



LIFELONG LEARNING PROGRAMME

Implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning

2012-2014

Bulgaria

Progress Report

GENERAL INFORMATION

Project title: BG – Implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning

Decision/Agreement number: 2012 – 3551 / 001 - 001

Project website: <http://LLL.MON.BG>

Reporting period: From 01/09/2012

To 30/08/2013

Date of submission: 30/09/2013

Beneficiary organisation: Ministry of Education and Science

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Lifelong Learning: Leonardo da Vinci, Grundtvig & Dissemination
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- publications, CD Rom, DVD with audio, video materials: electronic version or web link are sufficient)
- official invitations and agenda of conferences, meetings, training or other events organised/participated by the centre, copy of presentation: electronic version is sufficient
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- PUBLIC PART -

1. Project objectives

The main / overarching aim of this project is to enhance the participation of adults in the lifelong learning process through improved interaction and mobilization of all stakeholders. It is accomplished through the following specific objectives:

- **Taking actions to raise the levels of management in the lifelong learning sector in Bulgaria.** For this purpose/to this end, problematic situations in the sector have been analyzed and the rights and responsibilities of the stakeholders have been identified – public institutions at national and regional level, the municipalities, organizations of employers and syndicates, non-government organizations, educational and training institutions etc. Working meetings have been conducted on local, regional and national level with representatives from different state, educational and cultural institutions, social partners, civil society organizations. Steps have been taken for establishment of National Council for lifelong learning, through the legislative assurance of the process.
- **Development of mechanisms and tools for monitoring and scaling of the progress in the field of adult learning.** The goal is to create conditions for decision making in the field of education and training for adults, by developing tools for monitoring and evaluation system for evaluation and analysis and national informational system with a database. These mechanisms are/constitute the bridge between the policy and practice in the adult learning sector . It will ensure the fulfillment of this role through the interpretation of facts and numbers into conclusions and outcomes, which will help the decision - making process, considering the problems of the education and training of adults. An advisory process will be set up, in which potentially engaged institutions of national and regional level will take part, as well as a wide range of participants in the field of adult learning, through organization of electronic forum. Trainings for implementation of the mechanism for policy monitoring will be held for representatives of ministries, agencies, district administrations and social partners.
- **Raising the public awareness about the significance of adult learning and the European agenda, defining the priorities in this sector.** This is achieved through carrying out of Days promoting the Learning of Adults across the 5 regions for planning in Bulgaria and by dissemination of the relevant European and national documents in the field of adult learning. Throughout the recent days regional conferences/seminars take place, where people discuss the priority directions of the EU Program for lifelong learning, and formulate decisions for the development of national policies for the next programming period. A presentation of good practices for informal training is delivered in

different places across the country. The website of the project publishes information for the general public about national and European events in this sector, it is constantly updated, adding European and national documents, good practices are being presented together with the project results, such as analysis, reports, good practices, methodological directions.

The results of the project will impact and contribute for specific benefits, the different target groups – representatives of state, regional and municipal institutions, social partners, non-government organizations, as well as educational, cultural and sport institutions, employers, craftsmen and potential learners, by involving them into the process of development of a structured and officially regulated national system for adult learning.

The involvement of different stakeholders in the discussion about the existing problems in the sector of education and training for adults, the formulation of measures for improvement of its condition, the sharing of good practices, as well as the joint consultations for developing mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation, will improve the interaction between the different participants and will contribute to the increase of the shared responsibility for the further development of the adult learning sector in Bulgaria.

2. Project methodology

For the achievement of the project objectives, methods that give flexible opportunities for application and at the same time, ensure the implementation of the activities in the most effective and economical way, are being used, such as:

- studying the experience of other European countries in regard to the management of the adult learning sector and the interaction of the stakeholders, the monitoring and evaluation of policies;
- analysis of the condition of the adult learning sector in Bulgaria (analysis of the problematic situation and analysis of the stakeholders – condition on basic indexes for education and training for adults, review of the legislative, political, structural and financial framework, conclusions and recommendations);
- SWOT analysis – evaluation of the strong and weak sides, the possibilities and threats typical for the adult learning sector in Bulgaria. The SWOT analysis is a basis for the formulation of an approach to institutionalization of the cooperation between the stakeholders on one side, and on the other to the improvement of the quality in the adult learning sector;
- Holding focus-groups sessions composed of representatives from different target groups, for compiling quality information, thus enabling the precise evaluation of the effects, which the policy in the field of adult learning would cause on the interests of different groups in the sector of adult learning

(trainers of adults, people, included in literacy courses, adults in the formal system for education, people with disabilities, refugees, unemployed, convicted people who are being educated in prison schools);

- Holding of working meetings at local, regional and national level for composition of full list of the stakeholders such as different institutions, organizations, groups and individuals that can influence the policy of adult learning or those whom the interventions can affect;
- Devising methodology for monitoring of the adult learning sector;
- Developing a framework of the progress with basic indexes for adult learning, which lays the basis for the development of an informational system for monitoring and evaluation of the governmental policy for adult learning;
- Developing a communicational plan in order to ensure an effective communicational environment for joining efforts of all stakeholders in the adult learning sector;
- Organizing a consultative process with different stakeholders for discussion of the instruments for monitoring and evaluation of the adult learning sectors (round tables);
- Organizing an electronic forum for consultations in order to reach out to the most of the stakeholders;
- exchange of experience between various institutions and organizations through presentation of good practices for informal training in the Doors Open Days;
- organizing dissemination seminars for promoting the European priorities for adult learning, as well as formulating the national priorities throughout the next programming period;
- Use of the Internet and other medias (newspapers, radio, television) for the distribution of the results of the project and promoting the significance of adult learning.

The employed methods give the opportunity for:

- distribution of useful information about the European and national policy in the adult learning sector and the European and national good practices;
- establishment of conditions for decision-making in the field of education and training for adults through setting up of the National Council of lifelong learning and instruments for monitoring and evaluation of the adult learning policy;
- involving representatives of the stakeholders in different project activities;
- distribution of project results;
- upgrading the experience and qualification of the project team members by preparation of new products that are being developed for the first time in

Bulgaria.

The employed methods will help to ensure the conditions for improving the interaction between the different stakeholders as well as for promoting the significance of the adult learning in Bulgaria.

3. Project outcomes and results

During the first year of the project the following results have been achieved:

- **Analysis of the condition of the adult learning sector in Bulgaria:** This analysis is developed in order to snapshot the problematic situation in the adult learning sector in Bulgaria, to define the existing informational gaps, as well as to identify the stakeholders so that they could be engaged in the process of monitoring and evaluation of the policy for adult education and training.

The analysis covers existing laws, strategies, concepts, plans, programs, reports, analysis, surveys and other documents as well as country practice. A first attempt was made to identify the reasons for the existing problems in the adult learning sector, as well as to group the possible solutions in terms of conceptual, methodical and practical aspect. Another focus of the analysis is the identification of the rights and responsibilities of the stakeholders as well as the obstacles that need to be overcome in order to be mobilized for the implementation of the progress in this sector. To identify the problematic situation in the adult learning sector, 7 focus groups have been conducted with stakeholders – trainers; school drop-outs; people that are involved in literacy courses; unemployed people that are studying in the formal education system; people deprived from freedom that continue their education in prison schools; refugees; people with disabilities.





Three working meetings have been held to draft / develop a full list of the stakeholders – the different institutions, organizations, groups and individuals that influence the policy of adult learning or the ones that the interventions could possibly affect. Direct consultations have been held to evaluate precisely the effects that the adult learning policy would have on the interest of the different groups.

The results of the analysis are being finalized by performing a SWOT analysis, which presents the objective evaluation of the current situation in the field of adult learning in Bulgaria – the strengths and weaknesses, the possibilities and threats. The SWOT analysis is a basis for the formulation of an approach to institutionalization of the cooperation between the stakeholders on one hand, and leads to improvement of the quality in the adult learning sector, on the other.

- **Compendium, which presents the experience of 10 European counties in the adult learning sector**

The project team researched the experience of different European counties in regard to the management, monitoring and evaluation of the adult learning sector. With this purpose, a study visit to Austria was organized. As a result, a Compendium was prepared, which presents the legislative and strategic framework, the authorities and levels of administration, the different stakeholders and the instruments for monitoring and evaluation, which are being used in the adult learning sectors in 10 European countries.

- **Report with a proposal for a development of a national system for monitoring in Bulgaria**

As a result of the researched European experience, the project team prepared a proposal for a structure and further steps to build up a national system for monitoring in Bulgaria. Its goals and principles are formulated, as well as key questions, which this system can help to answer. This report is the link between the preliminary activities, necessary to develop a system for monitoring of the adult learning sector, and the actual activities for developing the model of the system, which will be implemented during the second year of the execution of the project.

- **Communication plan**

The goal of the document is to create/produce a model of an effective communication environment to unite the efforts of all stakeholders to prepare, accomplish, monitor and evaluate policies that are directed to the adult learning sector, as well as aimed to raise the awareness of the population about the

significance of this sector.

- **Project of Regulations for the organization of the activities of the National Council for lifelong learning**

The project team prepared a package of documents to create a National Council for lifelong learning. Regulations for the organization of the activities of the Council were developed, which are promulgated for a wide discussion on the electronic page of the project.

The Council is proposed to the authority within the Council of Ministers, which will support cooperation, implement the coordination and conduct public consultation between the national authorities, the local authorities, the representative organizations of the workers and the employees at national level / trade unions, the representative organizations of the employers and non-government organizations, that work in the field of lifelong learning.

- **Report to the European Commission about the condition of the adult learning sector in Bulgaria**

This report is prepared as a response to the European Union Adult Learning Program and reflects the situation of the adult learning sector in Bulgaria. The document encompasses an analysis of the statistical data, linked with the educational levels of the population and the participation of adults in the different forms of formal education and training, informal training and self-education. The motives and obstacles to participation of the population in the lifelong learning have been deduced. The legislative, strategic and institutional framework of this sector has been presented, together with an overview of the national policy and measurement in the execution of the five priority areas for implementation of the Adult Learning Program of the EU has been made. The report presents the situation of the sector for learning in Bulgaria up to December 2012.

- **Doors Open Days for Adult Learning have been held**

Seminars to present the European priorities in Adult Learning were organized within two days , and good practices of informal trainings in three planning regions across the country – South Central, Southeastern and Southwestern.



120 representatives of institutions and organizations from different places across 16 regions of Bulgaria took part in the events. The condition of the relevant regions was presented by basic indexes referring to the education and training of adults. The

presentations were published on the website of the project.

Working groups discussed the five priorities set out in the EU Adult Learning Program and formulated prepositions for appraisal to, that should be taken in Bulgaria for the next programming period. Conclusions and recommendations were made that should be taken into consideration when developing the National Strategy for Lifelong Learning for the period 2014-2020.

A preliminary selection was made under certain criteria for the selection of 2 of the best practices out of every region, which were presented on the second day of the respective event.



Other good practices were presented from different institutions and organizations in the relevant regions, which resulted from the project of European Union Lifelong Learning Program – sector program “Grundtvig”, National Global Libraries Program and others.

- **Project website:** <http://LLL.MON.BG>

A website was created, which presents all the results from the work of the project implementation team, as well as events, news, European and national strategic and legislative documents, methodical materials for the adult training, good-case practices, electronic forum for discussions etc.

- **Electronic bulletin**

The project team prepared two electronic bulletins. The first one reflects events, organized by the European Commission and the European organizations that are important for the adult learning sector. The second one presents detailed information about the conducted Doors Open Days in the South Central region of the country, in which representatives from five regions took part: Kurdzhali, Plovdiv, Haskovo, Pazardzhik and Smolyan.

4. Plans for the future

During the second year of the project implementation, the efforts of the team will target two main directions:

- Development of a model for monitoring of the adult learning sector and creation of the necessary tools for its functioning;
- Promoting the significance of the adult learning.

The development of a **national system for monitoring of the adult learning**

sector will be based on the results achieved through the first year of the project, as are the analysis of the condition of this sector, the report with specific suggestions for the development of a national system for monitoring in Bulgaria, communication strategy for the interaction between the stakeholders. Based on the conclusions and suggestions, made in these documents, the team will develop a model for monitoring of the adult learning sector. Significant part of the model will be the development of a methodology, which will include existing and new indexes for measurement of the progress in this region, methods for conduction of the observations, processing and storage of data, definition of basic derivatives (indexes) for analysis. In the process of preparation through round tables and electronic forum stakeholders will be included. For the realization of the model in practice, very important will be the development of the **National information system for adult education and training**. Through it the government policy for adult learning will be planned, monitored and evaluated, with the help of real-time updating **database**.

For the implementation of the monitoring mechanism, one representative from each region of Bulgaria will be trained. The goal is to turn them into local trainers and multiply the experience even after the end of the project.

The main goal for the implementation of a monitoring mechanism in Bulgaria is to turn it into a key tool for the implementation of the European plan for adult learning. As a part of the new priorities in the context of lifelong learning, the monitoring of the adult training is of key significance at local, regional and national level, in order to produce better empirical evidences for an increase of the participation of adults and to present the efforts, made in the sector.

The populatization of the significance of the adult learning will continue as intensively in the second year of the project. For this purpose the following events will be organized:

- **Adult Learning Days in three of the planning regions in Bulgaria – North-western, Central North and North-eastern.**

Within these days the European priorities and the condition of this sector in the respective regions will be presented. There is also going to be a discussion about the project of the National strategy for lifelong learning for the period 2014-2020 and the synchronization of the proposed priorities with the European program for adult learning. The conclusions will be presented on the national strategy development group.

Good-case practices presentation will be continued with informal training from educational and training institutions for adults, employers, cultural institutions, non-government organizations and others.

Two round tables will be organized to discuss the mechanism for monitoring of the adult learning sector. Representatives of key stakeholders on national level will be invited to one of the round tables, representatives of different institutions of organizations, providing adult training. An electronic forum for broad discussion on the monitoring model will be organized

- **Media product**

As a result of the activities for popularization of adult learning in Bulgaria a media product was prepared, which will be placed at disposal of national and local media and will be presented at the closing conference under the project. The film presents real flash-backs of events, carried out within the project framework. The film aims to raise the awareness and enhance the interest in the adult learning sector and in the project results as well as to stress on the EC contribution to the development of education and training.

- **Electronic bulletins**

Five electronic bulletins will be prepared. Along with the current news, they will present the results from the Adult Learning Days in the five planning regions in the country; the monitoring model of the adult learning sector and the informational database system; the results from the discussion forum and the training of the trainers to implement the monitoring mechanism. In a conclusive bulletin all main results of the project will be presented.

5. Contribution to EU Policies

The project was developed with the aim to support the effective implementation and development of tools, which will improve the formulation, monitoring and evaluation of the policies in the adult learning sector and contribute to revealing highlight the significance of the monitoring in the process of decision- making in this area. Furthermore, it emphasizes on the significance of the educational and training processes of adults for the socio-economic development of the country and the well-being of the individuals, as well as helps promoting the importance of the European and national priorities in the field of adult learning.

The development of tools and mechanisms such as the following :

- Analysis of the problematic situation in the adult learning sector;
- Analysis of the stakeholders;
- National informational database system;
- Monitoring system for the adult learning sector (system for monitoring, evaluation and analysis of the impact of the adult learning policies);
- National informational system with database;
- Methodological handbook to monitor the adult learning sector;
- National Council for adult learning,

will definitely lead to enhanced interaction between the different stakeholders and will improve the quality of the management of the sector. The involvement of the stakeholders in the process of their preparation and consultation guarantees the success of their further implementation in the practice. The training of 30 representatives from national and regional institutions and the social partners to implement the new mechanisms for management, will contribute to the dissemination the experience in the different regions of the country.

The project presents useful information not only about the policy and experts, but also for all shareholders and participants in the processes related to the education and training for adults – social partners, educational and cultural institutions, employers, non-government organizations, potential learners and others:

- The exchange of experience within the Adult Learning Days helped to draw the attention to the existing rich variety of good- practices of informal training and helps to strengthen the long- term relationships between the different participants in the process.
- The seminars, which promote the adult learning across the six planning regions in the country, contribute to developing a unified approach in terms of formulation of the national policies under the EU Adult Learning Program, ET 2020 and Europe 2020 Strategy;
- Furthermore, the project contributes to the dissemination of the knowledge and facilitates the understanding of European tools for lifelong learning – the European Qualifications Framework, the European Credit System for Vocational Education and Training, the European Quality Assurance Reference Framework for Vocational Education and Training, and of the importance of validation of knowledge, skills and competences acquired through informal education and learning through distribution of documents, as well as discussions in the working groups during the working meeting and seminars.

The results of the project are meant for the stakeholders and will reach them through different channels, such as by publishing documents, analyses and reports, presentation of good practices, by holding seminars, round tables, working meetings, focus groups, trainings, etc.

The impact of the project will have a long-term effect. It is linked to the development and improvement of the system for monitoring and evaluation of the adult learning policies, as well as to the development of an administrative capacity, which will provide methodological support at regional and local level in the implementation of the monitoring instruments. Setting up of a national system for monitoring in the adult learning sector will help the country in the implementation of the national priorities so that the goal of the European Adult Learning Program could be attained and duly and timely accomplished.

The development of a National Council for lifelong learning will have a long-term effect and will contribute to the coordination and the successful planning, execution, monitoring and evaluation of the adult learning policies.

The project contributes to the implementation of the priorities of the European Adult Learning Program, related to the improvement of the monitoring and the database. It is aimed to enhance the effectiveness and the quality of the education and training for adults.



LIFELONG LEARNING PROGRAMME

**Implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning
2012-2014**

Republic of Croatia

Progress Report

GENERAL INFORMATION

Project title: Implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning

Decision/Agreement number: 374576-LLP-1-2012-1-HR-GRUNDTVIG-AL_AGENDA

Project website: <http://radniweb.borovac-bence.hr/>

Reporting period: From 01/09/2012
To 30/08/2013

Date of submission: 19/09/2013

Beneficiary organisation: Ministry of Science, Education and Sports

Project coordinator (contact person): Darko Belović

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This project has been funded with support from the European Union under the Invitation to submit grant applications for the Implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning addressed to the National Coordinators (period 2012-2014).

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- PUBLIC PART -

1. Project objectives (please present the objectives of the project, the potential impact upon and benefits to the target user group)

The overall aim of the project is to promote adult education in Croatia and to raise awareness about importance of lifelong learning thus increasing participation in adult education and improving the effectiveness of adult education in Croatia.

In order to do this, the project's specific objectives are:

- Raising public awareness about the role and importance of adult education
- Promoting the benefits of adult education and boosting greater participation in adult education programs
- Encouraging cooperation between stakeholders and establishing a network of stakeholders at national and local level to improve the quality of adult education
- Introduction to European policies and strategic documents (European Agenda for Adult Learning) and opening process for developing adult learning policy documents at national and local level
- Active promotion of key competencies
- Dissemination of expertise and best practices about the importance of the acquisition of key competencies
- Preparation of draft program for the acquisition of key competencies.

The target groups are:

- a) local authorities: municipalities, cities and counties;
- b) state administration offices;
- c) employers;
- d) trade unions, NGOs and other representatives of the NGO sector;
- e) adult educators, adult education institutions, anagogical associations and experts
- f) government bodies and relevant government agencies,
- g) general public, but especially people with incomplete primary education, with low qualification, long-term unemployed persons, minorities and other disadvantaged groups

Through promotional activities the project will encourage unemployed low skilled, people without basic qualifications and other socially disadvantaged groups to undertake learning activities in order to improve their lives. Furthermore, the project will involve experts and provider on adult education with the aim to create expert and policy documents with recommendations on the development of adult education system in Croatia.

We expect to raise awareness among the general public about the importance of adult education in modern-day society and to involve all stakeholders (employers, trade unions, representatives of local authorities) in making a network for increasing quality of adult education in Croatia by planning and implementing adult education policies with the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports. We also expect to spread awareness about the importance of key competencies among general population and to strengthen institutions for adult education by developing support network at local level.

The product of the project will be a network for increasing quality of adult education in every region in Croatia, draft program/module for the acquisition of key competencies for lifelong learning as a part of adult education curricula and a Manual with Conclusions and recommendations for the development of adult education in Croatia as one of the preconditions for development of new Croatian Adult Education Act.

2. Project methodology (please present the methodology for achieving the objectives, including the evaluation and dissemination strategies)

The methodology of the project ensures maximum efficiency of all activities. Ministry of Science, Education and Sports prepares and supervise their implementation. All activities at the local level will be held with the help of representatives of State administration offices and of all the social partners are expected to represent the opinions of their organizations at the meetings and panels and to transfer experience and conclusions from the project to their organizations.

