



EAEA

WORK PLAN 2012



EAEA WORK PLAN 2012

WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

In preparing the work plan for 2012, the EAEA Board and staff are aware that 2012 will pose a number of challenges, but also opportunities for EAEA and its members. The financial crisis has had, and will continue to have very different impacts on our members. In some countries, public resources for adult education have been severely cut back, yet in other countries, stronger investment in this area have been planned. In almost all countries, there is a shift in focus towards employability and vocational training for adults. At the European level, this trend is reinforced by the Agenda for new skills and jobs, which the EAEA will address through a special conference.

In 2011, the Action Plan on adult learning comes to an end, and a follow-up is expected in the second half of 2012 under the Polish Presidency. EAEA will continue its involvement in the development process and to make contributions as the main advocates for Adult Learning in Europe and the voice of civil society.

The European Commission has also started discussing the plans for its budget from 2014 onwards, which will have an impact on the future of the Lifelong Learning Programme. We have been lobbying for a strong future programme, with

greater resources for the Grundtvig programme (including a Grundtvig Mundus strand). There is one positive aspect in all the EU papers on future budgets: they all acknowledge the importance of investment in education and training.

We will continue our work on ensuring equality in adult education – migrants have been and will remain an important topic. In connection with this (but not only), we will continue to put an emphasis on active citizenship.

The European Year of Active Aging will provide us with the opportunity to underline the importance of adult education and learning for older people which will allow us to move beyond employability and to highlight the wider benefits of adult learning. The fact that this text is written in April 2011 has an impact on the details that can be presented: EAEA submitted two bids to lead projects in the Grundtvig programme in February 2011, and we will only know in June or July if one, two or none have been approved. We are also planning a Grundtvig in-service training course in September aimed particularly at younger adult educators, and depending on the success of this initiative and the feedback, we may offer more staff development opportunities in the future.



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The work plan that follows is ambitious and wide ranging. To meet the goals identified, the EAEA will depend upon the commitment and dedication of the Board Members who will be elected at the General Assembly. Each member of the Board will be actively engaging in the work, including the projects, and some will have special responsibilities including supporting members in countries outside the EU; liaising with international bodies and organisations; scrutinizing the budget; ensuring effective communication and information strategies; and working with EU stakeholders. We should work as an effective and united team with the EAEA staff and the wider membership to ensure that the voice of Adult Education in Europe is heard and acted upon.

Sue Waddington
President of the EAEA.



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INTRODUCTION TO THE WORK PLAN

Before we go to the main topics and plans for 2012, here is a reminder of EAEA's main objectives:

The main roles of EAEA are:

- Policy advocacy for lifelong learning at a European level
- Provision of information and services for our members
- Development of practice through projects, publications and training
- International co-operation with other stakeholders in the field

The EAEA promotes the social inclusion aspects of the Lisbon Strategy; it promotes adult learning and the widening of access and participation in formal and non-formal adult education for all, particularly for groups currently under-represented. The purposes of learning may be competence development for personal fulfilment and in employment related fields; for social change and active citizenship; for sustainable development and gender mainstreaming; for cultural and intercultural awareness and knowledge.

By following these priorities and by preparing the plans below we hope to fulfill our main tasks: to be the voice of (non-formal) adult education at the European level and to provide services for our members.



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The main topics and plans for 2012 are:

1. **INFLUENCING PUBLIC POLICY**

EAEA would like to intensify its contacts and relations with the different levels in the European Commission, but also other institutions. The main objective is to make the Association a highly visible European-level organisation and partner in the field of (non-formal) adult learning for European bodies. To make EAEA recognised as a professional association with the capacity to strengthen its position and the role of adult education in lifelong learning policy and to exert influence on other fields of education and training through better recognition of non-formal learning. A particular effort will be put on the European Parliament, which takes on a more important role after the implementation of the Lisbon Treaty, and therefore will also have a strong voice in the future of the Lifelong Learning Programme.

EAEA will concentrate on four different ways in order to influence public policy:

a. Advocacy

Over the years, EAEA has established good contact with DG EAC, especially the unit for adult education. Building on these relations, we need to extend our contacts to other units and institutions. EAEA is also planning to increase cooperation with the European Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Region. We are planning to include member organisations in the lobbying activities.

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- Contact building and maintaining with European institutions and other associations
- Contact building and maintaining with MEPs that are particularly interested in education and training or lifelong learning, employment, social inclusion and similar fields or that are members of committees in these fields
- Contact building with other institutions, organisations and persons relevant to policy making

EAEA as a membership organisation can provide a discussion platform for exchanges between policy-makers on the one hand and adult education representatives, staff, providers and learners. Additionally, we are exploring closer cooperation with universities and research institutes. Therefore, our events that bring together these different groups provide the opportunity to influence policy from the bottom up.

- Policy Breakfast organised in Brussels and hosted by an MEP from the Committee on Education and Culture of the European Parliament
- Demographic change and adult education as a topic, related to the European Year of Active Aging and Intergenerational Solidarity
- Conference

b. Visibility

The voice of (non-formal) adult education needs to present at meetings, conferences and working groups. We will therefore continue to give inputs at conferences, to lobby to be included in



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stakeholder meetings and other working groups and to raise the importance of adult education at a variety of meetings and get-togethers.

c. Taking positions

In order to be recognised as a policy actor and interesting representative of a civil society sector, an organisation in Brussels needs to take position, present opinions on policies, offer clear perspectives of strategies and produce convincing policy recommendations, which are based on the EAEA members' experiences. EAEA is also aiming to produce and gather evidence for policy proposals. EAEA will continue to take positions and provide evidence, and also put a particular emphasis on the following:

- A policy paper on demographic change and adult education
- Follow-up of the Action Plan

d. Representation

In order to have a stronger and wider influence, it is necessary to be represented in different networks, fora and platforms.

