skills Training Directory serves as a one-stop guide to digital reskilling and upskilling. It is a catalogue of courses and online training providers that have been specifically reviewed and endorsed by MDEC's Talent Expert Network (TEN) to guide talents in selecting courses that meet their career needs for jobs in the digital economy. TEN consists of a group of industry representatives who are subject matter experts in various digital technology domains.

For 2021, the Digital Skills Training Directory is categorised into three types of courses: Work and Learn, Career Upgrade, and Learning on Demand. The latter is the latest addition to the Digital Skills Talent Directory, coming with a list of 9 massive open online courses (MOOCs) platform partners. They are Centre for Finance, Technology and Entrepreneurship (CFTE), OpenLearning Global (M) Sdn. Bhd, LinkedIn Learning, EC-Council CodeRed, Leaderonomics Digital Sdn Bhd, 360DigiTMG (AiSPRY), Akademi GA Sdn Bhd, SAS Institute Sdn Bhd and LTT Global Communications Sdn Bhd.

Now updated and enhanced, the Digital Skills Training Directory has recently been expanded to offer 250 courses, covering the following focus areas:

- Data science (56 courses)
- Cybersecurity (44 courses)
- Animation (19 courses)
- Game Development (5 courses)
  Software Development (56 courses)

Digital Global Business Services is the latest focus area with 77 courses introduced.

The Directory has been recognised by the Social Security Organisation (SOCSO), and will fund up to RM4,000 per person for selected courses pursued by Employment Insurance Scheme (EIS) members who are receiving unemployment benefits. Courses offered by HRDC-approved Training Providers have also been highlighted to help employers to identify courses that can be funded via HRDF levies.

Additionally, selected courses offering certification are also eligible for funding of up to RM7,000 under the PENJANA 2.0 Hiring Incentive (RM4,000 max for the apprentice category).

Training courses listed on MDEC's Digital Skills Training Directory can be funded under the MyDigitalWorkforce Work in Tech (MYWiT) initiative, a training and hiring incentive programme aimed at developing quality tech talents as well as boosting the digital business services sector.

An extension of the #MyDigitalWorkforce Movement launched by MDEC last year, the initiative aims to upskill and subsidise talents and businesses with RM100 million in training and salary incentives. Under this initiative, there are 2 programmes: Digital Business Services (DBS) and Digital Tech Apprenticeship (DTA). Besides salary subsidies, companies participating in DBS can choose courses listed in "Work and Learn" or "Learning on Demand" and claim training incentive up to RM5,000 per pax and for DTA companies can choose courses listed in "Career Upgrade" and claim training incentive up to RM8,000 per pax. Companies can apply for MYWiT at https://mdec.my/mywit/.

"Through initiatives like the Digital Skills Training Directory and MYWiT, MDEC continues to pursue our mandate in support of the Malaysia Digital Economy Blueprint (MyDIGITAL), as well as MDEC's own vision of a Malaysia 5.0 – a nation deeply integrated with technology that empowers sustainability, inclusivity and shared prosperity," concludes Dr Sumitra.

Companies and individuals seeking for more insights on digital jobs and skills can look forward to the #MyDigitalWorkforce Week (MDWW), set to happen on 16 to 30 August as part of the Malaysia Tech Month 2021 (MTM'21).

MDWW is featuring digital jobs expo, webinars by hiring companies and training partners organising satellite events as well as training sessions. Those interested can register for MTM'21 at https://mdec.my/mtm2021/

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**About Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC)**

Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC) is the agency under the Ministry of Communications and Multimedia Malaysia leading the nation's digital transformation for 25 years. MDEC's agenda is **Malaysia 5.0**, enabling a nation deeply integrated with technology, providing equitable digital opportunities to the people and businesses.

In order to achieve this, we will focus on four key thrust lead DIGITAL thrusts, **N**ew skills, **A**doption, **D**isruptors and **I**nvestments. This forms the basis of our NADI Digital brand campaign, that will drive our core programmes for the rakyat, business and investors. MDEC's aim is for Malaysia to become a globally competitive digital nation, anchored on inclusivity, sustainability and shared prosperity, firmly establishing Malaysia as the Heart of Digital ASEAN.

**#Malaysia5.0 #NadiDigital #SayaDigital #MHODA #MyMDEC**

To find out more about MDEC's Digital Economy initiatives, please visit us at www.mdec.my or follow us on: Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/MyMDEC/ Twitter: @mymdec

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