We plan to achieve the project objective by :

- a) Printing of promotional materials: 1000 brochures, 30 000 leaflets, 500 posters and purchase of 200 promotional items.
- b) Creation of a new website: obrazovanje-odraslih.hr
- c) 3 Coordinating meetings
- d) 25 Panels titled "I know so I can"
- e) Study visits to Austria, Norway and Ireland
- f) 2 sets of workshops for drafting program for the acquisition of key competencies.
- g) Promotional video and audio material, broadcasting on national and local media
- h) Printing of manual (500 copies) with the conclusions and recommendations for the development of adult education policy
- j) Final international conference on "Europe of knowledge and the role of adult education" in which the results and conclusions of the project will be presented

Information for the public after each coordinating meeting will be forwarded to all relevant national media. Manual with the conclusions and recommendations for the development of adult education policy will be printed in booklet form and presented at the final conference, as well as submitted to government state administration offices for further distribution at the local level. Roundtables are open to the public so representatives of local media will be invited. After the round tables interviews with representatives of local stakeholders will be disseminated through local media. Representative of national coordinator will regularly contact media at the national level, and will organize relevant experts to participate in different shows dedicated to educational topics in order to present project and activities, as well as to draw public attention to the need to encourage participation in adult education and the acquisition of key competencies. Within national coordinator organization regular meetings will be held and memo with information about ongoing activities will be distributed within the organization. At all meetings, panels, workshops, study tours and at the conference record of present persons will be kept. After every meeting and panel, notes will be produced and it will serve to prepare the final document of the project. After study visits detailed reports will be prepared with included translations of key materials collected at the study visits. During the workshops draft program will be prepared and it will be presented at the closing conference. All participants in the panel meetings, workshops and study tours will be included in the e-mail list through which they will be regularly informed. All activities in the project will be recorded by camera. After the project ends the webpage <http://obrazovanje-odraslih.hr> will continue to serve as an information platform for adult learning in Croatia.

Every project activity is continuously planned, discussed and evaluated by project team members. Internal evaluation of project activities will be held by coordination group through 3 coordinating meetings. Coordinating group will at coordinating meetings prepare inputs and guidelines for panels at the local level, and analyze panel suggestions and discussions.

3. Project outcomes and results (please describe the major achievements and results for the reporting period)

Our major achievements and results for the reporting period:

-3 coordinating meetings for networking of social partners at national level with 40 participants are in preparatory phase

-25 panels for networking of social partners at local level with at least 1000 participants and 250 representatives of social partners from local level are in preparatory phase; related to the subcontracting a key expert for key competencies we completed the procurement procedure (contract procedure for EU external action).

-2 innovative practices (Norwegian and Austrian) and examples of best practice presented and shared among stakeholders is on going

-1 web page on adult learning developed is on going; at the moment we have the web page under construction on <http://radniweb.borovac-bence.hr/>

-20 broadcasts of promotional material on national TV is in preparatory phase

-100 audio broadcasts of promotional materials at local radio stations is in preparatory phase

- 30000 flyers ,1000 brochures, 500 manuals "Conclusions and recommendations for the development of adult education" presented at the final conference is on going; we translated strategic documents for project implementation - European Agenda for Adult learning and Key Competences for Lifelong Learning; the material went through graphic processing, proofreading and editing; at the moment we have electronic version of visual identity, brochure, flyer, poster, writing pad and a folder for writing pad.

4. Plans for the future (for **progress reports**: include a description of plans to carry out the remaining work to achieve project objectives; for **final reports**, emphasize how the project outcomes / achievements will be sustainable beyond the project's lifetime.)

Next project months will be dedicated to following objectives:

-Related to raising public awareness about the role and importance of adult education and active promotion of key competencies we plan to print 30 000 copies of flyer, 500 large posters, 200 writing pad with folder, 1000 copies of brochure; we also plan to finish developing of a web page on adult learning

-Related to promoting the benefits of adult education and boosting greater participation in adult education programs we plan to broadcast promotional material on national TV and audio broadcasts of promotional materials at local radio stations

-Related to encouraging cooperation between stakeholders and establishing a network of stakeholders at national and local level to improve the quality of adult education we plan to have 3 coordinating meetings for forming a coordinating group of social partners at national level

-Related to introduction to European policies and strategic documents (European Agenda for Adult Learning) and opening process for developing adult learning policy documents at national and local level we plan to achieve these objectives through 3 coordinating meetings at national level and 25 panels discussion "I know, therefore I can"

-Related to dissemination of expertise and best practices about the importance of the acquisition of key competencies we plan to introduce Norwegian, Austrian and Irish adult education policy specially focused on basic skills training on coordinating meetings and panels in every county; the theme is going to be introduced at international conference by the end of the project

-Preparation of draft program for the acquisition of key competencies will be achieved at 2 sets of workshops and

presented in the Manual

5. Contribution to EU Policies (describe the contribution of the project in implementing the European Agenda for Adult Learning **and the Impact** on National Policies and on target groups.)

The European Agenda for adult learning stresses the importance of adult learning and the major role which adult learning can play in achieving the Europe 2020 goals. It is predicted that adult learning will face demand for high-quality lifelong learning. An enhanced role for local authorities, employers, social partners, civil society and cultural organizations needs to be developed. In that respect the project in Croatia will motivate stakeholders to take an active role in developing adult education system and policy. The project will also contribute to develop adult learning in Croatia in line with the European Agenda for Adult Learning.

The product of the project will be a network for increasing quality of adult education in every region in Croatia, draft program/modul for the acquisition of key competencies for lifelong learning as a part of primary adult education curricula and a Manual with conclusions and recommendations for the development of adult education in Croatia as one of the preconditions for development of new Croatian Adult Education Act.

The following impacts on National Policies and on target groups are expected:

- Raising awareness among the general public about the importance of adult education in modern-day society;
- Active involvement of all stakeholders (employers, trade unions, representatives of local authorities) in planning and implementing adult education policies;
- Harmonization of policies and strategies at national and local level for development of adult learning, and creation preconditions for development of new strategic documents;
- Better awareness among key stakeholders and general public about European strategic documents in adult education;
- Spreading awareness about the importance of key competencies and creating preconditions for improvement of key competences among genera/ population;
- Strengthening institutions for adult education and developing network of stakeholders at local level as a support for adult education institutions;



LIFELONG LEARNING PROGRAMME

Implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning

2012-2014

Poland

Progress Report

GENERAL INFORMATION

Project title: The implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning

Decision/Agreement number: 2012 - 3599 / 001 - 001

Project website: n/a

Reporting period: From 01/09/2012
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Beneficiary organisation: MINISTRY OF NATIONAL EDUCATION

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This project has been funded with support from the European Union under the Invitation to submit grant applications for the Implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning addressed to the National Coordinators (period 2012-2014).

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one original paper copy and one electronic copy on physical storage device (USB stick, CD Rom...) to the following postal address:

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Lifelong Learning: Leonardo da Vinci, Grundtvig & Dissemination
Ms H el ene BARRY
Office: BOU2 02/11
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Please note that we ask you to send the results of the project only in electronic form:

- publications, CD Rom, DVD with audio, video materials: electronic version or web link are sufficient)
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- PUBLIC PART -

1. Project objectives (please present the objectives of the project, the potential impact upon and benefits to the target user group)

The general aim of the project is to promote the idea of adult learning and to ensure the recognition of its value among all relevant stakeholders. A particular objective is to promote measures and actions that can help to improve the levels of participation in adult learning, especially those targeted at disadvantaged groups.

The target group is composed of the stakeholders active on national and regional levels who can have an influence on the participation in adult learning nationwide. Among them are representatives of adult learners, policy-makers in the area of formal and non-formal education, organizers of various forms of adult learning, including the broad spectrum of training activities falling within the scope of activity of different government agencies, employers and experts. Improved communication between these stakeholder groups, all the possible measures and efforts undertaken for the implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning can significantly contribute to achieve the indirect effect i.e. informing and raising awareness of the importance of adult learning in changing social conditions and on the labour market as well as the promoting of adult participation in education and training.

2. Project methodology (please present the methodology for achieving the objectives, including the evaluation and dissemination strategies)

In recent months the Polish government adopted a packet of new comprehensive, integrated strategies including the strategies for the development of human and social capital. On 10 September 2013 the government adopted an additional strategy document referring to the European idea of LLL named "Lifelong Learning Perspective". In regard to this, the common action of promoting European Agenda for Adult Learning and the Polish LLL strategy is planned. In accordance with the Prime Minister's Ordinance of 17 February 2010 on the Inter-Ministerial Committee for Lifelong Learning, including the National Qualifications Framework, Ministry of National Education coordinates the work of this Committee. Therefore, the officials from Ministry of National Education were designated to create the team implementing the project. Thus, this kind of selection of people dedicated to working on this project is a guarantee for the optimal combination of the dissemination and implementation of the goals of the European Agenda for Adult Learning and the national policy, including the attainment of the objectives of the project.

3. Project outcomes and results (please describe the major achievements and results for the reporting period)

The national conference on European Agenda for Adult Learning and national LLL policy was organised on the 18th of December 2012. The conference took place in the Copernicus Science Centre in Warsaw. The conference aimed at promoting new approach to adult learning which is based on the Agenda's priorities and is consistent with lifelong learning policy. The conference was preceded by the announcement in Poland of the OECD report on the educational aspirations of youth.

Participants of the conference were the stakeholders who can contribute to implementation of the Agenda. Among them were representatives of adult learners, policy-makers, organizers of various forms of adult learning practitioners in the area of formal and non-formal education who act at the national and regional level. The opening speech was made by Maciej Jakubowski, Under-Secretary of State in the Ministry of National Education on promoting European Agenda for Adult Learning along with the implementation of Lifelong Learning policy in Poland. After that Tapio Säävälä, Deputy Head of Unit – Adult Education; Grundtvig in the DG Education and Culture of the European Commission presented Council Resolution on a renewed European agenda for adult learning and PhD Francesca Borgonovi, analyst of the OECD referred skills development and adult learning in the context of current international studies. There were also Polish experts and practitioners who discussed and exchanged of opinions on current situation and future prospects for adult learning in Poland in the light of the three projects Social Diagnosis in Poland, Study of Human Capital in Poland, National Qualifications Framework.

The conference raised awareness of the objectives of the European Agenda for Adult Learning in Poland as well as the new Polish development strategies with a special focus on the national Lifelong Learning Strategy. It also helped to identify and promote various actors, relevant stakeholders acting for adult learning at national and regional level, particularly in the field of non-formal education. The conference facilitated establishment of a network of adult learning stakeholders ensuring strengthening of cooperation between them.

4. Plans for the future (for **progress reports**: include a description of plans to carry out the remaining work to achieve project objectives; for **final reports**, emphasize how the project outcomes / achievements will be sustainable beyond the project's lifetime.)

Organisation of the above mentioned conference was an opening of a series of activities to implement the European Agenda for Adult Learning. A series of seminars on promoting adult learning in Poland including the priorities of the European Agenda for Adult Learning is planned in the 4th quarter of 2013. The themes of those seminars will concern specific challenges for LLL policy in Poland identified in strategic document “Lifelong Learning Perspective” which are in line with priorities of European Agenda for Adult Learning. The specific subjects of these seminars will concern: 1) a new approach to adult learning based on the recognition of learning outcomes, regardless of the form of learning (formal, non-formal and informal); 2) a regional partnership for LLL of adults – the example of Malopolska Region; 3) an effective activities for learning of the low qualified people.

There will be also organised two enlarged annual meetings of the Inter-Ministerial Committee for Lifelong Learning, including the National Qualifications Framework (first meeting – at the end of 2013, second – at the mid of 2014). The Committee was established in 2010 by the Prime Minister’s Ordinance to integrate and coordinate at governmental level efforts to develop the national LLL strategy. The Committee drafted a strategic document “Lifelong Learning Perspective”, that was adopted by the Polish government in September 2013. Its activity and the above mentioned strategic document embraces the issue of adult learning, so it is important to involve the stakeholders in the area of adult learning at national, regional and local level in its works.

The Days of Adult Learning are also planned to be held in 2014. Within the framework of the Days of Adult Learning various forms of adult education provision will be presented. Promotion of the best and innovative practices of adult learning. Those activities will be organized in cooperation with the public administration, educational institutions, labour market institutions as well as NGOs that combat and prevent social exclusion. Since one of the best ways of getting people to hear about the event is through the mass media, the media campaign will be launched to attract as many visitors as possible. A wide range of promotional materials will be disseminated.

Except for the above mentioned activities, it is envisaged to create the guidebook for adult learning coordinators and providers on application of effective approaches and methods of dissemination of adult learning based on national and European solutions and examples.

5. Contribution to EU Policies (describe the contribution of the project in implementing the European Agenda for Adult Learning **and the Impact** on National Policies and on target groups.)

Implementation of the grant objectives should, in medium-term prospects, contribute to:

- *identification of various actors, relevant stakeholders acting for adult learning at national and regional level, particularly in the field of non-formal education;*
- *improved communication among those actors and promoting their activities;*
- *identification and promotion of good practices, including those at local level as well as various initiatives for adult learning, consistent with the assumptions of the European Agenda for Adult Learning and adapted to circumstances at national, regional and local level;*
- *enhancement of the public debate concerning competences and qualifications essential for supporting the competitiveness of older people on the labour market throughout their entire career;*
- *informing and raising awareness of the objectives of the European Agenda for Adult Learning in Poland as well as the new Polish development strategies with a special focus on the national Lifelong Learning Strategy.*

The improved communication and the involvement of more stakeholders of adult learning and education should, in the long run, help Poland achieve the benchmarks for 2020:

- *the share of at least 10 % of adults should participate in lifelong learning comparing to 5,3% in 2010);*
- *the targets of Europe 2020 in Poland concerning adult education:*
 - *reducing early leaving from education and training (ESL) to 4,5%;*
 - *the share of 30-34-year-olds with tertiary educational attainment should be at least 45% (among other things thanks to activities aiming at the encouragement of the higher education institutions to embrace less traditional groups of learners, such as adult learners).*



LIFELONG LEARNING PROGRAMME

**Implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning
2012-2014**

Project no. 374721-LLP-1-2012-1-RO-GRUNDTVIG-AL-AGENDA

Progress Report

GENERAL INFORMATION

Project title: Implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning

Decision/Agreement number: 2012 – 3592 / 001 – 001

Project website: http://www.anc.edu.ro/educatia_adultilor/

Reporting period: From 01/09/2012

To 31/08/2013

Date of submission: 30 September 2013

Beneficiary organisation: National Qualifications Authority

Project coordinator (contact person): Lucia Mariana MIRA

Project coordinator email address: lucia.mira@anc.edu.ro

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- PUBLIC PART -

1. Project objectives (please present the objectives of the project, the potential impact upon and benefits to the target user group)

The general objective of the project is to raise awareness of stakeholders and direct beneficiaries on adult learning opportunities within all 8-development regions of Romania. The 8 regional awareness-raising campaigns to be organised within the project are expected to reflect the real needs to be addressed in further development of national initiatives on adult learning.

The specific objectives of this project - addressing the priorities highlighted by the European Agenda for Adult Learning - are:

- To stimulate demand and to develop comprehensive and easily accessible information and guidance with specific focus on low-qualified adults;
- To promote the engagement of employers in workplace-based learning;
- To promote flexible learning pathways for adults;
- To enhance learning and recognition opportunities for senior adults;
- To increase policy effectiveness in the field of adult learning in Romania;
- To achieve better harmonisation of Romanian experience with the best EU practices;
- To develop the National Adult Learning Action Plan, based on national consultations and exchange of experience with other National Coordinators.

The short term target group reached during the lifetime of the project includes the following categories:

- National agencies/departments/authorities responsible for adult learning which will be able to make correlated political decisions at national level, in compliance with the European requirements set by the ET 2020 and with the EU developments in the field;
- Other national coordinators for adult learning who can work together within the network and exchange information, good practices, or participate in peer-learning activities;
- DGEAC, which may use the project results to set the themes of the conferences or regular meetings on the adult learning agenda and even suggest new topics for debate with regards to the developments in the field;
- Training providers, employment agencies, employers at national/regional/local level, who may use the outputs/products/results of the project to improve the adult learning perspective within their organisational strategy, as well as to better design their study programmes based on identified training needs.

The long term target group reached during the lifetime of the project includes the following categories: members of the sectoral committees and of the trade unions, training providers, employers, professional associations, as well as all those interested in adult learning and recognition of competences acquired in non-formal and informal contexts.

All these categories of direct beneficiaries are reached by: regular information on project progress, published on the project website; participation of those directly involved in the project in the conferences and study visits organised in cooperation with other national coordinators; direct access, through the project website, to all materials produced within the project.

The project has both short-term and long-term impact on the target groups identified as the awareness campaign and the events dedicated to adult learners are contributing to informing all on the personal and professional opportunities and benefits of participation in adult learning and in the recognition of prior learning. The national action plan will provide clear objectives and actions, with measurable impact and implementation milestones.

The events and debates for adult learners, employers, sectoral committees and representatives of local authorities and public institutions responsible with adult learning and employment create the necessary pre-requisites and the knowledge and information base for the implementation of the national adult learning plan. Moreover, the involvement of all these categories in the project ensures a sense of ownership and support long-term sustainability of the project results.

2. Project methodology (please present the methodology for achieving the objectives, including the evaluation and dissemination strategies)

The methodology of the project is mainly based on research, exchange of experience and good practices with other countries, consultations with stakeholders, conferences, analyses, and case studies.

In promoting transnational cooperation to support the development of a National Action Plan for Adult Learning, the project is focusing on the following actions for achieving its objectives:

- Development of an analysis on the national situation related to adult training and also the initiatives that should be included in the national action plan for adult learning.
- Encouraging cooperation in adult learning between policy makers, stakeholders and beneficiaries through permanent discussions and dialogue, regional campaigns, national debates and consultations and other forms of communication (e.g. project website) aiming at:
 - ✓ identifying the main critical factors and tools to be used in relation to the successful implementation of the national adult learning plan;
 - ✓ promoting expertise and best practice used in adult learning to interlink all contexts (formal, non-formal, informal) and foster recognition of prior learning;
 - ✓ bringing together key actors from different relevant sectors and types of education and training (e.g. initial and continuous education and training; traditional and distance learning);
 - ✓ gathering key policy decision makers from all levels (local, regional, national).
- Elaboration of a glossary of terms and good practices, as well as of a National Action Plan on Adult Learning based on consultation with representatives of the main stakeholders within each of the 8 development regions in Romania.

The project dissemination activities are focusing on providing information on the quality, relevance and effectiveness of the project results to the key actors (e.g. representatives of education and training providers, national relevant authorities, economic and social actors) and adult learning experts working with national and / or European bodies. Also, equally important is to highlight the gaps found, to inform the policy-makers about them and finally to exploit the project results mainly the recommendations on adult learning policies, in order to improve the national legal framework regarding adult learning and to ensure its correlation with the European Action Plan on Adult Learning.

The overall approach on the dissemination of project activities and outcomes consist of spreading information in a targeted manner to the short-term and long-term target groups identified, through webpage, national coordinators meetings, and regional campaigns.

The dissemination activities envisaged are: press releases (TV news, radio, national/regional/local newspapers, Internet), 8 regional awareness raising campaigns, 2 seminars dedicated to stakeholders, 2 national conferences, 2 EACEA meetings in Brussels, creating and updating a project webpage.

The major dissemination events organised or attended and materials achieved so far are: 1 press release spread; 1 national initial conference organised in Bucharest on February 14-15, 2013; 1 EACEA meetings in Brussels attended in October 23, 2012; 1 meeting of national coordinators organised by DG EAC attended in Brussels in March 6, 2013; 1 study visit organised in cooperation with the national coordinator for AL from UK in London and Cardiff on April 23-27, 2013; 1 project website realised; 1 green telephone line; project publicity materials realised (1 banner, 2 roll-ups, 4000 flyers in EN or RO language, 400 folders, 400 pens purchased so far in order to be distributed in the project events to the project target groups).

The project team elaborated the Dissemination Plan indicating clearly the actions, deadlines and resources in place for these activities (*please find it attached to the progress report*).

3. Project outcomes and results (please describe the major achievements and results for the reporting period)

The following project outcomes, including events and publications, have been realised (finalised or draft version) until the end of August, 2013:

- ✓ *Launching Conference of European Agenda for Adult Learning in Romania* (Bucharest, February 14-15, 2013)

The Conference had as main objective launching the project in Romania and also the identification of national priorities, which can be the starting point in the elaboration of the National Action Plan for Adult Learning, until 2014. The conference registered 110 participants, gathering representatives of DG EAC, of LLP National Agency and other national organisations (ERIC-NARIC), representatives of the Ministry of National Education and of the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Protection and Elderly, representatives of other local public services directly or indirectly involved in adult education, and of others categories as: sectoral committees, professional associations, training providers, employers at national/regional/local level, trade unions, social partners, representatives of Ministry of Education, Youth and Science from Bulgaria, as well as representatives of other institutions interested in adult learning. There were organised both plenary sessions and parallel sessions (divided into 4 workshops). The Report of the Conference is available on the project website (in EN and RO language).

- ✓ *Study visit in UK* (London and Cardiff, April 23-27, 2013)

This study-visit in UK aimed at promoting transnational cooperation with other countries on themes of common concern. The study visits focused on some of the most acute needs identified at national level and included as priorities in the European Agenda for Adult Learning: flexible learning pathways; enhancing learning and recognition opportunities for adults; promoting the engagement of employers in workplace-based learning. We had chosen the United Kingdom due to the high rate of adult participation in lifelong learning and to its long-standing tradition of involving industry in financing and supporting adult learning. Participants in the study visits were 3 representatives of the National Qualifications Authority of Romania (ANC) and 2 representatives of social partners. The study visit comprised the participation in the Inaugural Conference for the UK's contribution to the EU Agenda for Adult Learning organised by NIACE as national coordinator for AL in UK, event held in Cardiff on 25-26 April 2013. The study visit has been finalised with two main publications available in RO language: *Report of the study visit in UK* (finalised) and *Examples of good practices in UK and Finland* (draft version, to be finalised after the organisation of the study visit in Finland).

