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Significance of employee training and development programs for skill enhancement, career growth, and employee retention

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Abstract

Introduction: For understanding the efficacy of employee training and development, the empirical study is constructed. The study is aimed at the effectiveness and need for employee training across the globe. Information has been provided regarding annual spending on employees worldwide.

Literature Review: Several past pieces of research have been analysed with minute details to make out the effectiveness and factors of employee training. The issues and feasible recommendations have also been conferred in this section. The need for external partnerships is highlighted along with the Felder-Silverman learning style model.

Methodology: 13 questions have been framed followed by using the responses of 60 individuals who are currently employed in the MNCs. the primary source of information has been beneficial for the overall study in the present research. Besides, IBM SPSS software has been used to determine the relationship of the selected variables.

Results and Analysis: It has been found that employee training and development significantly contributes to the skill development, and growth of the employees.

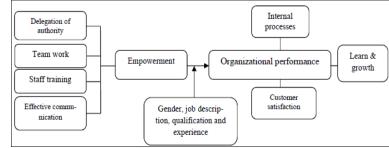
Discussion: Information concerning to the success of employee training and development is mentioned in this section.

Conclusion: The entire study has been concluded with the gathered information from each section in an abridged way.

Keywords: Employee training and development, skill building, employee retention, growth, L&D, cognitive consciousness, green behaviours, turnover intention, e-learning model

Introduction

Improved capacities, skills along knowledge of the talented employees can provide a broad source of competitive advantage in the global market. Employee motivation and commitment are the prerequisites of effective training programs resulting in long-term planning, formulation of new skills, and improvement the employee performance. As per the notion of Ali *et al.* (2019) ^[2], necessary works related to customer satisfaction along with product quality and events are essential which require proper employee training and development programs to accomplish maximum potential. The accomplishment of any organisation can be relayed to the employees where retention is paramount. Additionally, companies need to ensure adequate employees to be competitive and financially dominant with the inherent benefits (Al-Omari *et al.* 2020) ^[3].



Source: Al-Omari et al. 2020 [3]

Fig 1: Internal process of staff training

Corresponding Author: Dr. K Devi Department of Commerce, DAV Autonomous College, Titilagarh, Odisha, India Figure 1 depicts the integral relationship between employee empowerment and organisational performance with proper learning and growth. On the other hand, explicit knowledge and tacit knowledge need to be passed to the employees in a well-structured way with well-designed traditional training to increase the organizational business process (Munoz-Pascual & Galende, 2020) [13]. [Refer to Appendix 3]

Work-life conflict and the role of trainers play a significant role in determining a superior level of employee performance from all aspects. Experiences must be encouraged with the trainer's plan with a sophisticated learning and Development (L&D) team along with a support group and a raining budget. Information overload, workforce resistance, and employee roadblocks have become common challenges in the era of uncertainty. In this context, 46% of the HR managers possess specific training whereas 67% hold an enhanced L&D Budget in 2022 (Forbes, 2022) [7].

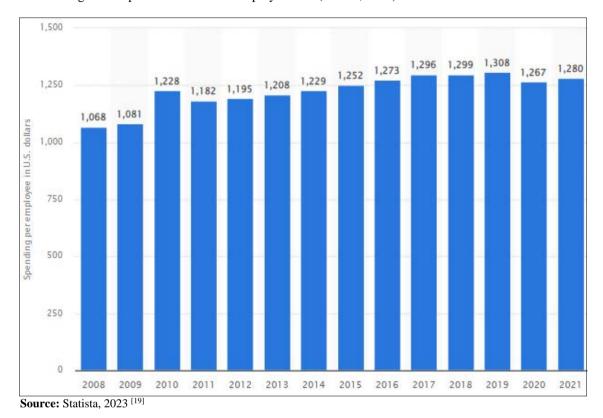


Fig 2: Average spending on workplace training worldwide

As shown in Figure 2, the average spending on employees in L&D steadily increased between 2008 and 2019 reaching nearly 1300 USD per worker. Henceforth, L&D has a significant effect by becoming a competitive differentiator for current and future employees leading to mental health and life skills.

Aim

The focal point of the research is to assess the importance of employee training and development programs to heighten skill, and career growth, and retain employees.

