

Implementation of the Action Plan on adult learning

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Marijke Dashorst, unit B4, DG EAC

The context

- Rapid economic development in other regions of the world
- 80 million low-skilled workers
- Nearly 7 million early school leavers
- Demographic trends – ageing population
- Poverty and social exclusion
- High percentage of people with low basic skills

Adult learning

- All forms of learning undertaken by adults after having left initial education and training, however far this process may have gone.
- The sector embraces formal, non-formal and informal learning.

Overall message It is Never too late to learn

- Member States must have an efficient adult learning system integrated into a lifelong learning strategy, which provides:
 - increased labour market access
 - better social integration
 - better preparation for active ageing

5 Key messages: Always a good time to learn

- Increasing and more equitable participation
- Foster a ‘culture of quality’
- Recognition and validation of learning outcomes
- Particular attention to migrants, older people, early school leavers, women and people with a disability
- Measuring the progress



Overall objectives of the Action Plan

- To implement the key messages of the 2006 Communication
- To improve/develop an efficient adult learning sector
- To increase the participation rates of adults in education and training

Focus of the Action Plan

Those who are disadvantaged because of their:

- Low literacy skills
- Inadequate work skills
- Insufficient skills for successful integration into society

Proposed actions

- Analysis of national reforms on adult learning
- Improving the quality of provision
- Increasing the possibility for adults to achieve a qualification one level higher than before
- Validation and recognition of skills and competences
- A better and transparent monitoring of the sector

Implementation Action plan



- 3 year time schedule
- Working Group
- 5 Focus groups
- 6 studies
- Peer learning activities and study visits
- Regional meetings



Key activities 2009



- PLA's on monitoring, one step up and validation
- Final conference on the Action Plan to report on results achieved and to discuss the way forward in the second half of 2010



Key activities in 2009



4 regional dissemination meetings:

- **Germany:** 7 – 9 October (*with Belgium, France, UK, Netherlands, Liechtenstein, Luxemburg, Ireland*)
- **Norway:** 14 – 16 October (*with Denmark, Finland, Estonia, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Sweden*)
- **Spain:** 26 – 28 October (*with Cyprus, Malta, Portugal, Greece, Italy, Turkey*)
- **Slovenia:** 4 – 6 November (*with Slovakia, Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania*)



Key activities in 2009



Results of studies

Reference framework of key skills for adult learning staff

- Glossary of adult learning terms
- Methodology for assessing impact of reforms in the adult education and training sector
- Compendium of good practices focused on upskilling adults with weak qualification levels
- Inventory of approaches to validation of prior learning



Beyond 2010



- A «Staff working paper » on the situation of the adult learning sector in participating countries
- Communication in 2011