- ✓ *Event report of attending the Conference "One Step Up in later life: learning for active ageing and intergenerational solidarity"* (Brussels, November 19-21, 2012)

The conference was organised by DG EAC, having as main topics of discussions the following: The Renewed European Agenda for Adult Learning as well as the Rethinking Education strategy have a common goal: the education and training should accompany people through life, employability is closely linked with lifelong learning experience; The Active ageing concept is very important but should be reinforce and reconceptualised in order to transform the learning experience in a responsibility attitude of each person; The target groups are: illiterate, migrants, women, middle age, retirees, low skilled, the very old, so the type of learning provisions should be very large: information about what adults need to learn; accessibility, proximity learning spaces; accompanying and counseling services for adults; The governmental intervention should establish public policy related to: real and sustainable commitment for lifelong learning; transparent relationship between different ministries, agencies, organizations; legislation in order to recognize qualifications and mobility. In the conference participated the national coordinator for AL and one social partner from Romania, together with representatives from different stakeholders and policy makers from the EU member states, and other national coordinators for AL (approximately 180 persons).

- ✓ *Event report of attending the Kick-off meeting for the Implementation of European Agenda for Adult Learning* (Brussels, October 23, 2012)

The meeting was organised in Brussels by EACEA for National Coordinators of projects selected to implement the European Agenda for Adult Learning. The following topics were discussed: Procedures and rules for the administrative and financial management of the project; Compendium 2012 Grundtvig „Implementation of the European Agenda for Adult

Learning"; Share good practices with other coordinators and create synergies in the implementation of the activities; State of play of the Implementation of the European Agenda: overview of planned national activities; The Grundtvig Accompanying Measure „ARALE": Awareness Raising for Adult Learning and Education; Calendar of main conferences with participants from different countries; Professional Development of Adult Education Staff (Workshop A); Adult Education for the low-skilled (Workshop B); Coordination of stakeholders at national level – situation by country: Cyprus, Spain, Finland, Greece, Ireland, Norway, Sweden, Slovenia, France, Island, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Lithuania, Portugal, Romania, Turkey, Austria, Germany, Latvia, Poland, United Kingdom, Bulgaria, Estonia, Lichtenstein (Workshop C).

✓ *Terms of reference for the awareness raising media campaign*

The terms of reference needed for subcontracting the achievement of the media campaign (TV news, radio, national/local newspapers, Internet) were finalised; the campaign will involve audio and visual adds, as well as printed promos that will promote adult learning opportunities as well as mechanisms in place (competence assessment opportunities) and envisaged (adult learning plan); the terms of reference are setting the requirements in terms of script, broadcasting media and target group to be reached. Is planned that in October 2013 to launch the public procurement procedures, according to the national legislation in force for sub-contracting services needed for the project.

✓ *Green telephone line*

The green telephone line **0800420120** dedicated to adult learners, in partnership with a national telephony service provider, was achieved; the service is free of charge for users who have a dedicated line where they can receive information related to adult learning opportunities, the legislation in force and rights and entitlements derived from their certificates or diplomas as well as recognition of non-formal and informal learning; ANC made available one staff member to answer and/or refer the person to the institution staff with the adequate expertise or to any other competent organisation; ANC databases related to occupations and qualifications, training providers, assessment centres and relevant legislation in force are available for quick searches and relevant answers.

✓ *Project website*

All the main information about the project, its objectives, events, news, publications are available on the project website available at: http://www.anc.edu.ro/educatia_adultilor/

4. Plans for the future (for **progress reports**: include a description of plans to carry out the remaining work to achieve project objectives; for **final reports**, emphasize how the project outcomes / achievements will be sustainable beyond the project's lifetime.)

The main objective of the project is to raise awareness of stakeholders and direct beneficiaries on adult learning opportunities within all 8-development regions of Romania.

This objective and also the specific objectives will be achieved through the organisation of the 8 regional awareness-raising campaigns within the 8 regions of Romania, events to be held in each region for 4-5 days and which are expected to reflect the real needs of the adult learners in order to be used in further development of national initiatives on adult learning. There will be distributed questionnaires in order to gather all relevant data regarding source of information, training needs, way of communication (newspapers, e-mail, telephone, website, regular campaigns at local/regional level) to be used by the national coordinator for AL in order to better achieve its missions and to increase the very low participation rate in adult learning in Romania.

The project team will organise these 8 regional campaigns dedicated to adult learners, aiming at increasing their participation in the formal, non-formal and informal learning, stimulating the demand and developing comprehensive and easily accessible information and guidance with specific focus on low-qualified adults, promoting the engagement of employers in workplace-based learning, promoting flexible learning pathways for adults, enhancing learning and recognition opportunities for older adults. In this sense, the project team will cooperate with local authorities, education providers, employers and individuals in order to gather success stories from adult education programmes and

case studies to be disseminated.

The very low participation rate in adult training in Romania clearly indicates that there is a need to develop a continuing training culture in our country and to raise awareness on its importance not only amongst the primary beneficiaries – the unemployed and job-seekers – but also amongst the key stakeholders involved in the field, both at the level of public authorities and of sectoral committees, employers, training providers etc.

Increasing policy effectiveness in the field of adult learning in Romania will be achieved through the organisation of two consultation seminars with all relevant stakeholders at national level, aiming at contributing to a better awareness and stronger commitment of all stakeholders and relevant actors involved in adult education, in order to support the implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning at national, regional and local level.

Achieving better harmonisation of Romanian experience with the best EU practices will be realised through the organisation of the second study visit planned to be in Finland, and also through the exchange of experience with other National Coordinators and participation in different events organised by other national coordinators or by the EC on adult learning themes.

Development of the National Adult Learning Action Plan will be achieved based on the results from the regional awareness raising campaigns regarding the adult training needs and from the national seminar with stakeholders, in order to comply with both individuals' interests and relevant stakeholders' interests. Thus, the recommendations raised from the regional campaigns and the initiatives from stakeholders will be integrated into the National Action Plan for Adult Learning.

5. Contribution to EU Policies (describe the contribution of the project in implementing the European Agenda for Adult Learning and the **Impact** on National Policies and on target groups.)

The National Qualifications Authority - ANC, in its capacity as National Coordinator for the Adult Learning Agenda, decided to dedicate its efforts and the funding received for the "Implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning" mainly in order to increase the very low rate of participation in adult learning in Romania (1.3% in 2010, 1.6% in 2011 according to the Country fact sheet published by DG Regional Policy).

This currently places Romania in a very difficult position when trying to define a National Strategy for Lifelong Learning (drafting by the Ministry of National Education, needs to be approved by the Romanian Government) and a National Action Plan on Adult Learning (to be finalised by ANC until 2014) in order to get closer Romania to the EU average of 9.1%, thus fulfilling its contribution to the ET 2020 targets (15% adult participation in lifelong learning).

The very low participation rate in adult learning in Romania clearly indicates that the current adult learning policy needs to focus mainly on raising awareness not only amongst the primary beneficiaries – young people, the unemployed and job-seekers, older people, low skilled adults, vulnerable groups etc – but also amongst the key stakeholders involved in the field of adult learning, both at the level of public authorities and of sectoral committees, employers, training providers, social partners etc.

Such ambitious shift in the public mindset requires efforts both at policy and decision-making level and at provider and beneficiary level, which triggers a two-fold approach: on the one hand, international networking and cooperation in order to learn from the best practice experiences of other European countries; on the other hand, regional awareness raising campaigns (specially addressing to young people, unemployed people, job-seekers, older people, low skilled adults) combined with national seminars (dedicated to all kind of stakeholders involved) in order to debate and established the most suitable actions for the Romanian Action Plan for Adult Learning.

This approach would provide the expertise we lack in Romania in terms of policies and approaches and would give the stakeholders a sense of ownership on the National Action Plan on Adult Learning that would foster their long term involvement in supporting ANC, as National Coordinator, to contribute in raising the level of participation in adult training in Romania, both in urban and rural environments, and more specific the level of participation of low skilled adults.

The main rationale of ANC consists in using the opportunity offered by the EC funding for AL in order

to address a very serious issue Romania is facing, namely the low participation in adult training and the high number of low-skilled employees. Although in Romania there are functional systems in place for the provision of adult training courses and recognition of competences acquired in non-formal and informal competences, there is little awareness on these opportunities among the general public and employers as well as the linkage between the training programmes and the labour market needs is still missing. While there is legislation in force regulating adult learning and recognition of prior learning, Romania still lacks an approved National Strategy for LLL and a National Action Plan for Adult Learning.

The grant support will be used for the period in order to underpin the national policy through its main results: the awareness campaign and the website dedicated to adult learning, the conclusions of the transnational cooperation activities that will inform the national plan on adult learning, the glossary of terms and good practice, the recommendations on national initiatives related to adult learning.

The National Strategy for LLL to be finalised by the Ministry of National Education and the National Action Plan for Adult Learning to be achieved by ANC should establish the main driver actions that Romanian needs in the Adult Learning area. These two policy documents should be finalised in 2014 in order to contribute to the implementation of national projects under the Sectoral Operational Programme Development of Human Resources of ESF 2014-2020.



LIFELONG LEARNING PROGRAMME

**Implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning
2012–2014**

SLOVENIA

Progress Report

GENERAL INFORMATION

Project title: SI - Implementation of the renewed European Agenda for Adult Learning 2012–2014

Decision/Agreement number: 2012 – 3499 / 001 – 001

Project website: <http://lw.acs.si/learningparade/project>

Reporting period: From 01/09/12
To 31/08/13

Date of submission: 27/09/13

Beneficiary organisation: Slovenian Institute for Adult Education (SIAE)

Project coordinator (contact person): Zvonka Pangerc Pahernik

Project coordinator email address: zvonka.pangerc@acs.si

This project has been funded with support from the European Union under the Invitation to submit grant applications for the Implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning addressed to the National Coordinators (period 2012–2014).

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- PUBLIC PART -

1. Project objectives (please present the objectives of the project, the potential impact upon and benefits to the target user group)



The Slovenian Institute for Adult Education (SIAE), national coordinator for the implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning (EAAL), is the umbrella national institute for the development of adult education in the country. Raising awareness on the importance and omnipresence of adult learning and education (ALE) and reaching out to existing and potential learners is one of our major tasks. In this field we have a long standing tradition: 18 years of the [Lifelong Learning Week](#) (LLW), 17

years of presenting [awards for outstanding achievements in ALE](#), and 7 years of the [Role Models Attract](#) campaign. The importance of all these activities has been recognized by the Slovenian government, and since 2005, these endeavours have been incorporated into and financially supported by the Adult Education Master Plan and respective Annual Adult Education Programmes.

Stemming from the above mentioned expertise, we designed the project “Implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning 2012–2014 in Slovenia” with the aim to upgrade our endeavours in the field of awareness raising by using new approaches (local/regional **Learning parades – days of learning communities** (LPs)), produce videos on topical issues in Slovenian adult education, explore the topic of learning communities theoretically and illustrate it through examples of good practice as well as produce an e-corner with relevant information on e-learning and open educational resources. All activities have been supported by ICT tools (especially the complex website which covers all project aspects in Slovenian and English language) and promotional materials.

With regard to our national role and the consecutive strong link to policy makers on one hand, and adult education providers on the other hand, our aim was also to establish and/or reinforce links from policy level down to practice (practitioners and learners), and vice versa, in order to ensure better understanding and communication among all stakeholders, greater synergy and a better match of demand (from learners, ALE providers, economy, society...) and supply (of educational provision, policy measures etc.).



In addition to quite frequent professional events taking place in the ALE field (conferences, seminars, focus groups etc.) related to different priority fields of the relevant national and EU strategies (especially those financed by ESF), we intended to create different ‘meeting places and opportunities’ for expressing opinions and

introducing actions, informing and motivating, showing results, establishing contacts and recognizing opportunities, widening horizons and acknowledging differences... all the while having in mind that doing all this at the local level ensures that special emphasis will be paid to low-qualified adults and other educationally deprived groups, i.e. non-participants and would-be-participants in ALE. The outcomes of project activities are expected to go beyond the scope of the particular events as they were designed raise the profile of ALE in general and generate the above effects throughout the year. Moreover, like our learning festival itself, the LPs surpassed the field of adult education and reached out to younger generations as well which is in line with the LLW model and the Slovenian Strategy on Lifelong Learning (2007).

Basically two strands of activities were taking place in the first project phase:

1. **Learning parades – days of learning communities 2013**: a series of seven one-day events at local level consisting of two parts: a **learning festival** in a public place, involving various providers of ALE, local and national policy-makers, media, learners and passers-by, and a **professional event** (conference, seminar, survey etc.) with the following objectives:

- To raise the profile of adult education and lifelong learning with the help of all stakeholders and media (local TV and radio stations, magazines etc.)
- To reach out to the widest public, especially the educationally deprived and low-qualified via innovative approaches (for example the [‘chain of knowledge’](#) consisting of more than 100 people walking through the city and inviting people to the [LP Novo mesto](#))
- To provide information on opportunities for formal and non-formal ALE as well as guidance
- To motivate for participation and show concrete results of ALE (learners’ testimonies, performances on stage or via video-screen)
- To make public life stories of successful learners, celebrate their achievements and engage them as learning ambassadors
- To identify learners’ needs before and during their participation in ALE
- To promote the renewed European Agenda for Adult Learning as well as national policy measures and their practical applications that could be of use to individuals
- To discuss topical issues in ALE policy and practice and in sectors related to it (employment, sustainable development, active citizenship and others)
- To increase and reinforce (horizontal and vertical) partnerships and forms of cooperation – not only during LLW an LP but throughout the year

2. **Videos on examples of good practice in 3 ALE professional fields**:



Video 1: **There are opportunities! Training programmes for the unemployed** featuring the implementation of a training programme for the unemployed developed by SIAE and tailor-made for the concrete needs in three local areas with the aim to encourage other providers in Slovenia to engage in similar endeavours and partnerships as well as learners to get involved in such programmes.

Video 2: Handmade stories. Rural areas as an opportunity for the development of basic skills and key competences featuring opportunities for adults to develop various forms of basic skills and key competences, intensifying intergenerational cooperation and partnerships at local level, in this particular case in a rural area. The aim of this video is to show the transferability of the educational model for the development of adult literacy and experiences gained through its implementation to other topical and geographical areas as well as to encourage learners to get involved in these types of non-formal learning.



Video 3 (will be released by the end of September): Guidance for learning. Educational guidance support for adults featuring the Slovenian approach to providing comprehensive and easily accessible information and guidance systems as well as systems for validating non-formal and informal learning (national level and local implementations). The professional point of view, presented by Slovenian experts in the field, is reinforced by learners'/clients' testimonies with the aim to promote these activities and bring them closer to the widest public thereby contributing to their increased participation in ALE.

ICT based tools and promotional materials have been used to support the above activities. The complex project website's has been to attract and inform stakeholders and to illustrate the wider political, professional, socio-economic environment (through information in the ID and Challenges/opportunities section of each LP venue). The work on the [definition of a learning community](#) has had the aim to provide a more in-depth professional ground for LPs, and the last video on the role of ALE in communities. The topical field of e-learning was addressed via work on the e-corner (will be posted on the website in the following months) and aims to be of use to professionals and learners.

2. Project methodology (please present the methodology for achieving the objectives, including the evaluation and dissemination strategies)

AD 1: Learning parades 2013:

Throughout the 18 years of LLW, one of the features of the learning festival in Slovenia was the great number (in 2013 nearly 9,400), variety and distribution of events (content-wise: life-wide topics, time-wise: a 2-month festival, geographically: country-wide, various venues...) based on the cooperation of about 1,300 organisers (28 of them regional or thematic LLW coordinators).

Through this project and in addition to the usual LLW 2013, we wanted to create condensed one-day events in selected 7 areas (7 more are envisaged next year), drawing from the pool of experienced institutions, well established approaches, existing partnerships, efficient promotional measures and channels, and **add value** to all these elements.



For this purpose and in our capacity as national LLW coordinator, we developed the general scheme of LPs and discussed it with the network of LLW partners, i.e. the staff at SIAE, the National LLW

Committee consisting of representatives of financiers and other national stakeholders, providers of LLW events, especially the selected LLW/LP coordinators who then consulted with their local partners and provided local programmes. The major objectives at project level and local level were reconciled, whereas concrete activities, venues, programmes and allocation of sources were tailor-made to the challenges and characteristics of each venue and were subject to further discussion between the national and local teams. The latter coordinated activities of (on average) 25 partners each (a total of around 170 LP organisers) and cooperated closely with local municipalities. As a result, all seven LPs form a many-coloured presentation of ALE ‘faces’, opportunities, results, challenges, needs, recommendations... best represented via [photo- and video-snapshots on the project website](#) (bottom left window), printed materials, booklets with learners’ voices etc. All LPs but one took place in public venues in cities (city squares, in front of the municipality or coordinator’s premises, market place) thus attracting invited visitors but also passers-by. The last LP took place in the countryside – in and around a cottage in the hills; various means of transport were provided, buses with participants from two other regions (cooperating throughout the year in the network of Slovenian study circles) arrived as well. The number of participants per LP ranged from 200/LP up to 1,500/LP; all together around 5,000 people took part.

At actual LP venues, the SIAE project team assisted the local coordinators where needed (mainly with regard to media promotion, opening speeches etc.) whereas the core events (information stands with learning opportunities, public appearances on stage, workshops, meetings, taster sessions, cultural events etc.) were carried out by the network of local providers themselves.

Evaluation of the LPs was made by the SIAE working team immediately after each event and by LP coordinators via a short survey on strengths and weaknesses of their LPs as well as future plans. All this was input for the present report the findings of which will be presented to the ministry of education (co-financer of this project), ministry of labour (co-financer of LLW), the National LLW Committee, the network of ALE providers at their annual meeting, and internationally (e.g. ARALE Conference, October 2013 in Brussels). The sustainability of the LP approach (as an added value to the long-standing LLW model) will be discussed at national level.

Dissemination has been carried out mainly via the project website, the LLW and SIAE as well as each LP coordinator’s website, via LLW Facebook and YouTube, e-bulletins, local (but also national) newspapers, radio and TV broadcasts, and other means of communication.

In addition to the heavy involvement of ALE providers, policy makers from national level (minister, deputy, other) were present at 4 LPs, all 7 mayors held opening speeches – all of them addressing adult education, lifelong learning and national and/or local political measures as to improve, support and align adult education with broader socio-economic demands of their surroundings. Renowned professionals



and celebrities from various fields (sustainable development, social affairs, culture, forestry, energy and environmental issues, politics etc.) took active part in events, and attracted media as well as the widest public’s attention.

Wherever possible, the EAAL as well as national political recommendations and measures in the field of (adult) education were introduced at LP venues

and media broadcasts. For example, European Commission representative, [Martina Ní Cheallaigh's video-interview](#) (from 1:58 on in English language) for the national conference 'Lifelong Learning Centre Gorenjska - opportunities for learning for all', an event linked to the respective LP, yielded very wide recognition among policy makers and professionals and was published on YouTube and relevant websites.

Learners contributed to LP events at all venues by co-organising events, showing their learning activities on stands, in workshops and taster sessions, exhibiting their results, making public appearances on stage or via wide screen, YouTube etc., speaking to media or the widest public about their life stories and the role of ALE, expressing their opinions on ALE supply and policy, such as in two booklets related to LP Žalec ([Let my voice be heard](#)) and LP Novo mesto ([Collection of thoughts on learning](#)). One of SIAE's award winners, Ciril Horjak, comic-book artist and illustrator, captured the LP in the country side in [cartoon images](#).

AD 2: Video-production:

In addition to SIAE experts in the field of programming and implementing educational programmes for adults, designing literacy programmes and other non-formal types of learning (e.g. study circles), information and guidance and validation of non-formal and informal learning as well as community learning, providers of adult learning and their local partners were invited to take part in the filming of the respective themes based on concrete examples of good practice. In all cases, these endeavours related to raising participation of low-skilled and deprived groups and included stories of their representatives.

Videos were produced by SIAE and a sub-contractor who has experience in shooting video-portraits of award winners. They were disseminated via the networks that cooperated in their production, handed out to stakeholders at national and local level, shown at LP venues (the first two) and venues of the Days of guidance centres (18–20 September – 3rd video). They have been incorporated in professional work at national and local level and made available to media and the widest public via project website and LLW Facebook/YouTube. Their evaluation has been made by participating stakeholders and other providers of ALE.

3. Project outcomes and results (please describe the major achievements and results for the reporting period)

The project website documents all aspects of project outcomes – preparation, implementation and to a certain degree also evaluation and dissemination therefore please visit respective links:

1. Seven Learning parades – days of learning communities 2013:

- [LP Nova Gorica: 10 May 2013, coordinator: Adult education centre Nova Gorica](#)
- [LP Žalec: 13 May 2013, coordinator: Adult education centre Žalec](#)
- [LP Slovenj Gradec: 14 May 2013, coordinator: Adult education centre MOCIS](#)
- [LP Jesenice: 15 May 2013, coordinator: LLW organisational board - Municipality Jesenice](#)
- [LP Novo mesto: 16 May 2013, coordinator: Adult education centre Novo mesto](#)
- [LP Murska Sobota: 17 May 2013, coordinator: Adult education centre Murska Sobota](#)
- [LP Radeče: 19 May 2013, coordinators: KTRC Radeče and Slovenia forest service](#)

and all other options presented in the **top left window for each LP** (ID, challenges and opportunities, LP calendar, Photo- and video-snapshots) as well as the window **Learners' voice** for each LP.

2. Video-production:

- <http://llw.acs.si/learningparade/video1>
- <http://llw.acs.si/learningparade/video2>
- <http://llw.acs.si/learningparade/video3> (will be released in the beginning of October)

3. Definition of a learning community:

<http://llw.acs.si/learningparade/communities/>

4. **e-corner:** <http://llw.acs.si/learningparade/ecorner> (activities are on-going; will be released by the end of the year at the latest)

For 2.-3. see also the whole option **Good practice** on the project website.