Research objective

RO1: To explain the importance of employee training and development programs

RO2: To evaluate the contribution of employee training and development programs on skill development and career growth

RO3: Analysing the factors impacting various training and development programs of the employees

RO4: To detect different issues of employee training and provide recommendations for those issues

Research question

RQ1: Why employee training and development programs are important for career growth and skill enhancement?

RQ2: What are the contributions of employee training and development programs on skill development and career growth?

RQ3: What are the factors impacting various training and development programs of the employees?

RQ4: What kind of issues is present in employee training and what are the feasible ways to get rid of those issues?

Literature review

Contributions to employee training and development programs for the current and future employees

Employee training and development play a pivotal role in terms of job performance and job satisfaction. In accordance with Ozkeser (2019) [14], individual and organisational productivity have an intricate connection to the decision-making and problem-solving skills contributed by training. On the contrary, Ababneh (2021) [11] indicated that the sustainability initiatives of organisations can be heightened with cognitive consciousness, management, and appraisal of environmental issues related to the in-role and extra-role

behaviours of the trainers. Besides, motivation aspects and green behaviours are also developed with sophisticated training. Therefore, employee training and development can go a long way in the path to organisational success.

Importance and factors contributing to employee training and development programs

Robust corporate training and development programs must be aligned with the company goals and objectives by conducting a gap analysis. As claimed by Rawashdeh & Tamimi, (2020) [16], organisational commitment and turnover intention play a significant role in determining the quality of training provided. Additionally, the selection of the right training tools augurs well to evaluate, measure, and track the progress of training. Contradictorily, Stachová *et al.* (2019) [18] stated that inflow and outflows of knowledge along with external partnerships are influential in terms of dealing with the Industry 4.0 paradigm. Hence, necessary staffing structure and new knowledge are essential and important factors in employee training these days.

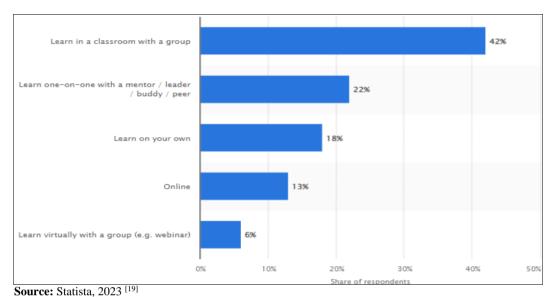


Fig 3: Most preferred workplace learning methods

Figure 3 highlights that classroom learning is considered one of the most preferred methods followed by one-on-one with a mentor with 42% and 22% responses respectively.

Issues persist regarding employee training on growth and skill development

A number of challenges crop up while employee training and development go on in the form of ample time and the content of training materials. As imprinted by Stachová *et*

al. (2019) [18], the dispersed workforce and relevance of the entire training procedure can affect employee development and attract new employees. Moreover, the instructor-led sessions can be ineffective which can be a hindrance in finding the right SMEs. As opposed by Bragg *et al.* (2021) [5] (Source: Statista, 2023) [19] a tight budget can be a limiting factor when employee training is considered. Along with this, insufficient bandwidth can be a serious issue in putting the training together.

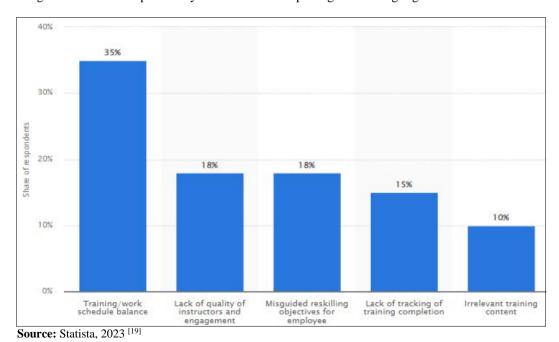


Fig 4: Employee training challenges

As shown in Figure 4, employees find it difficult to find the proper training and work schedule balance along with a lack of quality instructors and irrelevant training content.

Feasible recommendations to alleviate the challenges of employee training and development programs

It is not difficult to understand that top-notch instructors are supposed to be present with high-quality materials with an indelible focus on micro learning and relatable scenarios. Additionally, the adopted e-learning model can be worth its weight in gold with self-regulation strategies of ESD or education for sustainability and development (Zhang *et al.* 2020) ^[23]. Besides, bringing ready-made courses and course creation processes are highly influential in bringing the remorse workforces together. Lastly, digital advancement is an integral factor in the training process to foster critical thinking and professional development.

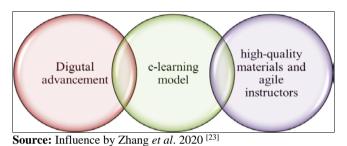


Fig 5: Recommendations for employee training

From Figure 5, it is ascertained that e-learning, the role of the instructors, and above all technological advancement have become growing concerns in several SMEs.

Felder-Silverman learning style model

This model can be effective in employee training and development with the step-by-step delivery of information. Moreover, his model is highly inclined to connect the dots that are present between the information. The whole way of processing information can be attained with this model with different learning styles based on individual preferences (Hidayat & Utomo, 2020) [8]. Lastly, the four dimensions of this model are highly influential in understanding and processing information.

Methodology Data collection

In the present study, primary data sources have been considered. As claimed by Ibrahim *et al.* (2021) ^[9], reliable and relevant information collection is fundamental for producing a reliable outcome of the study. In his context, 60 participants were selected by the process of random sampling method with unbiased data. All 60 participants are employees of different categories in the corporate sectors as the individuals have ample knowledge for the research. Questionnaires are considered an important tool for the study to execute the research work with the demographic

and descriptive analysis. Therefore, a reliable outcome for the entire study has been presented with the analysis of collected information with the 13 questions.

Data analysis

A quantitative method of analysis was considered to meet the aim of the study significantly. Quantitative analysis aids in producing a reliable outcome with the analysis of statistical data (Kabukcu & Chabal, 2021) [11]. Moreover, quantitative analysis can provide a better perspective of the relationship between various factors. For an effective analysis of the collated data, IBM SPSS Software has been used in the form of ANOVA, correlation, and regression to present the relationship between dependent and independent variables.

Data can be considered a salient aspect of the execution of the research work followed by data analysis which is gathered to enlighten the purpose of the study. The outcomes of the tests, on the other hand, are helpful in determining the effectiveness of the whole research process which is implicated in executing the research procedure. The 60 participants were surveyed for analysing their viewpoints related to the invention topic.

Findings

Demographic Profile Analysis

A detailed analysis of the "Demographic Profile" is constructed in this section by the investigator. As per the view of Feil *et al.* (2020) ^[6], demographic analysis is considered beneficial to examine and analyse the adequate parameters regarding "individual demographic phenomena". The personal opinions of the respondents underline the "significance of employee training and development" through the consideration of different demographic parameters in the form of "gender, age, and position in the company" aiding in escalating the authenticity.

Gender

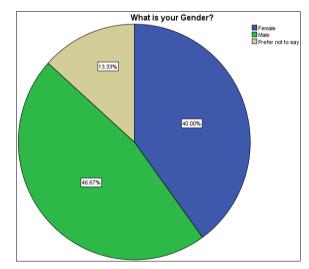
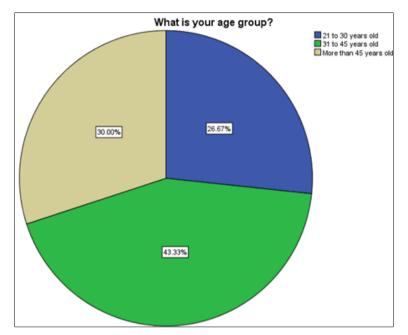


Fig 6: Gender of the respondents'

Table 1: Table related to gender

	What is your Gender?											
		Frequency Percent		Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent							
Valid	Female	24	40.0	40.0	40.0							
	Male	28	46.7	46.7	86.7							
	Prefer not to say	8	13.3	13.3	100.0							
	Total	60	100.0	100.0								

Age



 $\textbf{Fig 7:} \ \text{Age of the respondents}$

Table 2: Table related to Age

		What is	your age group	9?		
		Frequency Percent		Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent	
Valid	21 to 30 years old	16	26.7	26.7	26.7	
	31 to 45 years old	26	43.3	43.3	70.0	
	More than 45 years old	18	30.0	30.0	100.0	
	Total	60	100.0	100.0		