5. Information on the project, EAAL and related activities, partners:

<http://llw.acs.si/learningparade/project/about> and all other sub-options under option **Project**

6. **Promotional materials:** <http://llw.acs.si/learningparade/materials/promotional>

see also other sub-options under **Materials** on the project website.

7. **Dissemination:** <http://llw.acs.si/learningparade/dissemination>

4. Plans for the future (for **progress reports**: include a description of plans to carry out the remaining work to achieve project objectives; for **final reports**, emphasize how the project outcomes / achievements will be sustainable beyond the project's lifetime.)

Under the umbrella of Lifelong Learning Week 2014, the **second series of Learning Parades** will be carried out using the same basic methodological approach and taking into account this year's findings and recommendations of stakeholders. The latter will be the result of before mentioned evaluations and consultations with relevant partners (National LLW Committee, representatives of ministries for education and labour, participants of the annual ALE conference and European Commission – evaluation of interim report). LPs 2014 will be followed by dissemination and evaluation activities until the end of the project life-cycle.

Video/DVD No 3 'Guidance for learning. Educational guidance support for adults' will be released in the beginning of October and disseminated to various networks at national and local/regional level as well as internationally.

Video/DVD No 4 will be produced by February 2014 and will focus on the topic of learning communities thus illustrating and testing the draft **definition of learning communities** which will be made final by the end of the project.

e-corner – first draft will be made public by the end of 2013 and will be updated and upgraded until the end of the project and beyond.

ICT support and project management for all of the above activities will be carried out in a similar manner as in the first project year with emphasis on how to ensure

sustainability of outcomes beyond the project's lifetime.

More emphasis will be paid to exchange with other member states, i.e. national coordinators in order to enrich each other's project activities and provide grounds for further cooperation.

5. Contribution to EU Policies (describe the contribution of the project in implementing the European Agenda for Adult Learning and the **Impact** on National Policies and on target groups.)

In general, through project activities and outcomes

- *The European Agenda for Adult Learning has been brought closer to **policy makers at national and local level** (they became more aware of its messages, the link between EU and national strategies (Adult Education Master Plan), the role of ALE in general and of ALE and related issues at local level). Especially at the local level, **mayors** were made aware of the wider dimensions of work being carried out in the field of ALE in their municipalities, they promised more and better support and realised that the ALE community (providers, learners, partners from other fields, such as culture, economy, health, social work...) present an important voting body with demands and strong opinions. In return, informed policy makers will be able to contribute better to the creation and implementation of educational (and related) policy at EU, national and local level.*
- ***ALE professionals and academics** were made better aware of the European Agenda for Adult Learning and have become able to identify their position in the whole process. In return they have become empowered to define contents of new activities/projects and apply for EU resources (Erasmus+) in accordance with EAAL's priority fields thus contributing to the European shared treasure of experiences and methods.*
- *Project activities contributed to raising the profile of **adult learners** and sharing of their life stories and recommendations to politicians as well as ALE providers. The project helped to identify roles that learners could take on as ambassadors of learning in campaigns for motivating non-learners and would-be-learners (especially from deprived population groups) to take part in education and training. In turn, from their point of view they could provide valuable input for EU educational policy through EU learners' forums (which has already been the aim of some EU projects in the past).*
- ***Media** have been made aware of political and professional ALE processes through ways that they find attractive (large public events, enthusiastic life stories, participation of high-level politicians and celebrities at LPs or their professional events etc.) – and commented that such contents are very welcome in times of crises and low-spiritedness. As a result they supported project activities and contributed to better outreach and informing of the **widest public**.*



Concrete project outcomes and approaches as examples of good practice could have impact on:

- *Awareness raising activities in the field of **ALE in Europe** (the ‘Learning Parade’ approach will be introduced at the Awareness Raising in Adult Learning and Education – ARALE Conference in Brussels, October 2013, and elsewhere); it has (and will) certainly enrich these processes **nationally**.*
- *The development of an **EU data base on examples of good practice** (video-publications illustrating various ALE aspects, providing inspiring life stories, convincing learning materials etc.); the **national database of video-presentations** has been enriched by the project outcomes and will continue to grow.*
- *Through all three videos until now (and with the last one envisaged on learning communities) topical EAAL issues have been illustrated from the Slovenian point of view: information and guidance, validation of non-formal and informal learning, implementation of non-formal ALE programmes in local, deprived areas etc. This could be the **basis for peer learning among interested member states**.*



LIFELONG LEARNING PROGRAMME

Implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning

2012-2014

CYPRUS

Progress Report

GENERAL INFORMATION

Project title: **Implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning for the period 2012 – 2014**

Decision/Agreement number: **2012-3492/001-001**

Project website: **<http://www.moec.gov.cy/aethee/>**

Reporting period: From **1/9/2012**

To **30/9/2013**

Date of submission: **30/9/2013**

Beneficiary organisation: **Ministry of Education and Culture**

Project coordinator (contact person): **Nicoletta Ioannou**

Project coordinator email address: **nioannou@moec.gov.cy**
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This report reflects the views only of the author and the Executive Agency/European Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

Please send:

1 electronic copy of progress/final report and financial report (Excel spreadsheet) to the following email address:

FACEA-P3-AL-AGENDA@ec.europa.eu

and

one original paper copy and one electronic copy on physical storage device (USB stick, CD Rom...) to the following postal address:

Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency
Lifelong Learning: Leonardo da Vinci, Grundtvig & Dissemination
Ms H el ene BARRY
Office: BOU2 02/11
Av. du Bourget 1
BE - 1140 Brussels
BELGIUM

Please note that we ask you to send the results of the project only in electronic form:

- publications, CD Rom, DVD with audio, video materials: electronic version or web link are sufficient)
- official invitations and agenda of conferences, meetings, training or other events organised/participated by the centre, copy of presentation: electronic version is sufficient
- references to the internet sites where appropriate

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- PUBLIC PART -

1. Project objectives (please present the objectives of the project, the potential impact upon and benefits to the target user group)

The general aim of this project is to raise awareness of the European Agenda for Adult Learning and promote the importance of adult learning, by identifying and informing adult learners about the benefits of their participation to adult learning opportunities. This in turn, will enhance their access to adult education and maximize their participation. Another aim is to support the national debate and the dialogue linked to adult learning policies with regards to the participation of marginalized groups (e.g. senior citizens, unemployed adults and early school leavers).

The project's aims have been designed mainly across three strands:

1. To establish the cooperation and communication between the representatives of various organizations that are activated in the field of adult learning, at regional and national level, through regular meetings, which will contribute to better coherence and coordination of the policies on adult learning sector.
2. To increase the awareness of the European agenda and more specifically the opportunities that adults have, with an emphasis on the disadvantaged groups, mainly elder people and low skilled adults.
3. To support the debate on the issue of educating the Adult Learning Staff working with vulnerable social groups (eg. early school leavers).

Complementary to the above aims the project is also paying attention to the following issues:

- To enhance transnational cooperation among the stakeholders in Cyprus and in Europe, through the participation of Cypriot representatives to European events, so as to exchange information and good practices with each other.
- To promote national and transnational cooperation among the target groups of the project through the events and other activities which are foreseen to take place during the project (such as conferences, regional information days, seminars and a PLA-Peer Learning Activities).
- To disseminate the relevant EU information (e.g. research studies, reports, publication material), as widely as possible to every interested party.
- To produce informational material that will be promoted and disseminated to the target groups that will participate in the project.

Through the activities that have been carried out until today (Conference, a Regional Information Day in Limassol, publication material, newsletter, the web site and the TV spot) the following benefits can be noted:

- Enhancement of the debate among the main representatives of Adult Education and Training in Cyprus on how to promote communication and better cooperation among them and achieve common objectives on adult education.

- Access of every potential adult learner, with an emphasis on adults coming from vulnerable social groups (early school leavers, prisoners, elder people, unemployed adults) to education and training opportunities and raise awareness of the renewed Agenda on Adult Learning. This has been achieved through the publication of the “Guide for Educational and Training Opportunities” that has been produced after the Launching Conference and distributed to adults during the regional information day, TV and radio campaigns. It has been also communicated to the public through the web site of the project (<http://www.moec.gov.cy/aethee/>).
- Increase adult participation in lifelong learning educational opportunities (the National Target according to the Lifelong Learning Strategy 2007-13 is to reach 12% until 2015), so that adults go one step up in their qualification level for employment, social life and active citizenship.
- Enhance professionalization of adult learning practitioners who work with vulnerable adult learners. Having in mind the above reality, the PLA that will be organized will give emphasis on their continuous professional development and on how to function effectively with adult learners. Appropriate training enhances quality of the teaching process, the learning outcomes and increases participation of adults in educational opportunities. At the end of the PLA, a practical manual with the general guidelines regarding how to be more effective with the above groups, will be produced and disseminated to all interested parties.

It is significant to mention that the implementation of the project has been caught in the middle of a severe financial crisis that the Cyprus' economy is going through. As a result of this crisis the unemployment rates have been increased and a great number of adults are looking for education and training opportunities which will enable them to enter or re-enter the labour market. In addition, many people look for educational activities that will enhance their socialisation, communication and interaction with other people. For the above reasons, all those participated to the project's activity until now, agreed that this project is more relevant and necessary than ever before in Cyprus.

2. Project methodology (please present the methodology for achieving the objectives, including the evaluation and dissemination strategies)

For achieving the main aims of the project (please refer to Question 1) a number of indicative activities have been designed, which are referring mainly to the organisation/design/publication of: two Conferences (one in 2013 and one in 2014), two PLAs (one in 2013 and one in 2014), six Regular meetings between stakeholders (three in 2013 and three in 2014) a web site, a “Guide with education and training opportunities for adults in Cyprus”, publicity and dissemination activities, a practical manual for Educating Adult Learning Staff and the Action Plan of the

project.

For the successful implementation of the above, it has been decided that regular meetings between the implementation team should take place. The team consists of representatives from the Ministry of Education and Culture (European and international affairs Office, Directorate of Tertiary Education, Adult Education Centres, Directorate of Technical and Vocational Education and Training, Evening Schools, State Institute of Further Studies), the Pedagogical Institute, the Centre of Educational Research and Evaluation, the Statistic Service of Cyprus, the Planning Office, the Ministry of Labour, the Foundation for the Management of Lifelong Learning Programme and the Human Resource Development Authority. After the first meeting, the team finalized the Action Plan of the project with the activities, timetables, dissemination activities, major milestones, etc. The successful implementation of the aforementioned activities is monitored by the National Coordinator and the implementation team.

The project has been launched by a very successful Conference entitled 'Adult Education and Training in Cyprus: Realities and Perspectives - The implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning 2012-14' where participants (stakeholders, policy makers, etc) had the chance to get informed by Commissioner Androulla Vassiliou about the vision and the initiatives of the European Commission regarding Adult Education and about the European Agenda for Adult Learning 2012-14 in specific. Apart from making the project known to the participants, a mapping of the existing situation was achieved, mainly regarding the adult education provision to marginalized social groups. Finally, there was a debate on how effective cooperation among the several stakeholders activated in the field of adult education can be enhanced.

After the Conference, which was a major milestone, a Guide of Education and Training opportunities to adults, was produced. The Guide aims to provide information to public with regards to the main education and training opportunities that adult learners have. Additionally, it gives them the chance to contact the responsible officers, and encourages them to participate to education and training opportunities that will help them take their qualifications level one step up.

Following the production of the Guide, the team organized the first Regional Information Day so as to achieve one of the major aims of the project, which is to inform adult learners, and mainly those who belong to vulnerable social groups, about the education and training opportunities that are available, and also make them aware of the benefits of this participation. One Regional Information Day has been organized in Limassol as planned and one more will be organized by the end of 2013 in Nicosia. During the regional information day, representatives from adult education organisations presented their main educational opportunities to adults. Presentations were followed by an open air exhibition, during which a number of adult education and training organisations (governmental, semi-governmental and NGOs) informed the public about the education and training opportunities they offer and disseminated relevant material.

The Guide has being distributed to the Regional Information Day that was organized in June and it has been also distributed to a number of relevant organisations such as the Post-Secondary Vocational Education Institutes, the Adult Education Centres,

the Evening Technical Schools, the European and International Affairs Office etc. It was also uploaded to the project's web-site.

From the very beginning of the project a specific dissemination plan was developed so as to ensure that appropriate dissemination of the project's activities will be achieved. As a result, specific material has been produced so as to enhance awareness of the Agenda and the project itself. An information leaflet referring the project, its aims and the European Agenda for Adult Learning 2012-14 and the benefits of Adult Education has been produced and disseminated to the stakeholders and the public, along with the project's posters, folders, pens and pads. In addition, the creation of a simple, describable and memorable TV spot spreads the project to the public. Likewise, a banner has been designed and it is used in every event of the project. Finally, a newsletter which illustrates all the events of the first-year of the project has been designed and sent via e-mail to every interested party. All dissemination activities can be found on the project's web site which is accessible to the public. It should be also mentioned that there is media coverage of the project's activities before and after major events, such as radio coverage and also newspaper coverage (press releases).

Finally, a web site has been created especially for the promotion of the project's activities and its final products. The project's web site includes all the activities of the project as well as all the relevant information material (e.g. EU tools, EU reports, researches etc) concerning the Adult Learning. Moreover, it provides all the available information regarding the educational opportunities that adult learners can find in Cyprus with all the contact details of the relevant organisations. In addition, it informs stakeholders about the several activities of the project (dates, information material, presentations etc).

In addition, the material that was produced during the project has been distributed to all interested parties (practitioners, adults, professionals, policy makers, stakeholders etc) either by post or via email. Likewise, the publications that derive from project's activities (e.g. Conference, Regional Information Days etc) have been also distributed to the participants and other interested stakeholders. Finally, public media is addressed for dissemination purposes such as printed newspapers, magazines, radio and TV interviews, and digital publications are pursued during the project.

Regarding the evaluation of the project, it should be mentioned that one of the tasks of the implementation team is to ensure that the activities are implemented as planned and that the major deadlines are met. It has been also decided that a meeting of this team will be organized before each major event of the project. According to plan, three meetings have been arranged between the members of the team until today. In each meeting time is spent to assess the implemented activities and make suggestions for improvement, which is part of the on-going assessment of the project (formative assessment). This is part of the assessment plan of the project which aims to ensure the quality of the project and address possible problems that may arise during the project's implementation. The formative assessment has been carried out by the implementation team during its regular meetings. Oral feedback is being sought with regards to the implementation of the activities of the project and with regards to the achievement of the project aims. Recommendations are taken into account so as to ensure that there are no serious problems which prevent the

successful implementation of the project. As far as summative assessment is concerned, this will be done at the end of the project, aiming to identify whether the project's aims have been met.

3. Project outcomes and results (please describe the major achievements and results for the reporting period)

The major achievements of the project are the following:

1. Better awareness of the adult population in Cyprus about the priorities of the European Agenda for Adult Learning 2012-14 and the Adult Education in Europe and in Cyprus through the Conference, the regular meetings of the implementation team and the Regional Information Day that has been organized. The web site of the project contributes towards the above, since it includes EU tools, researches and other relevant material on Adult Education. It also includes the material that has been produced until now (eg. the Guide), the Action Plan of the project and useful information on the forthcoming events.
2. Stronger commitment of all relevant actors and stakeholders to enhance cooperation and stronger links between them, so as to promote adult education policies and priorities at national level, and support the objectives of the European Agenda for Adult Learning 2012-14. The meetings of the various stakeholders that take place on a regular basis, and the common agreement that Adult Learning can address to a great extent the negative consequences of the current financial crisis in Cyprus (unemployment, need to upgrade one's skills and competences, second chance educational opportunities etc) is another achievement of the project. It should be noted that those attended the meeting suggested that the work of this team should be communicated to policy makers and those responsible for the development of the Lifelong Learning Strategy 2007-13, so as to be taken into account during the design of the new Strategy.
3. Collection of the main educational and training opportunities that are offered to adults, all in a single publication, which has been produced after the launching conference. The guide has been already distributed to adult learners in many occasions and it will be the main tool during the effort to reach adult learners coming from socially disadvantaged areas, so as to increase their participation in lifelong learning opportunities. We foresee that by the end of the project, their personal and professional development and social growth will be enhanced and their skills and competences will be upgraded.
4. Better dissemination of European policies on adult learning, the existing tools and other relevant material, through the Regional Information Days, the Conferences, the media campaigns and the web site of the project.

4. Plans for the future (for **progress reports**: include a description of plans to carry out the remaining work to achieve project objectives; for **final reports**, emphasize how the project outcomes / achievements will be sustainable beyond the project's lifetime.)

As it has been mentioned the implementation of the project has been caught in the middle of a severe financial crisis. In addition, there were some internal changes within the Ministry after the presidential elections in February 2013. The above changes caused some delays on the implementation of the Action Plan and some project activities were rescheduled. Nevertheless, no changes have been made to the content or the priorities of the project.

The PLA, which has been rescheduled for the end of October 2013, is expected to raise several issues with regards to the professionalization and the quality of adult learning staff working with disadvantaged social groups (with an emphasis on early school leavers). The above group will have the chance to come in touch with other professionals all over Europe, present good practices, exchange ideas and views in areas of common concern and participate to a debate on the content of the in-service training opportunities that they should have so as to enhance their professional development. At the end of the PLA a practical manual will be developed with the main issues that this group of practitioners must have in mind when they teach adult learners (eg. obstacles in learning, motives, teaching techniques etc). In addition, they will come in touch with the existing European tools that are relevant to their work.

In addition, during the remaining Regional Information Days vulnerable social groups such as young unemployed people, elderly people, prisoners and people who seek a second chance in education, would be approached to a greater extent. For achieving the above, a stronger cooperation will be sought with NGOs and other voluntary organisations. It should be noted that during the first Regional Information Day, a number of NGOs had the chance to present and exhibit their work with regards to adult education opportunities that they provide. It has been stressed by several representatives that more emphasis should be given to NGOs and stronger participation of NGOs should be enhance during the development of national policies regarding adult education.

5. Contribution to EU Policies (describe the contribution of the project in implementing the European Agenda for Adult Learning **and the Impact** on National Policies and on target groups.)

The promotion of the European Agenda and its main priorities has been one of the major aims of the project from its very beginning (please refer to Question 1). As it is indicated in the Council Resolution on the renewed Agenda for Adult Learning, five main priorities for adult learning in Europe for 2012-14 have been identified. According to these priorities and the national emphases, the Action Plan of Cyprus for the implementation of the European Agenda focuses on the following:

1. **Making lifelong learning and mobility a reality**: (a) Inform adults about their fundamental right in participation to lifelong learning and (b) Inform adults on education opportunities, mainly those who face various problems due to their

low participation in education.

2. Improving the quality and efficiency of education and training: (a) Improve the quality of the adult learning staff mainly those working with vulnerable learners (e.g. early school leavers) and (b) Strengthen cooperation between key partners (stakeholders) of Adult Education provision in Cyprus, through participation in relevant activities.
3. Improving the knowledge base on adult learning and monitoring the adult learning sector: Notification and implementation, as far as possible, of the key messages of international surveys and studies such as the Adult Education Survey and PIAAC (Programme for the International Assessment of Adult of Competencies) in collaboration with the relevant organisations.

Finally, the project is expected to contribute to the National Lifelong Learning Strategy which is being monitored by the Planning Office of Cyprus. It should be noted that a member of the implementation team represents the aforementioned organisation. As it has been stressed in several cases by all members of the implementation team, Adult Education should be more clearly defined in the LLL Strategy of Cyprus and that the final conclusions of the project should be forwarded to the Planning Office and the policy makers of the relevant Ministries so as to be taken into account for future reference.



LIFELONG LEARNING PROGRAMME

Implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning

2012-2014

FRANCE

Progress Report

GENERAL INFORMATION

Project title: Implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning
in France

Decision/Agreement number: n.2012-4678/ 001 - 001

Project website: <http://www.2e2f.fr/page/agenda-europeen-des-adultes>

Reporting period: From 01/10/2012
To 30/09/2013

Date of submission: 31/10/2013

Beneficiary organisation: Agence Europe Éducation Formation France (2e2f)

Project coordinator (contact person): Antoine GODBERT

Project coordinator email address: Antoine.godbert@2e2f.fr; Lydia.Carteron@2e2f.fr

This project has been funded with support from the European Union under the Invitation to submit grant applications for the Implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning addressed to the National Coordinators (period 2012-2014).

This report reflects the views only of the author and the Executive Agency/European Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

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Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency
Lifelong Learning: Leonardo da Vinci, Grundtvig & Dissemination
Ms Hélène BARRY
Office: BOU2 02/11
Av. du Bourget 1
BE - 1140 Brussels
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- publications, CD Rom, DVD with audio, video materials: electronic version or web link are sufficient)
- official invitations and agenda of conferences, meetings, training or other events organised/participated by the centre, copy of presentation: electronic version is sufficient
- references to the internet sites where appropriate

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- PUBLIC PART -

1. Project objectives (please present the objectives of the project, the potential impact upon and benefits to the target user group)

The French stakeholders involved in adult lifelong learning (ministries, local authorities, training and guidance organisations, businesses, grassroots educational organisations, etc.) share the objectives of the European Agenda for Adult Learning to increase the participation of the least skilled adults in lifelong learning.

Given the extent of the economic crisis affecting France and the rise in unemployment, access to learning is a key strategy for assisting return to employment.

Although there are various detection and support mechanisms allowing people to access learning so that they can improve their basic skills, it remains difficult to identify those who are most in need of learning and guide them towards appropriate training, particularly due to the great variety of stakeholders and financing.