Position in the company

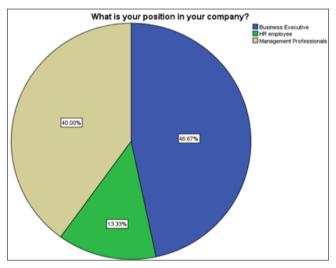


Fig 7: Position of the respondents

Table 3: Table related to the position of the participants

	What is your position in your company?											
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent							
Valid	Business Executive	28	46.7	46.7	46.7							
	HR employee	8	13.3	13.3	60.0							
	Management Professionals	24	40.0	40.0	100.0							
	Total	60	100.0	100.0								

The above-depicted graphical figures and table hold the information and data that are directly connected to the demographic profile of the respondents who took part in the survey. In this context, it can be asserted that 60 is chosen as the sample size in the research. As mentioned by Shaikh *et al.* (2023) ^[17], the demographic analysis is helpful in terms of delving into the characteristics in numerical and chronological order. It has been observed from the assessment that the majority of the responses were obtained

from the "male" participants who are in the age group of "31 to 45 years". In this survey, 28 of the participants were male and 24 were female constituting a percentage of 47 and 40 respectively. On the other hand, 43% were in the age group of "31 to 45 years" showing wealth of experience is accumulated. On the other hand, 28 and 24 participants were business executives and management professionals respectively followed by 8 HR employees?

Descriptive Analysis

Table 4: SPSS Table regarding Descriptive Analysis

Descriptive Analysis												
	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation	Ske	wness	Kurtosis				
	Statistic	Statistic	Statistic	Statistic	Statistic	Statistic	Std. Error	Statistic	Std. Error			
DV	60	1	5	3.73	1.039	935	.309	.325	.608			
IV1	60	4.00	15.00	10.5667	2.80052	648	.309	177	.608			
IV2	60	4.00	15.00	10.5000	3.34208	273	.309	-1.140	.608			
IV3	60	5.00	14.00	10.3667	2.68686	504	.309	663	.608			
Valid N (list wise)	60											

Descriptive analysis is performed to scale the level of "central tendency" of the variables in the study. Descriptive analysis helps in scaling values such as "mean, median, and standard deviation" (Prasanth *et al.* 2023) ^[15]. Additionally, the author remarked that while the "Skewness value is more or larger than +1" the dataset is "right-skewed" and when the "Skewness value" is less than -1, it can be termed as the "left-skewed distribution". The clustering and frequency of the answers can also be non with the descriptive analysis. In Table 4, the "mean values" range around 10 while the "standard deviation" is 2.6 to 3.4 which is considerably less than the former. Hence, it can be said the overall clustering of the responses lies near the mean value.

Multiple Regressions

In the current study, the "Multiple regression analysis" is conducted to explain the reliability value of the selected factors. This test is required to establish the relationship between dependent and independent variables in a well-directed manner (Astivia & Zumbo, 2019) [4]. Other than this, "normal continuous outcome" can also be defined with this test. The "Multiple regression analysis" basically includes three auto-generated key tests in the form of "ANOVA", "Model Summary", and "Coefficients".

Hypothesis 1: Employee training and development play a major role in heightening the skills of the employees

Table 5: Multiple regression of hypothesis 1

Model Summary ^b											
						Change Statistics					
			Adjusted R	Std. Error of	R Square					Durbin-	
Mode	el R	R Square	Square	the Estimate	Change	F Change	df1	df2	Sig. F Change	Watson	
1	.262ª	.069	.053	1.012	.069	4.290	1	58	.043	2.470	

- a. Predictors: (Constant), IV1
- b. Dependent Variable: DV

ANOVA^a

	Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
I	1 F	Regression	4.389	1	4.389	4.290	.043 ^b
ı	F	Residual	59.344	58	1.023		
l	Т	Γotal	63.733	59			

- a. Dependent Variable: DV
- b. Predictors: (Constant), IV1

	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients			95.0% Confiden	ce Interval for B	
Model		В	Std. Error	Beta	t	Sig.	Lower Bound	Upper Bound
1	(Constant)	2.704	.514		5.264	.000	1.676	3.733
	IV1	.097	.047	.262	2.071	.043	.003	.192

a. Dependent Variable: DV

From the above table, it has been found that the "R-value" remains 0.262 while the "Durbin Watson" value is obtained as 2.47. Additionally, from the "ANOVA" table, the "Sig value" is 0.43 along with the "F Value" of 4.290. From the table, it can be said that neither the "R-value" is close to 1

nor the "Sig value" is less than 0.05. For this reason, the evidence does not support the first hypothesis.