The project's main objective, implemented by the French coordinator, is to initiate large-scale consultations with the main public and private stakeholders in order to improve access for the least skilled to mechanisms enabling them to acquire basic skills.

This first year has been successful as the steering committee, which consists of 7 ministries and 11 major national and regional stakeholders, has been set up and is supervising four working groups.

2. Project methodology (please present the methodology for achieving the objectives, including the evaluation and dissemination strategies)

The chosen methodology is based on listening to the needs of stakeholders and ensuring consultation and dialogue in order to propose realistic and appropriate solutions.

The project therefore involves three stages:

- 2012-2013: observation and consultation with the working groups;
- November 2013: pooling and validation of findings through a conference;
- 2014: finally, a field-testing stage involving the operational committees.

The dissemination strategy makes use of several channels:

- information provided by the Steering Committee through a monthly newsletter and a collaborative platform;
- information provided to the general public via the agency's websites (articles, interviews, dedicated pages);
- awareness-raising among project holders about the lifelong learning programme (presentations during launch meetings);
- awareness-raising among adult learning experts through the participation of the National Coordinator's teams in conferences and other events.

French website for the European Agenda for Adult Learning: www.2e2f.fr/page/agenda-europeen-des-adultes

3. Project outcomes and results (please describe the major achievements and results for the reporting period)

During the first year, the focus has been on setting up the Steering Committee, initiating the four working groups and preparing for the mid-term conference.

To ensure an open-minded approach and encourage European contributions, three missions in Europe were organised for representatives of the Steering Committee so that they could observe practices in the United Kingdom and Finland.

The Steering Committee is representative of the wide variety of stakeholders in adult learning in France (ministries, regions, public and private organisations, social partners, etc.). This committee has 18 active members (7 ministries and 11 national stakeholders) and has met four times at regular intervals. The establishment of this consultation forum, which is basically devoted to interinstitutional dialogue between the main stakeholders in adult lifelong learning in France, is a unique and innovative step forward.

Four working groups have been set up, the themes of which have been discussed and validated by the Steering Committee. They reflect the concerns of those on the ground and provide information to decision-makers involved in defining and implementing public policies on adult learning in France and in Europe.

The groups have operated from September to December 2013 and have called on 49 experts and resource persons:

Group No 1: promotion of alternance and employability: study of the conditions for both young and older people to successfully engage in alternance (supervisors: DGEFP [General Delegation for Employment and Vocational Training], IP2A [Institute for the Professionalisation of Alternance Stakeholders] / experts: Association of French Regions-Picardy Region, Cabinet Social Innovation, CCCA-BTP CFA Finistère [Finistère Centre for the Training of Building and Public Works Apprentices]).

Group No 2: support (towards, during and after training) for those most alienated from employment (supervisors: DIO [Information and Guidance Representative], Association of French Regions-Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region / experts: ELGPN).

Group No 3: professionalisation of stakeholders involved in guiding and supporting low-skilled adults (supervisors: CNAM [National Health Insurance Fund], Association of French Regions-Picardy Region / experts: DGEFP, DIO, CNFPTLV [National Council for Lifelong Vocational Training]).

Group No 4: assessment of generic skills: tools, techniques, methods (supervisors: DGESCO-CAFOC de Nantes [Directorate-General for School Education-Nantes vocational training unit], AGEFOS-PME [Funder of and adviser on vocational training in SMEs] / experts: CNML [National Council of Local Missions], Co-Alternatives consultancy).

An observation cycle involving the comparison of European secure career practices (FPSPP [Joint fund for secure careers], CNML, Overseas Ministry) has also started.

The National Coordinator has joined forces with the National and European Illiteracy Sessions, organised by the ANLCI [National Anti-Illiteracy Agency], to present the working groups' results and ensure maximum exposure for the European agenda. Nearly 800 learning experts will be represented in this respect.

4. Plans for the future (for **progress reports**: include a description of plans to carry out the remaining work to achieve project objectives; for **final reports**, emphasize how the project outcomes / achievements will be sustainable beyond the project's lifetime.)

The second year will be marked by two main stages.

The first will involve discussion of the progress made by the working groups, in partnership with the National and European Illiteracy Sessions, from 13 to 15 November in Lyons. A summary report on the working groups' activities will be published during that event.

Subsequently, field tests will be conducted from February 2014, based on the working groups' recommendations.

In addition, a European observation cycle on secure careers and guidance will be presented in the form of a workshop.

Lastly, the conclusions and analyses of the field tests will be discussed during a final assessment seminar.

At the same time, field visits will be made within Europe to continue feeding the national discussions.

Work will be started on the provision of resources, in the form of an inventory of French tools, publications and reference systems, and on the issue of the basic knowledge needed to access an initial qualification, with a view to ensuring common understanding and convergence of practices.

European transparency will be an ongoing priority, particularly through awareness-raising among stakeholders about the cooperation opportunities via the new Erasmus Plus programme.

5. Contribution to EU Policies (describe the contribution of the project in implementing the European Agenda for Adult Learning and the **Impact** on National Policies and on target groups.)

The work carried out by the National Coordinator is fully contributing to the achievement of the objectives set by the European Agenda for Adult Learning and, more generally, to the Europe 2020 targets.

The active presence of seven ministries underlines the importance placed by the national authorities on the issues connected with adult lifelong learning.

Of the five priority areas of the agenda, four are covered by the activities conducted by the National Coordinator:

1. Making lifelong learning and mobility a reality:

The working groups chosen are focused on conditions of access to training and employment for those target groups facing the greatest difficulties: early school leavers and adults most alienated from training and employment.

Furthermore, the research of working group No 3 into the professionalisation of guidance stakeholders is helping to develop complete and easily accessible information and guidance systems.

2. Improving the quality and efficiency of education and training:

The consultations initiated between members of the Steering Committee are helping to intensify the cooperation and partnerships between all those involved in adult learning, particularly public authorities, various adult learning service-providers, social partners and civil society organisations. Firm emphasis is being placed on the local and regional levels, with the participation of the Association of French Regions in the Steering Committee and working groups.

3. Promoting equity, social cohesion and active citizenship through adult learning

The concerns associated with the potential responses to the education needs of people facing specific learning exclusion situations are being taken into account, particularly through the participation in the Steering Committee of the National Prison Administration and the Overseas Directorate-General of the Overseas Ministry.

4. Enhancing the creativity and innovation of adults and their learning environments

Promoting the acquisition of generic skills is a key target of working group No 4. The presence of the ANLCI within the Steering Committee ensures a vital methodological contribution to all discussions about the acquisition of basic skills.



LIFELONG LEARNING PROGRAMME

**Implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning
2012-2014**

Enter the project country here

Progress / Final Report

GENERAL INFORMATION

Project title: European Agenda for
Adult Learning

Decision/Agreement number: 2012 – 4679 / 001 - 001
Project website: www.europeanagenda.gr

Reporting period: From 01/10/2012
To 30/09/2013
Date of submission: 18/09/2012 (Resubmission)

Beneficiary organisation: General Secretariat for Lifelong Learning (GSLLL)
Project coordinator (contact person): Foteini Tsoumara
Project coordinator email address: tinag@gsae.edu.gr

This project has been funded with support from the European Union under the Invitation to submit grant applications for the Implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning addressed to the National Coordinators (period 2012-2014).

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- PUBLIC PART -

1. Project objectives (please present the objectives of the project, the potential impact upon and benefits to the target user group)

-To inform and raise awareness for the European Agenda in particular and the importance of adult learning in general.

-To create a stronger commitment of all relevant stakeholders and key actors in the field of adult learning (trade unions, employers, NGOs, parents, municipalities, organisations of adult learning professionals, Universities, second chance schools), to support the implementation in Greece of the key objectives of the Renewed European agenda at national, regional and local levels.

Moreover, the awareness of basic skills deficits among the adult population will be enhanced and a stronger commitment from public authorities, at both national and local levels, and the relevant actors would happen in order to better co-operate in second chance provision for all. Last but not least, existing European reference materials and tools can be better disseminated and good practice that gave solutions to similar situations elsewhere in Europe can be transferred by adaptation.

-To organize exchange and debate with all relevant stakeholders at national, regional and local level

-To support the activation and operationalization of the National Network for lifelong learning, recently established in 2010 and the forthcoming Local LLL Centers

-To establish sustainable local partnerships for coherence and coordination in adult learning provision

-To come to a broad consensus among key stakeholders on basic skill needs in order to agree on a basic skills curriculum

-To identify barriers in adult participation and propose methodologies to address them drawing on European good practice

-To participate in Conferences organized by other National Coordinating bodies

-To organize study visits to effective European practices and enhance transnational co-operations

Impact and benefits to the target group

Consensus on:

- a) the need in adult basic skills and second chance provision for all those who need it
- b) the need to draft policy framework in this field
- c) to address the problems and obstacles involved
- d) to map all relevant key actors and stakeholders in a national basic skills network and
- d) to produce recommendations to policy makers and
- e) a roadmap for concrete action to attract low-skilled and/or low qualified adults in learning opportunities organised locally.

Target groups

Direct:

Senior & middle management staff of the G.S.L.L.L

Adult Educators-Teachers-Trainers-Facilitators (second chance schools-LLL centers)

Key stakeholders: regional&local authorities,NGOs,social partners,professional associations,local Universities

Indirect: a)All those who left education without basic qualifications, in order to give them alternative opportunities to access adult education b) Adults from vulnerable social groups and in marginal social contexts, in particular: older people, single-parent families,roma,ex-offenders,immigrants,unemployed etc.

2. Project methodology (please present the methodology for achieving the objectives, including the evaluation and dissemination strategies)

The methodology followed so far has been based on an input (a)-output(b) basis:

(a) Networking: Building a strategic partnership network through team-work building. Establishment of the national steering group (Expert from social partner KANEP/GSEE, expert from NGO PRAKSIS, expert from social partner GSVEE) and establishment of the core group from GSLLL to further particularize Renewed Agenda into the Greek national and regional contexts.//Production of stakeholders Report mandate and expectations of their participation in the project

(b) Mapping: Cooperation in order to record the existing situation in the 3 Regions of the country (Attica, Crete and Central Macedonia) utilizing information and other relevant material (studies, researches e.t.c.) as well as local human resources, possibly highlighting specific areas of interest per region and addressing regional differences.

Regional Networking: Creation and operation of three regional networks. Selection of local liaisons for the implementation of the Renewed Agenda and Monitoring by GSLLL.

Launching: Organization of 2 regional seminars in Heraklion (Region of Crete) and Thessaloniki (Region of Central Macedonia) focused on vertical themes: Basic Skills The latter was a Launch Seminar with the participation of European experts. // Organisation of a 2-day seminar in Athens (Region of Attica) focused on Best Practices transfer and european expertise.

Collection of evidence: Selection of prior analyses (national, European) and Desk research to find European good practice relevant to national policy priorities and regional challenges.

Contextualisation: qualitative analysis regarding the target groups in each region in collaboration with the local/regional networks.

Operationalisation: Drawing up of a road map for goal reaching//Design of an Action Plan for interventions//connection with existing programs/projects and structures

Monitoring: Meetings and consultations among stakeholders from local/regional networks monitored by GSLLL expert staff.

(Participation of the National Coordinator in the meeting of Coordinators in Brussels (23/10/2012) to enhance the effectivity of the project and specify critical issues for Greece regarding Adult Learning: a. Highlighting of low-skilled groups learning needs and the development of project responding to their needs at local, regional and national level b. the coordination of learning providers (private and public sector), in order to achieve qualitative and modern projects, thus augmentation of participation

in terms of Europe 2020

Follow-up: Assessment and evaluation of activities. Production of questionnaires and rescheduling of next stage of the project.

(c) **Recording** -of target groups in the three aforementioned regions (quantitative and qualitative records) -of local/regional needs (training and general education)

Adaptation of -expertise to suit the regional/local needs and increase awareness and participation –specific and concrete objectives

Design of future interventions

Elaboration of common policy recommendations by the stakeholders and a suggested roadpath (doc nr.)d

(d) Dissemination Activities:

- Development and production of leaflets to be used in the 13 regional seminars as promotional material (doc nr.
- Selection of key policy documents relating to
- Website with on-line related material and links to the key stakeholder web sites and other relevant
- Use of social media (creation of facebook/twitter/Linkedin accounts)

(e) Evaluation Strategies:

1. Measurable indicators:

- Number of promotional material distributed
- Web-based platform traffic rate
- Number of participants in Conference and workshops
- Number of staff participating in transnational events
- Number of European experts

3. Project outcomes and results (please describe the major achievements and results for the reporting period)

- Establishment of the core group (7 persons plus the financial manager and the NT supporter) and set of the work method of the group, senior staff from GSLLL) /Team work building

-Establishment of the national steering group (Expert from social partner KANEP/GSEE, expert from NGO PRAKSIS, expert from social partner GSVEE

-Report on the mandates and expectations of key partners:

A..Partner GSVEE

The Hellenic Confederation of Professionals, Craftsmen, and Merchants (GSEVEE) has been since 1995 active in adult education and life long learning issues, by carrying out relevant studies and surveys and establishing bodies for continuous vocational training in six major cities of the country. These initiatives were driven by the certainty that adult education is a cornerstone of both personal and professional life. An accomplished professional or technician shall systematically update knowledge and skills necessary for his/her participation in the constantly changing labour market. Based on the above, the European Council's resolution on the EU Renewed Agenda for adult education has provoked GSEVEE's particular interest, as it provides the discussion and implementation framework of actions for updating and upgrading the terms and conditions of adult learning in Greece. Thus, GSEVEE's participation in the programme is grounded on an expectation that has to do with gaining new knowledge and experiences on:

- adults' access to high quality vocational training actions;*
- consolidating effective vocational guidance systems;*
- the integration of the National Qualification Framework and the implementation of actions for qualifications' certification;*
- raising among the employers the awareness that adult education contributes to promoting productivity, creativity and entrepreneurship, and that it is a significant factor for upgrading the qualifications of human resources in enterprises;*
- promoting the role of social partners and encouraging their involvement in both awareness-raising and implementation of learning actions at the work place.*
- adults' access to high quality vocational training actions;*
- consolidating effective vocational guidance systems;*
- the integration of the National Qualification Framework and the implementation of actions for qualifications' certification;*
- raising among the employers the awareness that adult education contributes to promoting productivity, creativity and entrepreneurship, and that it is a significant factor for upgrading the qualifications of human resources in enterprises;*
- promoting the role of social partners and encouraging their involvement in both awareness-raising and implementation of learning actions at the work place.*
- Facilitate and increase adults enrollment to learning schemes, particularly of those with low skills*
- Initiate mapping of all relevant actors and stakeholders in a national sustainable networking*

(to be enhanced during the second project period

- *Development of a road map to support project content accomplishment (attac. nr)*
- *Implementation of three seminars, Thessaloniki, Athens, Heraklion/Krete (attach. nr.)*
- *Proposals and recommendations coming out of meeting and seminars*

B. Partner KANEP/GSEE:

In the new international competitive environment that is shaped by the global economy, investing in the development of human skills and knowledge is the foundation of a modern and effective model of development. This model upgrades the role of the employee who acquires the ability to handle information correctly within an ongoing learning process that is constantly renewed. The increasing of the adaptability of the workforce, the workforce mobility and the lifelong learning of the employees are key factors for the social and economic welfare of people within the modern society and from that process the social partners can not be absent.

The involvement of KANEP / GSEE in the program of 'European Agenda for Adult Education and Training "is of particular importance as to the structural and social factors that explain the current state of the labour market in Greece leading role is played by the relative lag of the country in respect lifelong learning policies. This lag is quantitatively expressed by the low participation rate of the working population to lifelong learning programs and qualitatively through the proven lack of proficiency of lifelong learning programs to respond adequately to the increased needs of the employees. Moreover, the connection of the initial and continuing vocational training systems to employment still remains at low levels.

In this context, as KANEP / GSEE we believe that it is necessary to highlight the catalytic role that can be played by an effective system of lifelong learning for the employees and by the development of a strong "learning culture", like the one achieved in other Member - States (Ireland, Denmark, etc.). Towards achieving this objective crucial will be the consensus and the active involvement and contribution of the social partners in the design, monitoring and evaluation of all the actions regarding the continuous vocational training and the adult education, so that these programs cease to be regarded unattractive and inefficient.

Our position therefore is to boost any attempt aimed at the training and education of workers and aims to the consequent improvement of their position both in society and in the labor market. Into this framework, KANEP/GSEE, supports the "European Agenda for the Adult Education and Training" wishing to promote, inter alia (among others):

- *the acquisition of new skills for all employees*
- *the learning of reinforcing active labor market policies and unemployment reduction*

- *increasing mobility, not unilateral in market terms but in terms of social economy*
- *procedures to encourage social and youth entrepreneurship in combination with the very real need for productive reconstruction*
- *care for the reduction of social inequalities in education and the dynamic response of educational and social exclusion*
- *Moreover, the practical interest of KANEP/GSEE in adult education and vocational training of workers proved by its participation in the elaboration of many programs and studies in recent years. Indicatively we mention the following programs:*
“Lifelong learning programs for human resources of the Private Sector”
- *“Awareness raising actions of the educational community by the social partners using the experience of the teacher in the classroom, in Greece and internationally - Transnational cooperation of the social partners in education”*
- *“Awareness raising and Professional Development of Teachers”*
- *“Lifelong learning programs by the social partners to develop horizontal and social skills”*

C. Partner PRAKSIS

One of the program’s keys objectives is to establish networking on a national level, which will be able to cover all the types of adult education, having as special target-groups adults with low qualifications and skills, young people excluded from education-training-employment, as well as vulnerable social groups (unemployed, single parents, immigrants, asylum seekers, Roma, prisoners, poor, homeless, ex-prisoners, drug addicts, people with disabilities or people who live in remote areas.

PRAKSIS’s participation in the project focuses on the NGO’s experience in approaching these target-groups and accommodating their needs and the long-term expertise in combating or/and preventing social or/and economic exclusion as well as in networking. Working with local authorities, regional agencies, through networks and consortiums is an important tool and an effective methodology in itself - first of all to create, establish and run tools and best practices to get these groups involved and secondly to enhance and insure their constant participation to the life learning activities.

D. Partner Municipality of Thessaloniki:

Municipality of Thessaloniki has set a strategic pursuit, to create a LLL culture, along with the Region of Central Macedonia, through development of programmes, networks, encouraging and raising awareness events, campaigns, thus participation in European Agenda’s activities plays a key role, supporting and upgrading the se strategic pursuit.

Education for all is one of set strategic goals.

Therefore 12 Learning Centres are functioning for the time being, that along with Agenda’s implementation will envisage:

-to imprint needed skills as well as offered skills in the area, furthermore to accomplish the mapping

of specific needs, with the technical support of CEDEFOP that will lead to an integrated beam of educational and training proposals to be implemented in Local learning centres, following new European policies and recommendations along with national ones.

Thus European Agenda can play a key role to accomplish strategy and goals set. The feedback from the participation in the project will contribute to accomplish a complete, accurate and useful educational programme to local groups and mostly to local low-skilled ones, a contribution to European and national efforts towards elimination of social and economic inequalities.

- Realisation of Launch Conference (exchange of European best practices and presentation of major European networks and institutions)
- production of grassroots, bottom-up reports (by participants' working groups) - recommendations through the realisation of three Regional Seminars
- dissemination of major policy documents (European and national) to all participants and stakeholders (Seminar Dossier)
- increase in awareness by the use of web broadcasting of the Launch Seminar (provided by Thessaloniki's Second Chance School)
- creation of evaluation questionnaires and feedback report(on-going seminar assessment)
- comprehensive insight into the major policy papers by 4 in-service workshops of the core and steering groups and creation and production of necessary documents for stakeholders and participants (in order to inform, raise and facilitate networking)

4. Plans for the future (for **progress reports**: include a description of plans to carry out the remaining work to achieve project objectives; for **final reports**, emphasize how the project outcomes / achievements will be sustainable beyond the project's lifetime.)

- continuation of consultations
- 9 Regional Seminars (see attach.5)
- enhance cooperation and coordination in order to draw up of regional and national AE and Basic Skill stakeholders network maps and publication/dissemination
- draft and final version of recommendations for subnational, national and European governing bodies
- participation in expositions (educational, social affairs,etc e.g <http://www.elearningexpo.gr/>)
- intensified and targeted use of social media and conventional mass media
- cooperation with the PIAAC team and CONFINTEA VI.
- Development of an English version of Agenda's website
- Raising awareness activities and presentations on the new Law 4186/17-09-2013, which reorganises the field of Adult Learning.

- further qualitative and quantitative analysis for improvement and follow up.
- design of follow-up activities (after the end of the project) for the sustainability of the results and the maximization of impact

5. Contribution to EU Policies (describe the contribution of the project in implementing the European Agenda for Adult Learning **and the Impact** on National Policies and on target groups.)

Contribution in the Implementation of the European Agenda

In Greece, the project has been the sole comprehensive tool for the implementation of the Renewed European Agenda for adult learning, consolidating its 5 priorities (Making lifelong learning and mobility a reality, Improving the quality and efficiency of education and training, Promoting equity, social cohesion and active citizenship through adult learning, Enhancing the creativity and innovation of adults and their learning environments and Improving the knowledge base on adult learning and monitoring the adult learning sector) into activities while building networks at all government levels, across sectors and within different policy areas. Given its unique status, it stands as a one-off opportunity to raise awareness of the aims of the Renewed Agenda, to collaborate with all stakeholders in order to create a collective road map for its implementation and to link –both theoretically and practically- urgent issues such as the instability of labour force market, social exclusion e.t.c. with AE in the Greek context.