Hypothesis 2: Employee training and development is responsible for career growth

Table 6: Multiple regression of hypothesis 2

					Model Summ	nary ^b						
							Ch	nange Statistics	S			
Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	R Square Change	FC	hange	df1	df2	Sig. F Ch	ange	Durbin- Watson
1	.312ª	.098	.082	.996	.09	98	6.268	1	58		.015	2.15
a. Pre	edictors: (Coi	nstant), IV2										
	pendent Vari											
	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,											
			ANOVA ^a									
Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.						
1	Regression	6.2	15 1	6.215	6.268	.015	5 b					
	Residual	57.5	18 58	.992								
	Total	63.7	33 59									
a. De	pendent Vari	able: DV										
b. Pre	edictors: (Coi	nstant), IV2										
	-											
				Coefficient	s ^a							
		Unstandardiz	ed Coefficients	Standardized Coefficients			9	5.0% Confiden	ice Interval	for B		
Model		В	Std. Error	Beta	T t	Sig	. [_ower Bound	Upper B	ound		

a. Dependent Variable: DV

(Constant)

IV2

Table 6, on the other hand, showed some improvement in the "R-value" whereas the "Sig value" is 0.015. Besides, the "F value" is comparatively higher and 6.268 is significant in terms of establishing the relationship between the variables. As the "Sig value" is less than 0.05, it can be said that hypothesis 2 is inextricably related to the study (Yang & Lu,

.097

.427

.039

.048

.122

IV3

a. Dependent Variable: DV

312

2023) [22].

.000

.015

1.859

.019

Hypothesis 3: There is a strong relation between employee training and development and employee retention

.175

Table 7: Multiple regression of Hypothesis 3

2.504

					Model Summ	ary ^b				
							Change Statistic	s		
			Adjusted R	Std. Error of	R Square	5 Ob		450	Oin F Ohanna	Durbin-
Model	.315 ^a	R Square	Square	the Estimate	Change	F Chan	-	df2	Sig. F Change	Watson
' -		.099	.084	.995	.09	9 6.3	80 1	58	.014	2.22
	redictors: (Co									
b. D	ependent Vari	able: DV								
			ANOVA ^a							
		Sum of			_					
Model		Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.				
1	Regression			6.316	6.380	.014 ^b				
	Residual	57.4		.990						
	Total	63.7	33 59							
a. D	ependent Vari	able: DV								
b. P	redictors: (Co	nstant), IV3								
				Coefficients	s ^a					
Unstandardized Coefficients Standardized 95.0% Confidence Interval for B										
		B	Std. Error	Coefficients Beta	⊢ .	Sig.	Lower Bound			
Model 1	(Constant)	2.471	.516		4.789	.000	1.438	Upper Bo	3.504	
1	(Constant)	2.471	.010		4.789	.000	1.438	1 3	0.504	

2.526

.014

.025

.218

315

It can be observed in Table 7 that the "R-value" remains 0.315 while the "Durbin Watson" value is obtained as 2.226. On the other hand, the "Sig value" is 0.14 which is less than 0.05 along with an "F value" of 6.380. For this reason, it can be asserted that hypothesis 3 is true from all aspects and proper employee training caters to employee retention as well.

Correlation Analysis: A correlation analysis has been constructed for the determination of the values based on the correlation of the selected variables. According to Kafle (2019) $^{[12]}$, the value of "0" defines "no adequate correlation among the selected variables". On the contrary, a "perfect negative correlation" and a "perfect positive correlation" where the values exist "-1 to +1" respectively which is effective.

Table 8: Correlation analysis

		Correlations			
		DV	IV1	IV2	IV3
DV	Pearson Correlation	1	.262*	.312*	.315*
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.043	.015	.014
	N	60	60	60	60
IV1	Pearson Correlation	.262*	1	.599**	.544**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.043		.000	.000
	N	60	60	60	60
IV2	Pearson Correlation	.312*	.599**	1	.655**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.015	.000		.000
	N	60	60	60	60
IV3	Pearson Correlation	.315*	.544**	.655**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.014	.000	.000	
	N	60	60	60	30
	*. Correlation	n is significant at the	0.05 level (2-tailed)		
•	'*. Correlation	n is significant at the	0.01 level (2-tailed).		