Impact on national policies

Given the recent changes in non-formal learning legislation (Law4186/17-09-2013) and the lack and/or malfunction of institutionalised channels for the implementation of Law 3876/2010 on LLL aimed decentralization, networking and encouraging partnerships, the project presents a valuable and unique opportunity for the introduction and dissemination of a cohesive and coherent framework of the field of Adult Learning in Greece. Since various changes at legislative and administrative level have, up to now, imbedded the in-depth analysis and drawing of conclusions relating to the policy implementation on the rather segmented field of AE, there has been a wide gap. Thus, the project functions as a facilitator for the reconceptualization of AE by all stakeholders according to European policies, provides a clear pathway for the reversal of the top-down, supply-driven model and offers a “seaming process” for stakeholders of all levels and kinds so as to place themselves in the bigger picture. More particularly, special attention has been drawn to national policies relating to disadvantaged and in danger of exclusion adults, a category which is constantly rising in Greece at the moment due to the severe effects of the crisis, and as far as this is concerned, policy-making seems to be falling behind. Therefore, the project appears to be put into practice at a very crucial time for the “one step up” process if one takes into account the general recession in skills and competences anticipated.

The recommendations which are produced after each regional activity and meetings will be disseminated to local, regional and national authorities in an attempt to initiate a dialogue on the “blind spots” of policy making and policy implementation. The impact of the project

on national policies can be both fruitful and productive provided the willingness and availability of all stakeholders concerned.

Impact on target groups

Based on the experience gained in the three regions (Attica, Central Macedonia and Crete), it can be concluded that the project has clearly enabled direct target groups (administrative staff, educators, trainers, key stakeholders such as authorities, N.G.Os e.t.c.) to identify themselves as important players and to reflect upon their role and practices on promoting, delivering and improving AE in general whatever their specific status, nature of work and position within the field. As seen in the minutes of meetings, group work and the general input from both the consultation phase and the delivery of various other activities, the project has functioned as the primary vehicle for AE consolidation, coordination and dissemination practices throughout the country despite the adverse socio-economic and administrative background.

To maximize the effect on indirect target groups (end-users), the projects works on intensification and acceleration processes to promote the visibility of AE provision and to multiply its sources. Moreover, so far it has worked to create the necessary framework which will allow more effective matching of their needs with the AE programmes offered by stressing the added value of decentralisation and networking. A clear manifestation of the project's impact on indirect target groups has been the great demand in AE provision recorded in all activities up to now surpassing by far the levels of provision.

The further mobilization of both direct and indirect target groups (especially the educationally deprived groups, SMEs, e.t.c), who are reached at a disproportionately low level if they are not specifically addressed, has been regarded as a particular challenge since the beginning of the project; nevertheless, measurement of its impact has yet to be specified.

SECTION 4 - OTHER SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (OPTIONAL)

If there is any information or issue you do not consider suitable for Sections 2 and 3 and which you wish to communicate to the EACEA/DG EAC, you may insert it here:

The vast majority of the core group, as well as comments of seminars' participants has gained a positive experience of the so far project performance at all levels.
The vast majority of the core group and stakeholders have also gained knowledge, skills and competencies through their involvement in the project that is going to be enhanced on the 2nd year of project implementation.
Cooperation and collaboration among core group members, project partners and stakeholders has been achieved, despite rough situation they are in the last 4 years.



LIFELONG LEARNING PROGRAMME

Implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning

2012-2014

ITALY

Progress Report

GENERAL INFORMATION

Project title: IT – IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN
AGENDA FOR ADULT LEARNING

Decision/Agreement number: 2012 – 3853/001-001

Project website: <http://adultlearning.isfol.it/>

Reporting period: From 01/09/2012
To 31/08/2013

Date of submission: 30/09/2013

Beneficiary organisation: ISFOL – Istituto per lo Sviluppo della Formazione
Professionale dei Lavoratori

Project coordinator (contact person): Marina ROZERA

Project coordinator email address: m.rozera@isfol.it

This project has been funded with support from the European Union under the Invitation to submit grant applications for the Implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning addressed to the National Coordinators (period 2012-2014).

This report reflects the views only of the author and the Executive Agency/European Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

Please send:

1 electronic copy of progress/final report and financial report (Excel spreadsheet) to the following email address:

EACEA-P3-AL-AGENDA@ec.europa.eu

and

one original paper copy and one electronic copy on physical storage device (USB stick, CD Rom...) to the following postal address:

Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency
Lifelong Learning: Leonardo da Vinci, Grundtvig & Dissemination
Ms H  l  ne BARRY
Office: BOU2 02/11
Av. du Bourget 1
BE - 1140 Brussels
BELGIUM

Please note that we ask you to send the results of the project only in electronic form:

- publications, CD Rom, DVD with audio, video materials: electronic version or web link are sufficient)
- official invitations and agenda of conferences, meetings, training or other events organised/participated by the centre, copy of presentation: electronic version is sufficient
- references to the internet sites where appropriate

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- PUBLIC PART -

1. Project objectives (please present the objectives of the project, the potential impact upon and benefits to the target user group.)

The Italian context is characterized by:

- a low participation rate of adults in lifelong learning;
- diversity of development of networks and services for lifelong learning in the North and South of the country;
- the absence of a national regulatory framework on lifelong learning;
- the delay in the process of developing tools for the validation of non formal and informal learning;
- the need to reach and involve disadvantaged targets.

The answer to these problems is in line with the aims of the European Agenda for Lifelong Learning, in particular those concerning: support for reform processes in the Adult Learning also with reference to the EQF; increase the possibilities for adults to achieve a qualification at least one level higher than before; development of tools for the recognition and validation of prior learning for disadvantaged groups; improving the tools for monitoring the actions of Adult Learning.

The proposal includes the following general purposes:

- raise awareness and encourage debate among national and local stakeholders on Adult Learning issues (including Higher education and Active Aging);
- disseminate and "capitalize" the different experiences and best practices in the country;
- promote the transferability of the most significant experiences from more advanced to less developed contexts.

In particular, the specific objectives can be defined as follows:

- disseminate a greater knowledge of EU strategies on Adult Learning;
- increase the awareness of stakeholders and operators about the existing possibilities to increase the participation rates of adults in learning activities;
- in particular, spread the knowledge of active policies aimed at workers employed, unemployed and made redundant;
- spread the knowledge of policies aimed at adult education, with special reference to migrants;
- promote the debate about a more structured system of Adult Learning, strengthening its main components (programming, management, monitoring and evaluation);
- encouraging the design and testing of models and innovative ways to involve adults in learning activities;
- stimulate discussions and debates on the procedures and tools for the validation of non formal and informal learning in the field of Adult Learning;
- disseminate the knowledge of the progress of the national referencing process in relation to the European Qualification Framework (EQF).

The proposal includes among its main target groups:

- regional and provincial authorities responsible for the planning of Lifelong Learning;
- operators of vocational training;
- Higher education operators;
- operators of Permanent Territorial Centres for Adult Education and Training (CTP);
- contacts from the Regional School Offices (local departments of the Ministry of Education)
- Lifelong Learning experts in the third sector;
- Experts of staff training and Human Resources Management in enterprises;
- representatives of trade unions and employers organizations.

It 's also planned the testing of an information campaign, of limited size and focused on:

- migrants (even second-generation migrants);
- disadvantaged individuals;
- adults over 55 employed and unemployed;
- employed and unemployed adults with low skills.

Considering the difficulties in reaching particular categories of final beneficiaries, the means to implement the experimental campaign focused on target groups will be the result of discussion and debate among the stakeholders.

The activities in this project will contribute to raise the awareness of Adult Learning importance, as well as to the implementation of the Commission's strategy, in relation to the objectives of the European Agenda.

This will be done through close integration between the different lines of activities: communication; the creation of a database to map the local experiences; exchange opportunities and interaction (focus groups and conferences). In particular, the realization of focus groups in the territories will be based on sectoral and thematic choices to be made also from the experiences recorded in the database. The focus groups will also have a mixed composition: participants will be selected both from the responsables of best practices, and from the operators working in less advanced contexts and systems, in order to set an immediate exchange of experiences and practices. The topics and cases to be discussed in the following conference will be selected either from the database, or from the findings of the focus groups.

Given the nature of the proposed initiatives, the immediate impact will be measured by the following indicators:

- number of beneficiaries reached by the campaign of online communication (estimation);
- number of experiences in the database;
- participation of stakeholders at local level in each focus group;
- participation in conferences;
- increased participation in formal and informal networks for the Adult Learning.

2. Project methodology (please present the methodology for achieving the objectives, including the evaluation and dissemination strategies)

The project will be implemented in close coordination between the national authorities for education and employability policies. To this purpose, a Steering Committee will be constituted with the participation of representatives of the Ministry of Labour; Isfol; the Ministry of Education; the National Agencies for the LL Programme: Leonardo da Vinci and ANSAS; the Coordination of Regions. The institutional Steering Committee will be responsible for establishing strategic guidelines of the project, defining the executive lines of each activity; monitoring the progress of the initiatives and proposing any corrective improvement in progress. This will enable the various institutions involved to have constant updates on project development, as well as on policies for Adult Learning and on the best practices implemented in the territories. Given the expertise and activities of Isfol, it will be possible to work in synergy with other implementation initiatives for lifelong learning: the project "ECVET National Teams of Experts - 2012-2013"; the National Europass Centre; the National Reference Point Quality; the National Coordination Point for the European Qualification Framework.

The project design includes five lines of activities that complement each other :

1. an information campaign on the issues of the Adult Learning through the dissemination online of information material. The information channels of the different stakeholders will be used, to ensure a widespread distribution in the structures of reference. The campaign, transversal and continuing for the length of the project (24 months), will also be effective in order to disseminate information on the other lines of activities (database, focus groups, conferences). Moreover, in this framework, an information campaign focused to relevant targets, based on a pattern resulting from the debate gradually achieved in the focus groups;

2. the construction of the database to display on the web page (Europalavoro) of the Ministry of Labour - MLPS with the goal of building a repertory of experiences in the Adult Learning at national and local level, transversal to the different issues, and continuing for the duration of the project (and beyond). The database will be also useful for the realization of focus groups and conferences;
3. activity of territorial animation, communication and promotion of networks through the creation of focus groups (in total number of 9 – that is 3 in advance of each national theme conference). Focus groups have multiple aims in relation to communication and dissemination of the objectives of the European Agenda for the Adult Learning among local stakeholders; the acquisition of knowledge on the needs and experiences at the regional level; the promotion of networking at local level; and the preparation of the three macro-regional level conferences on specific issues;
4. three national conferences on the following themes: 1) The promotion and dissemination of ICT in the Adult Learning 2) the Adult Learning and non-formal and informal learning, 3) the Adult Learning for active citizenship and social equity. The conferences will represent the opportunity to spread at national level the exchange and collection of experiences and information held locally in the focus groups;
5. the final report to the Commission will be disseminated among the national beneficiaries by submitting online and printing (200 copies). It will provide both an analysis and summary of the results of the project and a tool for its dissemination.

Dissemination takes advantage of a diversified strategy that is itself part of the proposed methodology and synergies already mentioned.

In particular, it will be realized material to be distributed online for the communication campaign focused to the operators through the institutional web pages and the channels used by the major stakeholders, such as: the employment centres; the Permanent Territorial Centres for Adult Education; Trade Unions and employers organisations; the guidance centers; centers Eurodirect; the accredited training centers, etc. The communication campaign aims to share extensive information about other activities planned in the project: the creation of the database, the creation of focus groups and the three national conferences. The database of the local initiatives in Adult Learning, available at the project web pages, also have the function of capitalizing experiences around the country to facilitate the mapping and then the dissemination and transfer to other contexts.

The main objective of the diffusion and dissemination activity is to create favorable conditions for effective exploitation of the results of this action at sectoral, local, regional, national, level. The dissemination activities include the provision of results and products of this project to beneficiaries different from those who have participated directly in project activities, in order to facilitate the transfer to organisms similar to those that were involved in the actions (to promote the horizontal mainstreaming) or to institutional bodies that can incorporate these results into the planning of the ordinary activities of education and training (vertical mainstreaming), so as to ensure visibility, transferability and dissemination of the results.

3. Project outcomes and results (please describe the major achievements and results for the reporting period)

Major outputs and results achieved during the first phase of the project concern the communication campaign, the realization of focus group and the database of relevant practices.

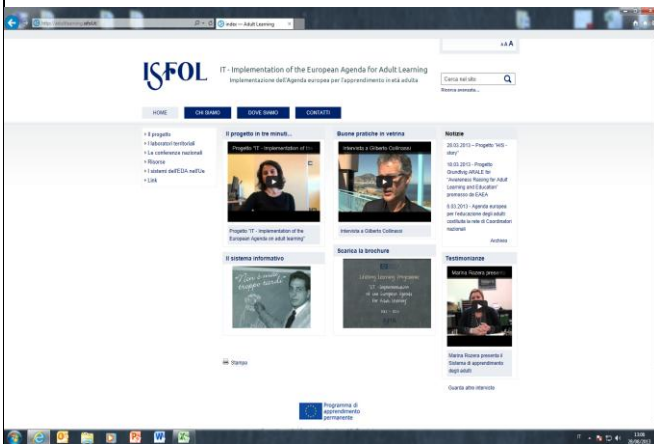
As for the communication campaign the following activities has been carried out:

Project website engineering and publication on line (<http://adultlearning.isfol.it/>).

Project staff, in accordance with the National Steering Committee, decided to design and publish a website dedicated rather than to publish only a few pages on the sites of other institutions. This ensures better visibility and simplifies the procedures relating to the constant updating of the content, since the site is fully managed (through a Content Management System - CMS created on purpose) by Isfol.

The Internet site (for the moment only available in Italian, although it is expected the translation of some sections in English) is articulated into several areas and sections:

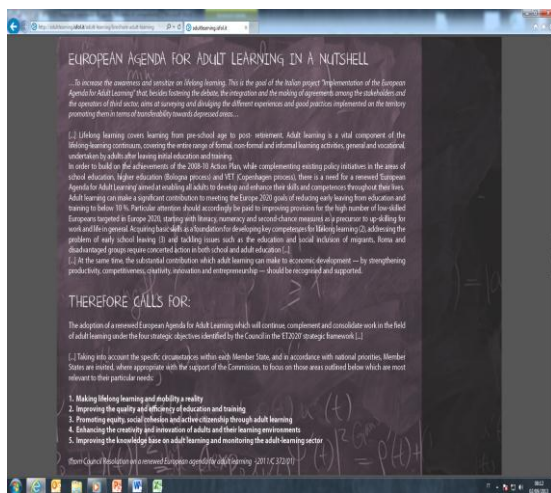
- a "summary description" of the objectives and activities of the project (text and video recorded: 3' interview in home page);
- a second section dedicated to "Local laboratories": for each Territorial Laboratory the list of participants, the key issues discussed, a photo gallery of the participants, any study or materials produced by Isfol or by the participants and the Report, containing minutes, conclusions and recommendations in form of "key messages" are published. *All materials are downloadable and printable*;
- a third area dedicated to "Conferences", with the same contents as those detailed in the Territorial Laboratories. Actually contains info on the national event scheduled and carried out in Turin on 24 September;
- a "Resources" area, containing links to documents, researches, relevant regulations related to the theme of the Adult Learning;



- an "Adult Learning systems" area, with extracts from Eurypedia. Clicking on the Country Profiles the basic information on educational systems are available, but it is also possible to navigate across other relevant contents, such as VET politics and strategies in EU countries;
- "Links" area, divided into two distinct sections between connections to institutional sites and to other sites;
- "News" area, continuously updated with brief news from institutional -national and European - websites , from the informal network of experts and stakeholders;

- "Testimonies" area, dedicated to publishing video interviews with experts, decision-makers and practitioners;
- "spotlight on good practices" area, where video interviews with the protagonists of the projects whose data sheets are traceable in the database.

Project presentation brochure (IT – EN)



The brochure has been designed and realized to promote the project objectives at events and conferences (in its printed version) and to introduce users of the Website on the overall content of the project (digital version on the site).

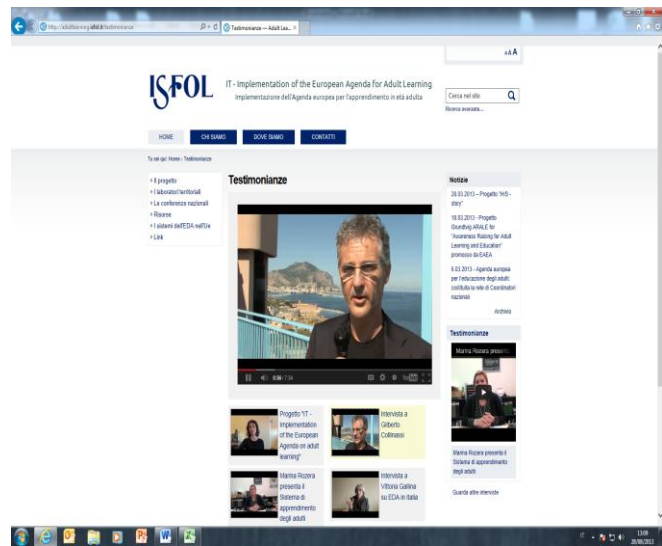
The editorial product is available in two language versions (for the Italian slate gray and magenta for the English version). The text includes a brief presentation of the objectives of the European Agenda to make evident the correspondences between the objectives of the project and the purposes of the Agenda.

Audio-video interviews to relevant stakeholders

A first panel of 5 interviews were published, available on the home page and in the dedicated area of the site, involving promoters and national experts. The interviews durations varying from 5 'to 20'; the texts at present are available only in Italian.

It is planned to realize post-production activities, including English subtitling of the most significant extracts, so as to realize a dvd rom to be distributed in the Adult Learning Centers (CPIA).

During the Turin Conference 5 more interviews were collected and are actually in post production phase



Area of the website dedicated to the testimonies video interviews

Database of relevant experiences: engineering and feeding

The activity related to the implementation of the planned database of relevant experience in the field of Adult learning has involved, on the one hand, the engineering of the information system and its allocation on the Website of the project and, on the other hand, the collection of brief description of the experiences.

Case report form to collect local experiences

With regard to the technical aspects, the case report form was developed by the Isfol researchers and discussed into details with the Steering Committee.

The decision taken was to have a tool that can be filled online by stakeholders and/or by the project staff: once loaded the case report form, the project staff validates them and proceeds to its publication.

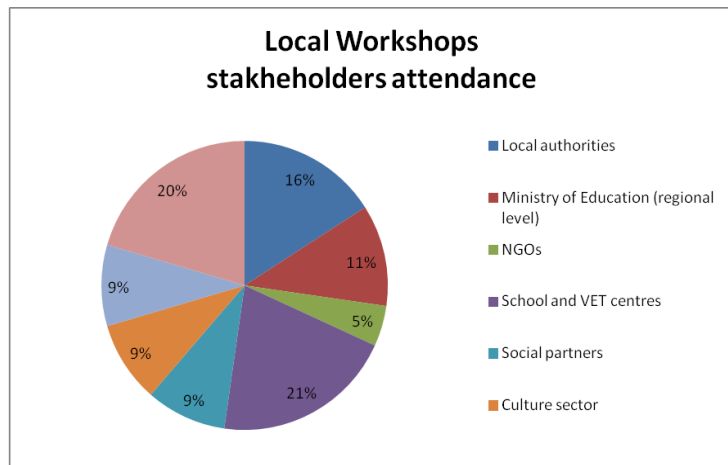
The same data end up in a searchable database that takes into account four main keys for queries : objectives, target audience, location and products / results.

So, the collection of the case studies, actually recorded in the database, was carried out through both applications submitted by the managers of the local practices, and by the Isfol researchers who has interviewed the operators, managers, tutors, teachers from local experiences, also collecting materials and products.

At present description on about 30 projects are available, in most cases non-listed in other existing information systems. For each of the projects included are available not only detailed information on the case study, but also copies of materials or products realized and freely accessible.

Focus group (local laboratories)

An important component of the project is represented by the realization of territorial laboratories. With regards to this objective, it should be noted that the realization of local workshops have a thematic and regional dimension. The exact locations has been chosen considering: a policy of fair representation of the Italian macro-regions (North, Centre, South), the different level in the development of strategies and practices for Adult Learning (consolidated, newly-established, lacking a framework, etc.), the presence of significant experiences.



To date, five meetings have been organized, located in Rome, Padua, Benevento, Livorno and Padua and these events were attended by about 50 stakeholders representing different types of local actors.

It is evident from the chart aside that the choice made in the first year has been to focus the action of dissemination and raising awareness to a globally institutional target, in an attempt to drain attention on behalf of the local governments on issues and priorities of the European Union at the very moment that the reform of the Adult Education is being implemented.

It was planned to use the focus group as methodology for the animation in the workshops. Only in one case it was decided to use the "Metaplan" technique of facilitation, for the first meeting held in Rome. Both methods foresees a preparatory activity of topical importance for the achievement of the heuristic and exchange objectives, with the elaboration of a script, in the case of Metaplan or of a background paper with relevant key issues, in the case of the focus groups.

The preparatory documents of the meetings (background paper or Metaplan script) are considered as deliverables and represent one of the most transferable product likely to be reused in other contexts and territories (for this reason, together with the reports of each workshop, at the end of the project it will be prepared an abstract of the contents in English).

The focus groups are organized across three thematic fields: ICT, citizenship and social equity, non-formal and informal learning.