From Table 8, the correlation between the variables can be assessed with a good hand. It has been observed that the "mean values" range around 10 which is higher than the "standard deviation" values denotes a positive relationship between the variables. Enec, from the above table, it can be concluded that a robust correlation is present among the selected variables.

Discussion

From the study, it has been observed that the need for employee training and development has become the need of the hour in these days which has a positive and fruitful impact on the productivity and sustainability of the firms. Moreover, workplace L&D programs are gaining significant attention which has become the firm footing to stay ahead (Jaiswal et al. 2022) [10]. In addition to these, HR training and development in India has been gaining significant attention with quality earning, flexible learning platforms, and an assessment of training resources and needs. AI or artificial intelligence in several MNCs has contributed to the up skilling of career growth in relation to the VUCA or volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous business environment (Jaiswal et al. 2022) [10]. In essence, the crucial role of leaders is pivotal in terms of employee retention and skill building. [Refer to Appendix 2]

Conclusion

From the overall study, it has been found that employee training and development programs have been an ongoing concern across the globe benefiting large and small firms. The quantitative representation of information is a clear-cut indication that employee training is highly significant and augurs well in skill building along with employee retention. Furthermore, a few challenges persist where e-learning and remote learning tools are necessary and can give a befitting response. In essence, the future of jobs is invariably related to the skilled workforce who can only be attained through

employee training and development.

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Appendices

Appendix 1: (Question set Construct table)

Survey link

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1S09nJH9HuPIgn2kYDDv

Sde5t-O0KK5e_p6sPzhx1cwM/edit https://forms.gle/nJ3hDxKBNXkvTfQG7

Section A Questions related to Demography What is your Gender?

- Male
- Female
- Prefer not to say

What is your age group?

- 21 to 30 years old
- 31 to 45 years old
- More than 45 years old\

What is your position in your company?

- Business Executive
- HR employee
- Management Professionals

Section B

Ouestions on IV and DV

DV: Employee training and development

IV: Skill enhancement, career growth, and employee retention

- 1. Employee training and development is a crucial cog in empowering the organisation
- 2. Skill enhancement leads to cognitive consciousness and knowledge gaining of the employees
- 3. Proper training and development tools are required for heightening the skills
- 4. e-learning is a major contributing factor toward skill

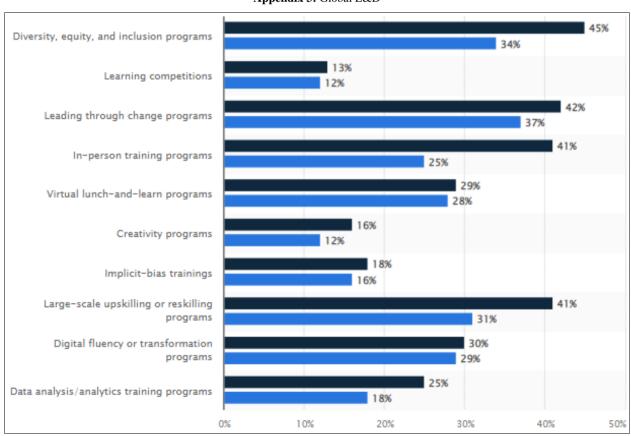
- development for diverse workforce
- Green behaviours through employee training and development are invariably linked with the career growth of the employees
- 6. Career growth of the employees are reflected in the sustainability and productivity of the SMEs
- 7. Latest technological solutions in employee training and development are required for an effective career growth
- 8. Employee retention is an important factor for economic well-being of the SMEs
- 9. Role of trainers and a proper budget can ensure employee retention during employee training and development
- 10. Employee retention with right training can predominantly pursue the socio-economic growth of the SMEs

Appendix 2: Role of training and learning



(https://dedi1968blog.files.wordpress.com/2018/04/employee-training-and-development.pdf)

Appendix 3: Global L&D



(https://www.statista.com/statistics/1358798/workplace-learning-development-programs/)