The activities to be carried out in the focus groups (objectives, methods of animation and objectives / expected results) were the subject of:

- preliminary discussion in the sessions of the two Steering Committee meetings described above;
- work session in the project staff for the preparation of the script Metaplan (in the case of the Rome) and the lists of the key issues in the case of other territorial workshops within the Focus

Groups methodology (Padua, Benevento, Livorno and Bologna) .

During the period covered by this report 5 (out of the 9 regional workshops foreseen in two years) has been carried out.

Considering the advice of the national Steering Committee, Isfol staff decided to organize such events in Rome, Padua, Benevento Livorno and Bologna, covering - in this way – at the beginning of the project the Centre, the North and, partially, the South of the Country.

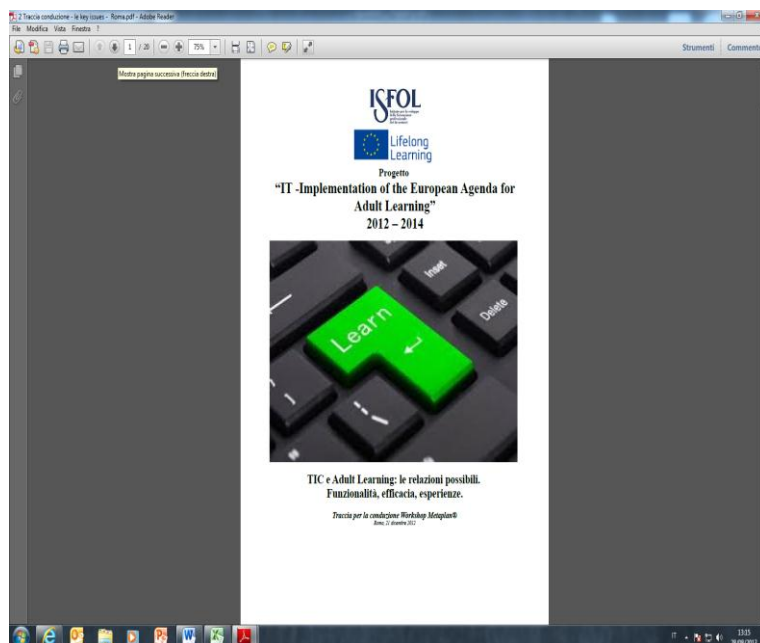
Activities has been concentrated during the period lasting from December to end of June 2013.

Up to now, the focus groups already organized gave the opportunity to explore all the selected three main topics (3 events were focused on ICT, one on Citizenship and social equity a, finally, one on non-formal and informal learning).

Each focus group has been chaired (as foreseen) by two Isfol researchers with an expertise both in the thematic issues and in group animation techniques.

The choice of locations has privileged institutional venues:

Rome - the meeting took place at the headquarters of "Porta Futuro" (Future Gate), the structure of the Province of Rome dedicated to facilitate the matching of demand and supply of labour and structured according to the organizational model of Puerta Nueva in Barcelona. Situated in one of the most central and popular in the capital, this Centre hosts conferences, organizes training courses for adults and young people, runs information and guidance services. Considering the large space provided by the Province, it was possible to increase the number of participants. The discussion session was managed and animated according to the methodology Metaplan ®.



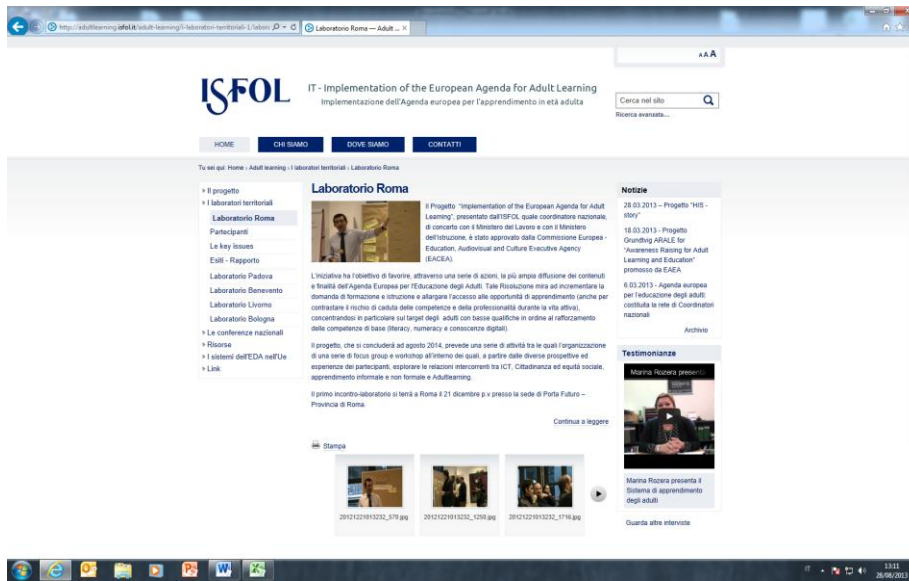
Padova - The workshop was held at the local state university, an institutional actor involved actively in the processes of adult education and fully integrated with the main socio-economic stakeholders in its territory.

Benevento - the chosen venue was the one that ISFOL manages, in agreement with the Province of Benevento: a facility dedicated to the study of the phenomena related to Southern socio-economic development, hosting also the Euroguidance center;

Livorno - As a result of what emerged during the meeting in Rome, where the participants stressed the relevant role played by the organizations responsible for cultural and educational activities - such as museums and libraries - Isfol has applied for and obtained the chance to have this meeting at the natural History Museum of the Mediterranean, managed by the Province of Livorno;

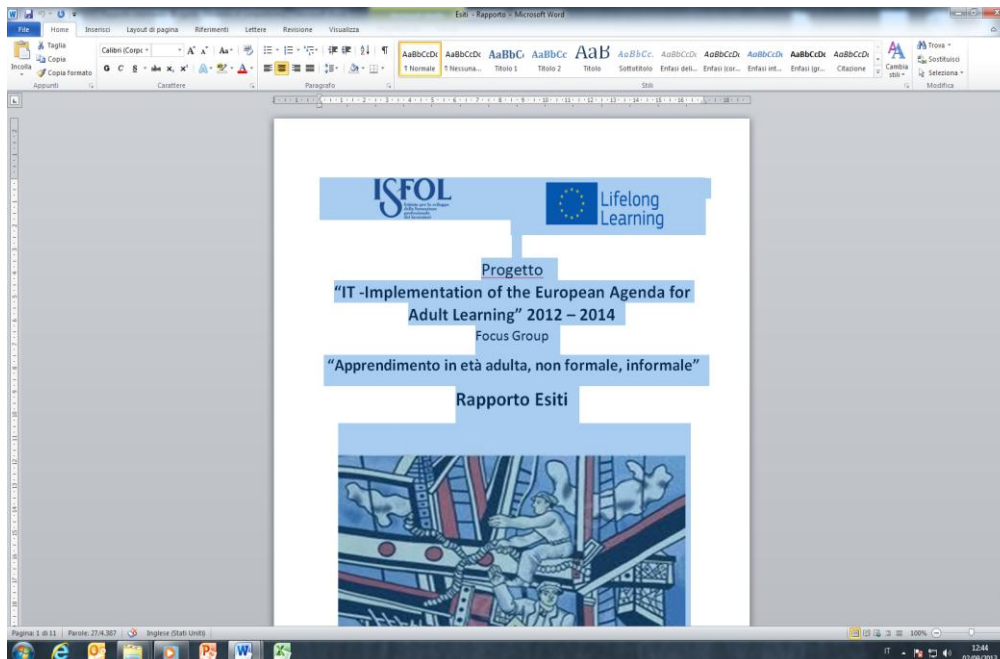
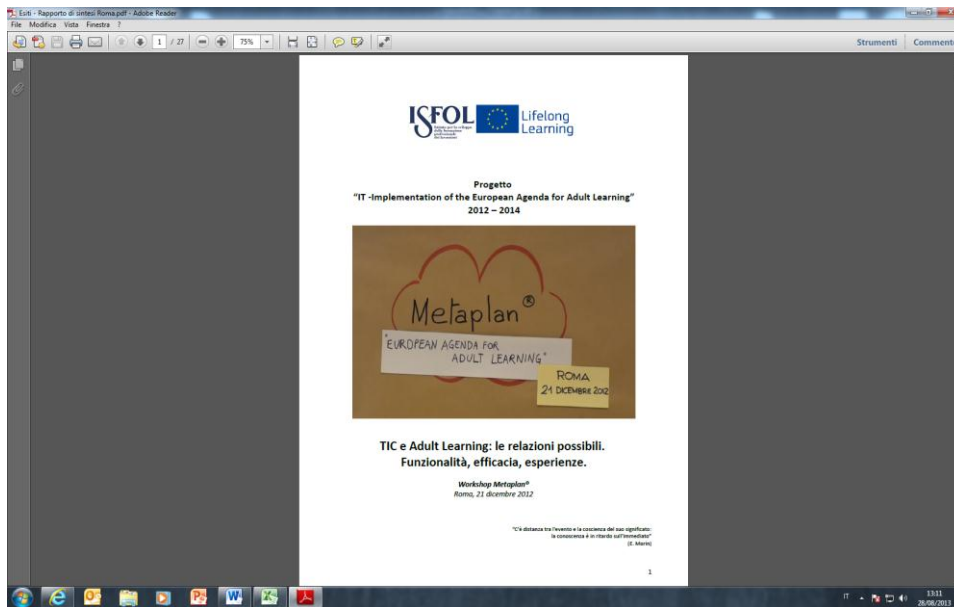
Bologna – The territorial laboratory was held at the headquarters of the Emilia Romagna Region, so as to emphasize the commitment of the administration on issues on the validation of skills acquired in non-formal and informal contexts of learning, culminating in the creation of important and innovative projects and initiatives, and in a regional qualification system concerning the qualifications acquired

in this way.



Each laboratory was reported with details on the outcomes of the discussion and on the exchanges that occurred between facilitators and participants: at the end of the project all the reports will come together in a synopsis paper, which will offer a cross-interpretation and summary of recommendations that will complement those emerging in the course of national conferences.

At the time the reports *are all available for download on the website*.



The project is implemented in close coordination with the national and local responsible of educational, training and employment policies. To this end a Steering Committee was established with the participation of several institutional representatives: Isfol; the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies; the Ministry of Education, University and Research; the Coordinating Committee of the Regions; the Union of the Italian Provinces (UPI), the National Association of Italian Municipalities (ANCI), the National Agencies coordinating LLL Programme: Isfol/Leonardo da Vinci and the Grundtvig Programme: ANSAS.

The Steering Committee is responsible for setting the strategic guidelines of the project, it shall defines the planning of each activity, it is responsible for monitoring the progress of the initiatives and it can propose possible corrections in progress. The sharing of the design and monitoring of activities will enable the various institutions involved to have constant updates on the development of the project, as well as on the evolution of the policies for Adult Learning and on relevant experiences in the territories.

Participation to events, seminar and conferences organized by third parties

The communication campaign implies the active participation to events organized by other institutions or, in general, private and public stakeholders (social partners, schools, training and research centres, universities). The staff project has been involved in several of such seminars, conferences and workshops, allowing the increase of number of people encountered and, consequently, the project's visibility and awareness on adult learning issues.



Progetto
"IT -Implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning"
 Isfol
 Settembre 2012 - Agosto 2014

"Quali sono gli attori dello sviluppo, qual è la finalità dello sviluppo? Di includere o escludere? Nel primo caso, ogni uomo e ogni donna sono attori dello sviluppo e hanno diritto a partecipazione e a una cultura che rafforzi il loro potenziale di partecipazione. Nel secondo caso, lo sviluppo di una parte della popolazione è fondato sul sottosviluppo dell'altra: l'educazione degli adulti è allora uno strumento di accentuazione delle disuguaglianze"

Ettore Gelpi, Educazione degli adulti

AGENDA EUROPEA PER L'APPRENDIMENTO DEGLI ADULTI Settori prioritari per il periodo 2012-2014

L'adozione di un'agenda europea rinnovata per l'apprendimento degli adulti continuerà i lavori svolti nel settore dell'apprendimento degli adulti nel quadro strategico "ET2020" attraverso lo sviluppo di cinque priorità:

1. Fare in modo che l'apprendimento permanente e la mobilità divengano una realtà
2. Migliorare la qualità e l'efficacia dell'istruzione e della formazione
3. Promuovere l'equità, la coesione sociale e la cittadinanza attiva attraverso l'apprendimento degli adulti
4. Incoraggiare la creatività e l'innovazione degli adulti e i loro ambiti di apprendimento
5. Migliorare la base di conoscenze sull'apprendimento degli adulti e monitorare il settore



OBIETTIVI

Accrescere il livello di consapevolezza e sensibilizzazione sul tema dell'apprendimento permanente da parte di:

- decisori politici a livello territoriale
- operatori pubblici e privati nell'ambito dell'istruzione e della formazione
- parti sociali
- imprese
- operatori del terzo settore

5 LINEE DI ATTIVITÀ PRINCIPALI

1. Realizzazione di una campagna di comunicazione on line
2. Costituzione di un repertorio di esperienze significative realizzate in materia di Adult Learning
3. Azioni di animazione territoriale, comunicazione e promozione di reti
4. Predisposizione di un Rapporto alla Commissione europea sull'esito delle attività
5. Comitato di indirizzo



1) ...UNA CAMPAGNA DI INFORMAZIONE - ATTIVITÀ E PRODOTTI

- Progettazione e realizzazione della brochure informativa sull'AL e l'implementazione del progetto dell'agenda europea (online e cartacea)
- Progettazione e realizzazione della locandina
- Ideazione del progetto grafico
- Traduzione del materiale di comunicazione
- Diffusione presso i canali degli stakeholder (MLPS, MIUR, Coordinamento delle Regioni)

2) CREAZIONE DI UNA BANCA DATI DELLE ESPERIENZE DI AL ATTIVITÀ E PRODOTTI

- Progettazione e creazione della banca dati sulle esperienze di Adult Learning presenti sul territorio nazionale
- Progettazione della scheda di descrizione delle esperienze significative e relativo testing
- Individuazione e screening delle esperienze significative
- Redazione delle schede sulle esperienze significative
- Messa in rete della banca dati
- Diffusione della banca dati
- Manutenzione e aggiornamento continuo

3) ORGANIZZAZIONE DI 9 FOCUS GROUP A LIVELLO LOCALE SU AMBITI TEMATICI

- Rilevanza territoriale: Nord, Centro, Sud
- Rilevanza tematica: ICT, Apprendimenti informali e non formali, Inclusione e cittadinanza attiva

4) ORGANIZZAZIONE DI 3 CONFERENZE NAZIONALI

- Alla fine del ciclo di focus group territoriali, per ciascun tema
- La prossima a settembre a Torino

5) ATTIVITÀ DI REPORT ALLA COMMISSIONE ATTIVITÀ E PRODOTTI

- Analisi degli esiti delle attività relative ai Focus e alle Conferenze
- Stesura del rapporto finale di ricerca sui risultati delle attività del progetto
- Diffusione del Rapporto

COMITATO DI INDIRIZZO

- Ha compiti di accompagnamento, monitoraggio, diffusione presso referenti periferici
- Isfol; MLPS; MIUR; Indire; Coordinamento tecnico Regioni; UPI; ANCI

PRIME CONCLUSIONI SUGLI ESITI DEI TRE FOCUS SU TIC E APPRENDIMENTO IN ETÀ ADULTA (ROMA 21 DICEMBRE, PADOVA 1 MARZO, BENEVENTO 11 APRILE)

- Necessità di declinare gli interventi di TIC e Apprendimento in età adulta per target (giovani adulti, riqualificazione o aumento del livello di competenze) e ancor più a seconda della condizione occupazionale
- Necessità di adottare un profilo professionale (standard, curriculum, percorso di formazione) per l'educatore in ambiente TIC
- Forte richiesta dai territori di «uscire dalla sperimentazione» e fare delle scelte politiche a livello centrale, che poi possano indirizzare gli investimenti nei territori, attualmente dispersi in mille rivoli



Poster at the Ferrara RUIAP conference



mentor
e-MENTORING: New skills and competencies for new jobs
Project No: 519579-LLP-1-2010-1-IT-KA3-KA3eP
01.01.2011 - 30.06.2013

Speha Fresia
EAQ-EA
Education, Acquisition & Career
Development Agency
LifeLong Learning Programme

In collaborazione con il Centro di Formazione Professionale del Comune di Roma Capitale "Aldo e Lella Fabrizi",
con la Trust S.r.l. e la Cooperativa Moisselle Le Blanc.

**da drop-out a drop-in: progetti di vita e mercato del lavoro
confronto tra risorse tecniche e istituzionali**

Programma

18.00 Cocktail di benvenuto - registrazione partecipanti

18.30 Presentazione del workshop: saluti, programma e modalità del confronto
Pina Rozzo ed Elisabetta Cannova - Speha Fresia

Conduce e modera i lavori *Claudio Maria Vitali*

"Atto primo"
Dai drop-out del sistema ai Drop-in: inclusione, accessibilità, diritti non negoziabili
Riflessioni e suggerimenti per Politiche e interventi per giovani e diversamente giovani
NEET e abbandoni scolastici: dati e fenomeni, *Claudio Franzosi - Isfol*
Adulti: dati e fenomeni, *Luisa Daniele - Isfol*

Le innovazioni metodologiche: rendere più attrattivi i processi di apprendimento
"Writing Theatre", *Daniela De Lillo - Moisselle Le Blanc*
"Posso Non Posso Vado!", *Manuel Gentile - Unità Pedagogica del CNR di Palermo*

"Atto secondo"
Promuovere una imprenditorialità sostenibile: micro-imprenditorialità, mestieri e lavori autonomi, imprenditoria di prossimità
Riflessioni e suggerimenti per Politiche e interventi a supporto dell'imprenditorialità
Lavoro autonomo, creazione di impresa: dati e fenomeni, *Pierluigi Richini - Isfol*

Le innovazioni metodologiche: rendere più efficaci i processi di accompagnamento
"Processi di accompagnamento: e-Mentoring", *Carla Laura Petruzzelli - Task force europea e internazionale sul mentoring (Business and Professional Women Association)*

National Conferences

According to the project timetable, the three National Conferences organisation is scheduled during the second half of the project lifecycle.

Nevertheless, in May 2013 the staff has started the preparation activity for the First of these Conferences that will be held in Turin on 24th September.

The venue of the conference is the Conference Center of the Turin Province (*Auditorium di Corso Inghilterra*). The President of the Province (who is also the President of the U.P.I. - Italian Provinces Union) decided to give the patronage to the event, considering the relevance of the themes to be discussed and the European and national dimension of this conference.

The key issues of the conference concern the relationship between ICT and Adult learning, from both point of view: the contribution that ICT can provide to the educational and training supply System and of the pedagogical issues implied in the use of technologies for educational and training purposes.

According to the advice of the National Steering Committee and the results of the Workshops held on the same themes, it was decided to address the conference to a selected audience including policy makers - both at local and national level -; experts and researchers; trainers and teachers involved in adult education; social Partners; representatives from local experiences and innovative projects; operators from the third sector and NGOs; Universities. On this basis a mailing list of 200 invitations has been prepared.

The draft agenda foresees one introductory plenary session, one lectio magistralis from an expert coming from Padua University and two round tables involving policy makers, experts, and practitioners.

4. Plans for the future (for **progress reports**: include a description of plans to carry out the remaining work to achieve project objectives; for **final reports**, emphasize how the project outcomes / achievements will be sustainable beyond the project's lifetime.)

The work plan is completely fulfilled with reference to deadlines and to the production of deliverables. According to the project work plan and the proposed breakdown of activities in the next period will be carried out the following activities:

Activity 1 Communication Campaign

In the second implementation period some activities are expected to be continued or started, such as:

- 4 sessions of the National Steering Committee (October 2013, January 2014, April 2014, July 2014);
- participation in national and international events organized by third parties;
- the shooting of no less than 20 interviews with privileged witnesses (collected also within the framework of the national conference - see below). ;
- the continuous updating of the Web site project, with particular reference to the areas Resources, News and Testimonials;
- the continuing expansion of the mailing list, to be used to promote events, publications and reporting (actually, in the mailing list appear some 500 relevant Actors to whom info and material are transmitted on regular basis).

The communication activities targeted to users and beneficiaries will start in the second year. The planned activities related to the objective of interfacing directly the users and beneficiaries of the schemes and centres offering learning opportunities in adulthood.

The planned activities that will be undertaken during the period October 2013 - January 2014 include the production of informational materials to be distributed in CPIA (Centers for Adult Education), consisting of multilingual posters and e-books on the issues of citizenship, participation and social equity, as well as on the validation system of skills acquired in the contexts of non-formal and informal learning.

A collection of 50 life histories (40 in the adult learning centres and 10 in prison, with the support of Ministry of Justice and the regional administrations in charge to manage education of adult prisoners), audio-video recorded, will allow the production of a short movie (documentary), completed by a specific report on main evidences. The short movie will be duplicated, distributed among the Adult learning centres and presented during the info campaign to the institutional stakeholders. For such output not foreseen in the project, but useful to join the objectives, no additional fund are required, existing the possibility to save money from the chapter of conference organization and reinvest it for info materials and tools production and distribution.

Activity 2 Creation of a database on the Adult Learning experiences

Considering the time remaining for the implementation of project activities, it is estimated that it is possible to achieve the goal to include no less than 50 additional Fact Sheets describing relevant experiences in Adult Learning.

It is also foreseen, to increase the transferability of the practices, to produce abstracts of contents in English.

Activity 3 Organization of 9 focus groups at local level on thematic fields

In the period September 2013 - February 2014 the last four out of nine territorial laboratories will be carried out.

It is expected to realize the four workshops according to following schedule and locations:

Adult Learning, active citizenship and social equity (September- December 2013)

- Bari (South)
- Perugia (Center)

Adult Learning, non formal and informal learning (january – February 2014)

- Cagliari (South)
- Ancona (Center)

Activity 4 Organization of three National Conferences

In the next twelve months, as foreseen in the project approved, it is planned to organize three conferences in three different areas of the country, each with a specific focus on a topic of significant interest in the context of reference: ICT, active citizenship and equity social non-formal and informal learning.

Such conferences will have both a thematic and regional dimension, in fact, the locations will be chosen considering the following criteria: equitable representation of the Italian macro-regions (North, Central, South); the different level of development of strategies and practices for the Adult Learning and presence of significant experiences related to Adult Learning.

The thematic conferences topics will be held in the following territories:

- the use of ICT in the context of the AL, in Turin, on September 24th, 2013
- AL for active citizenship and social equity, in Naples, in February 2014
- AL: non-formal and informal learning in Florence, in June 2014.

Activity 5 Communication to the Commission

The preparation of the analytic report to the EACEA will begin at the end of the second Conference (March 2014). The report will be written in Italian and English and printed in 400 copies.

This report is not alternative to the final report that the contractor is obliged to complete.

Its structure includes:

- a narrative section, in which the results achieved and the methodologies used are reported. This section aims to contextualize the work and is not a substitute of the due final report prepared according to the EACEA format;
- a section that shows the main components of the system of supply and demand for adult learning, thereby updating the existing information and highlighting the most relevant elements according to issues and objectives of the European Union;
- a section dedicated to reading and cross-sectional analysis of selected practices and in the database. These are, in fact, a source to highlight the solutions and proposals that currently appear more functional in terms of targets and transferability of solutions in different contexts;
- a concluding section containing recommendations and suggestions to the various stakeholders with regard to a more effective and efficient implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning strategy.

The main Sources for the Report, apart from theoretic and legislative literature, are:

evidences and key messages emerged from nine focus group and three conferences reports;

more than 25 Interviews with privileged witnesses;

the material audio-video recorded during the action research in the centres and prisons above mentioned;

internal monitoring and evaluation of the project implementation reports;

the database of the local/national practices (80 case studies on relevant experiences in the field of adult learning).

The Report distribution strategy includes:

- distribution during the final conference to be held in Florence in June 2014 (draft short version);
- publication in electronic format on the Project Website, accompanied by an alert and an invitation to read to those that appear on the mailing list;
- the publication of an abstract in the magazines specialized in Adult Learning and VET

5. Contribution to EU Policies (describe the contribution of the project in implementing the European Agenda for Adult Learning and the **Impact** on National Policies and on target groups.)

In keeping with the key objectives set out in the Agenda for Adult Learning, and the ET2020 Framework for cooperation in education and training, the Italian project worked in the direction of “making lifelong learning and mobility a reality”. By directly involving in the Steering Committee the representation of the Provinces (UPI), of the Regions (Coordinamento tecnico delle Regioni) and municipalities (ANCI), the Italian Authority responsible for the technical assistance for Grundtvig Programme (ANSAS), and the Italian Ministry of Labour (MLPS), and of Education (MIUR), our project sought to contribute to the ongoing process of: a) developing a national reform of the learning centers and pathways for adults b) adopting a more flexible learning approach based on the recognition of non-formal and informal learning especially in the Adult learning centres c) and strengthening the use of ICT in the adult learning processes d) focusing on the active citizenship and social inclusion issues.

Specifically, our project focused on creating a common understanding of AL-related issues among competent Authorities and stakeholders, and practitioner, as well as on supporting the debate on the ongoing reform of the learning centres for adults (becoming territorial networks, with specific budgets and human resources dedicated to AL and adopting APEL mechanisms for recognition and validation of prior learning).

The long-term aim being making the AL systems more accessible to disadvantage targets, such as migrants, older workers, but also teen agers (from 16 years old) who are becoming a relevant quota of the adult public in the learning centres.

We also would like to contribute to making the recognition of non-formal and informal learning easier: to this end we promote through the focus groups and the next National Conference, in June 2014 (Florence on APEL issues) the exchange of regional practices on assessment, thus facilitating the adoption of shared procedures and criteria to assess Units of LOs.

The Italian Project was also consistent with the Adult Learning Agenda objective “Promoting equity, social cohesion and active citizenship” since our core activities aimed at stressing the need of encountering both the social and the economic needs in the training and education systems, for example putting the accent on the procedures, already existing in the country but in a scattered way on the territory, facilitating the recognition of competences mainly acquired on the job by low-qualified workers with a migrant background.

In so doing, our project contributed to improve the working conditions of disadvantaged people, their qualification levels, as well as their training-qualification opportunities within enterprises.

Finally the Italian Project is consistent with the objectives of the Agenda for Adult Learning and the Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP) related to social cohesion, participation in lifelong learning by people of all ages, including those with special needs and disadvantaged groups. Our target groups in fact included adults without qualifications seeking qualification and migrants (with no recognition of their learning/training outcomes).

Moreover, regarding the new programming, the National Coordinator, (appointed by both the Ministry of Labour and the Ministry of Education) took part in the national interinstitutional meetings for Partnership Agreement preparing the new Community Support Framework 2014-2020.

The presence of the National Coordinator was relevant to introduce under the thematic objectives: 8. “Employment”, 9. “Social Inclusion” and 10 “VET Systems”, several actions and initiatives related to the adult learning issues, as recently underpinned at the Turin Conference and during the monitoring

Grant Decision / Agreement number: 2012 – 3853/001-001

visit held on 25th September.



LIFELONG LEARNING PROGRAMME

Implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning

2012-2014

Portugal

Progress Report

GENERAL INFORMATION

Project title: **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EU AGENDA FOR ADULT LEARNING**

Decision/Agreement number: **2012-3740/001-001**

Project website: <http://www.agenda.anqep.gov.pt>

Reporting period: From 01/09/2012
To 30/09/2013

Date of submission: 31/08/2013

Beneficiary organisation: Agência Nacional para a Qualificação e o Ensino Profissional, I. P. (ANQEP, I. P.)

Project coordinator (contact person): João Barbosa

Project coordinator email address: joao.barbosa@anqep.gov.pt

This project has been funded with support from the European Union under the Invitation to submit grant applications for the Implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning addressed to the National Coordinators (period 2012-2014).

This report reflects the views only of the author and the Executive Agency/European Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

Please send:

1 electronic copy of progress/final report and financial report (Excel spreadsheet) to the following email address:

EACEA-P3-AL-AGENDA@ec.europa.eu

and

one original paper copy and one electronic copy on physical storage device (USB stick, C D R om ...) to the following postal address:

Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency Lifelong
Learning: Leonardo da Vinci, Grundtvig & Dissemination Ms
Hélène BARRY
Office: BOU2 02/11
Av. du Bourget 1
BE - 1140 Brussels
BELGIUM

Please note that we ask you to send the results of the project only in electronic form:

- publications, CD Rom, DVD with audio, video materials: electronic version or web link are sufficient)
- official invitations and agenda of conferences, meetings, training or other events organised/participated by the centre, copy of presentation: electronic version is sufficient
- references to the internet sites where appropriate

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- PUBLIC PART -

1. Project objectives (please present the objectives of the project, the potential impact upon and benefits to the target user group.)

In the scope of the implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning 2012-2014 – Lifelong Learning Programme, the *Agência Nacional para a Qualificação e o Ensino Profissional* - ANQEP, I.P. (National Agency for Qualification and Vocational Education and Training) coordinates a nationwide project with the aim of promoting and facilitating the access to Lifelong Learning (LLL) opportunities for people over 55 years of age and/or persons with disabilities and/or at risk of social exclusion in regards to their needs and interests.

The project's objectives are:

- Disseminating the European Agenda for Lifelong Learning;
- Raising the awareness on Lifelong Learning;
- Promoting cooperation and networking between local partners and institutions;
- Promoting more and better opportunities for LLL activities;
- Gathering supporting data for building new tools and/or methodologies.

The dissemination of the European Agenda will be attained through publicizing National and European LLL programmes, actions and institutions among stakeholders.

This project also aims to raise the awareness of adults, namely the disadvantaged groups, with 55 years of age or more, including groups at risk of social exclusion and those with disability, to the importance of improving their qualifications levels as a way of keeping an active citizenship, and to promote, when needed, the socio-professional reintegration.

The third objective of the Project consists in building cooperation networks that sustain a more effective approach of LLL activities and measures, regarding the target group specific needs.

The promotion of more and better opportunities for LLL activities will be attained through a better adjustment of the education and training provision, based on the assessments of the target group education and training needs.

The last objective aims to build new LLL tools and/or methodologies, based on the data gathered among the stakeholders.

In a broader sense, this Project aims to mobilize and motivate the target groups to engage in formal, non-formal or informal Lifelong Learning activities.

2. Project methodology (please present the methodology for achieving the objectives, including the evaluation and dissemination strategies)

There will be five regional workshops, each with four different focus groups, which will address the following issues:

- Information, awareness and motivation for LLL activities;
- LLL activity supply;
- Education and training, Social, Professional and Occupational rehabilitation/reintegration;
- LLL impact.

The focus group has been considered as the most adequate methodology of collecting data among the stakeholders, since it facilitates the discussion among participants and allows the gathering of information on good practice and effective responses to specific needs, aiming at the elaboration of an e-guide.

Each of the before mentioned two-hour focus groups will gather different stakeholders in the areas of adult education, social exclusion and disability, and will be moderated by ANQEP.

Each focus group will be developed according to a previously designed script containing open questions and guidelines, which will allow the gathering and compiling of data to be discussed in a plenary session, and later used to build the questionnaire to be applied to the target groups.

These workshops will have the participation of both experts and local/regional institution leaders, allowing the simultaneous gathering of information from those who intervene locally and know the needs of the target groups and make it effectively reach policy makers. The assessment of the workshops will be implemented through a questionnaire to be applied to the participants.

Regarding the website, whose goal is to inform and to raise awareness on Lifelong Learning among stakeholders, target groups and the general public, it has been accessed by 7.144 visitors, 10% of which are non-Portuguese, since its launch in December 2012.

The posters will serve as a publicizing method for the 5 regional workshops.

3. Project outcomes and results (please describe the major achievements and results for the reporting period)

In regards to *Activity 1 – Management*, the focus of the working team in the last three months has been on organizing the five regional workshops that will take place from September to December 2013.

In regards to *Activity 2 – Supporting Materials*, it has already been created a poster to publicize the 5 regional workshops.

The website foreseen in *Activity 3 – Creation and update of the website* has been put online and regularly updated since December 2012. Considering the number of visits to the website since then, it seems that its goal, to promote stakeholder cooperation, is being accomplished.

In the scope of *Activity 6 – Transnational Cooperation*, ANQEP took part in a conference on the Implementation of the European Agenda for Lifelong Learning, which took place in Brussels on the 23rd October 2012. This meeting allowed the establishment of contacts with international experts that may take part in the final national seminar, as well as the sharing of information gathering methodologies that can be applied towards the current project's target group.

Taking into consideration that the majority of the activities are still being developed (the workshops, the survey and the e-guide), the results currently published on the website are not enough yet to allow a clear overview of the project scope. Nevertheless, there have been published several news and testimonies on LLL experiences.

4. Plans for the future (for **progress reports**: include a description of plans to carry out the remaining work to achieve project objectives; for **final reports**, emphasize how the project outcomes / achievements will be sustainable beyond the project's lifetime.)

Activity 4 – Workshops with local stakeholders

Start/Finish: from September to December 2013

Aims:

- To establish a close cooperation with the relevant stakeholders at local level;
- To gather contributions from stakeholders and examples of good practice, aiming at the elaboration of the survey to be applied to the target group.

Outputs:

- Summaries from focus groups' activities;
- Systematization of information gathered from stakeholders through a script of open questions (survey), guiding the discussion in the focus groups.

Activity 5 – Survey to be applied to the target group

Start/Finish: from January to March 2014

Aims:

- To gather information on target group's needs and expectations concerning LLL.

Outputs:

- Report on data gathered through surveys.

Activity 6 – Transnational Cooperation

Aims:

- To participate in events such as conferences to exchanges good practice;
- To choose foreign experts that to will bring contribution from other countries to the final seminar in Portugal.

Outputs:

- Supporting materials delivered at the conference;
- Report

Activity 7 – Dissemination activities

Start/Finish: from April to August 2014

Aims:

- To disseminate the results on the project activities, namely the identification of LLL guidelines and good practice.

Outputs:

- Final seminar;
- E-guide.

5. Contribution to EU Policies (describe the contribution of the project in implementing the European Agenda for Adult Learning **and the Impact** on National Policies and on target groups.)

Since the President of the National Agency for Qualification and Vocational Education and Training is the national coordinator of the European Agenda for Adult Education, this project has a strategic importance in the effectiveness of actions to be undertaken in the future, in the scope of LLL, as an answer to the needs and expectations identified during the development of the project.



LIFELONG LEARNING PROGRAMME

**Implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning
2012-2014**

SPAIN

Progress Report

GENERAL INFORMATION

Project title: **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN AGENDA FOR ADULT LEARNING- Period 2012-2014**

Decision/Agreement number: **2012 - 3500 / 001 – 001**

Project website: Enter your text here

Reporting period: From 01/09/2012
To 01/09/2013

Date of submission: 20/09/2013

Beneficiary organisation: **Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport**

Project coordinator (contact person): Jesús Valdecantos Campos

Project coordinator email address: Jesus.valdecantos@mecd.es

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Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency
Lifelong Learning: Leonardo da Vinci, Grundtvig & Dissemination
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- PUBLIC PART -

1. Project objectives (please present the objectives of the project, the potential impact upon and benefits to the target user group)

The final aim of the project is to address the national and regional challenge of low education attainment levels in order to increase the quality of the workforce, foster social and human development and empower adults to advance in life.

To achieve this aim we propose:

- The creation of a Website that will contain useful and clear information about the possibilities of pursuing education and obtaining certifications depending on the situation of each individual and the area in which they live. This information will be of interest not only for learners but also for employment and education counsellors, educational staff in schools, guidance personnel, youth workers, street educators, social services and local development facilitators in their job to guide the target public.
- Building a resources bank of training materials that will help potential learners to gain or boost the necessary skills and competences to go one step up. These resources will be useful not only to help the learners whose aim is the *Lower Compulsory Secondary Education Certificate*, but also those who need to get prepared for the exam that gives access to the intermediate level of VET. Teachers would also benefit from the existence of these materials to prepare their courses

2. Project methodology (please present the methodology for achieving the objectives, including the evaluation and dissemination strategies)

The first step was a meeting of the Director-General of VET in the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport with Directors-General in charge of Adult Education in the different Autonomous Communities in order to inform them about the European Agenda 2012-2014 and the project and to invite them to get involved.

Secondly, we got in touch, through different means of communication, with the persons appointed by Directors-General in the Autonomous Communities to directly participate in the project. The first meeting with the 17 representatives of the autonomous communities was replaced by fluid communication, firstly with the General Directors and secondly with persons designated by them to participate in the project. This communication has been held by regular and electronic mail and by phone.

We are pleased to inform that all 17 Communities adhered to the project. All of them were informed about both: the European Agenda and the project.

Periodical meetings were set to monitor the process. The first one was held in Madrid in January the 5th and 6th of February, 2013.

A second meeting, on the 9th of May, 2013, led to new developments about the agreement on the contents to be developed to include in the Website and it was also very useful to disseminate European Commission policies related to Adult Education especially in validation of prior learning and quality.

In order to keep the group working, in between meetings, mails and phone calls were the main means of contact and consultation.

After each meeting a newsletter was sent to the different stakeholders about the project's advances and encouraging them to give their input.

Different working meetings with the Department of new technologies of the Ministry have been held in order to clarify different formal and organizational aspects of the future website of the project.

3. Project outcomes and results (please describe the major achievements and results for the reporting period)

One of the most important achievements so far, is that the total of the Autonomous Communities (17) have joined the project and have been working fluid and satisfactory in the development of the tasks assigned.

Another important achievement is the empowerment of the virtual site for communication "COMPARTE" for all those who are involved in the project and now has become a useful means to exchange relevant information. This issue is not the final web page of the project, it's only one way implemented for internal communication.

Furthermore, this virtual site COMPARTE has been opened to all the different stakeholders and, they had been informed as it has been previously agreed

We also have been working on the definition of lifelong learning and we have agreed about it and on the common strategic axes on which to work.

We have agreed the development and approach of the main aspects that the web page of the project should contain and about its general scheme and development

60% of materials that exist on the web pages of the different Autonomous Communities have been reviewed and analyzed in order to assess their suitability and further links in the web page of the project.

Thanks to the participation in this program, our General Sub-Directorate for Lifelong Learning will be in charge of early School leaving from next September 2012.

4. Plans for the future (for **progress reports**: include a description of plans to carry out the remaining work to achieve project objectives; for **final reports**, emphasize how the project outcomes / achievements will be sustainable beyond the project's lifetime.)

To continue with the working meetings with representatives of the communities autonomous, keeping the good climate of communication and work that exists in these groups.

We expect to hold smooth communication with this group, not only through the online platform "COMPARTE", but also through email and telephone communication, as it has been done up to now with such good results.

It has been planned to continue analyzing the materials related to adult learning that appear in each of the web pages of the different autonomous communities. Once the study of these materials has been completed, it shall be determined which are susceptible to link to the website of the project.

The website construction process has begun, and the first steps have been taken in place. We are going to continue with this task so we expect to be able to have 25% of the materials available on this website at the end of the 13 month's project, as planned.

In this way, the Congress Organization of presentation of the web page, with this 25% of materials included, it is planned to be held approximately by the month of October-November.

The design of the dissemination campaign of the website is also planned: there will be brochures, leaflets, newsletters and so on.

It is expected to continue with the program of dissemination, involvement and participation of all the stakeholders.

In this way, it has been given access to all the stakeholders to the platform of communication on line "COMPARTE" that such good results has had in communication with the representatives of the Autonomous Communities. It has been created a specific space for all of them where they can upload and consult documents, etc.

Finally, we will carry out different tests to check the correct functioning of the website web. These tests will be carried out by our own staff and also by sterna staff.

5. Contribution to EU Policies (describe the contribution of the project in implementing the European Agenda for Adult Learning **and the Impact** on National Policies and on target groups.)

This project will contribute to strength and develop a better and efficient lifelong learning for adults, focusing on the development of their personal and professional skills, which will allow them to participate more actively and integrated into society.

The project aims also to contribute to the development of a culture of lifelong learning in which materials and resources offered through this site that is being developed, serve as support and advice to the disadvantages groups in our society.

We also expect to improve the quality of Lifelong Learning, not only in groups that are at risk situation of social exclusion and vulnerability, but also for all adults.

Another of the contributions of the project will be the boost guidance to all citizens, not only socially disadvantaged groups and/or at risk of exclusion, but also to those who once left the educational system and who currently want to re-enter the education system to improve their personal and social status, as well as those wanting to continue or improve their levels of education.

In this sense, the development of this project will contribute to extend the possibility of access to education to adults, helping them to their personal and professional development, training, adaptability, employability, and their active participation in society.

All these issues are linked with the first of the priority areas of the European union for the period 2012-2014 "making Lifelong learning and mobility a reality":

- Stimulating demand, and developing comprehensive and easily accessible information and guidance systems, complemented by effective outreach strategies aimed at raising awareness and motivation among potential learners, with specific focus on disadvantaged groups, early school leavers, young people not in education, employment or training (NEETs), low-qualified adults, particularly those with literacy difficulties, and followed up with second-chance opportunities leading to a recognized EQF level qualification.
- Promoting the engagement of employers in workplace-based learning, with a view to developing both job-specific skills and broader skills, including by means of more flexible work schedules.
- Promoting flexible learning pathways for adults, including broader access to higher education for those lacking mainstream access qualifications and diversifying the spectrum of adult learning-opportunities offered by higher education institutions.
- Putting in place fully functional systems for validating non-formal and informal learning and promoting their use by adults of all ages and at all qualification levels, as well as by enterprises and other organizations.

The development of this project is going to contribute to the strengthening and development of an adult learning of greater quality and efficiency, focusing on the development of their personal and professional skills, allowing them better active and integrated participation into today's society.

The project aims also to contribute to the development of a culture of lifelong learning in which materials and resources offered through this site which is being creating, serve as support and advice to the neediest groups in this aspect.

In addition, through the project, it is expected to improve the quality of all adult learning and not only to those who are at risk of social exclusion in situations of vulnerability.

Another of the contributions of the project will be to enhance the orientation in an substantial and important way for all citizens, not only for those socially disadvantaged groups and or at risk of exclusion, but also to those who once left the educational system and who currently want to re-enter the education system to improve their personal and social status as well as to those who wish to continue or improve their education levels.

In this sense, the development of this project is going to contribute to widen the possibility of access to education to adults, thus contributing to their personal and professional development and to their training, adaptability and employability, as well as to his active participation in our society.

With this project, through the tool for advice that is being developed, we are going to contribute to the aims that all adults have access to training in accordance with their interests and needs at any time of their lives, and can therefore get a higher level of qualification.

The platform that is being created will also help to promote an improvement of the results in education and an increase in the autonomy of adults in dealing with their learning and their training.

In addition, the fact of involving all stakeholders in the project, will contribute to develop and encourage a greater awareness of the need and importance of a good education and learning in the field of adult learning between entrepreneurs.