- Representation in the Social Platform
- Representation in Council of Europe
- Representation in the Culture Platform on 'Access to Culture'
- Associate membership in CONCORD, the European NGO Confederation for Relief and Development
- Representation in the Multilingualism Platform – EAEA has officially been accepted as a member of this Platform, which was initiated by

the European Commission. In order to fund the work of the Platform, a project proposal has been submitted by a consortium of members, in which EAEA is also participating.

2. FOLLOW-UP OF THE ACTION PLAN ON ADULT LEARNING

EAEA has accompanied the Action Plan on Adult Learning from the very beginning. In 2011 EAEA proposed 10 key messages for the follow up, and will continue to monitor how these key messages are being taken into account. EAEA will also continue to be the voice of adult education civil society in the implementation process. This will of course be one of the focus points of our advocacy strategy.

3. EAEA GRUNDTVIG AWARD AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2012

The General Assembly 2012 will take place in Vienna, Austria, back to back with a Conference on Active Aging. The Grundtvig Award will have the same topic and will be celebrated during the planned events.

4. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

EAEA will maintain its international work by continuing to follow-up the Belem Framework from CONFINTeA VI. We will do this in cooperation with ICAE as well as maintain the work from the World Assembly in Malmö in June 2011. EAEA will also continue its cooperation with the UNESCO Institute for



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Lifelong Learning in order to promote the implementation of the Belem Framework.

EAEA has been accepted as an associate member of CONCORD, the European platform of development NGOs, and will represent adult education in this forum.

5. INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

This activity is mainly possible through the support of the Helsinki Adult Education Centre and the Finnish government through its Ministry of Education and Culture who have been supporting our member VSY so that Johanni Larjanko can spend 80% of his working time on EAEA.

EAEA is adding social media presence in 2012. To this end we will expand and update the EAEA Information and Communication strategy. This will be done by a working group preparing a suggestion to be decided by the Board. The skills-sharing and experience exchange that has started within the Social Platform information officer group will be expanded, and the same development work approach will be taken with EUCIS LLL. Serious work will be done to improve the news service section, the language versions and the member presentation section of the web site.

The following activities are planned:

Continuous activities

- Updating website
- Reviewing articles and news
- Video Channel updates
- Social Media updates
- Answering questions and requests from members and stakeholders

Regular activities

- EAEA news
- Electronic monthly Newsletter
- Policy-newsletter
- EAEA insider
- Topic-based news services
- Dissemination services
- Documentation of EAEA activities
- Language specific sections

Specific activities

- INFONET-project
- Dissemination packages
- Production of promotional material on needs basis
- Information work group
- social media strategy
- member recruitment material
- new range of leaflets
- Grundtvig Award publication
- Renewal of News and member sections
- maintenance of language versions

6. EUROPEAN CIVIL SOCIETY PLATFORM ON LIFELONG LEARNING

EAEA has been a member of EUCIS LLL from the beginning, and currently, the secretary general of the EAEA is president of this platform. It brings together 23 members from different lifelong



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learning sectors. In 2010, EUCIS LLL was recognized as a unique representation by DG Education and Culture and has received funding since then. This increases the possibility for EAEA members to participate in EUCIS LLL activities, e.g. working groups and events.

7. PROJECTS

Projects EAEA is already partner in (2012):

GINCO (Grundtvig International Network of Course Organisers)

GINCO is a Grundtvig network run by an international consortium of 21 partners, with the aim to create a European wide network of adult education organisations actually running Grundtvig courses or willing to do so in the future. The project will end in June 2012

IPA — 'the second chance' — systemic development of elementary, practice-based adult education in Serbia

Systemic development of elementary, practice based adult education in Serbia. The proposed project, with the overall objective of the development of a rigorously piloted and evaluated model for a national system for FEEA, will permit adults without elementary education a "Second Chance" for enhancing their social conditions and economic livelihoods.

Poliglotti4.eu – Civil Society Platform to promote Multilingualism

The research and recommendations of this project will focus particularly on three areas: lifelong learning, pre-school, and social/community services

for social inclusion. The principal physical output of this project will be a multilingual on-line Language Observatory which we envisage will become the reference on the practice of multilingualism in Europe, and will persist beyond this two-year project.

Projects in which EAEA is the applicant organisation (The contract will depend on the approval by the relevant agencies):

Outreach, empowerment, diversity

This network will bring together 16 organisations from 14 countries. Our aim is to tackle the need for outreach to marginalised groups, especially migrants and ethnic minorities, for the development of more diversity in adult education, and especially the inclusion of learners' voices, and for the empowerment of its learners to become active European citizens.

We want to

- provide a collection and analysis of good practice examples from across Europe that tackle the overlap of social inclusion and active citizenship (EN, FR, DE)
- analyse outreach strategies to marginalised groups and provide information to other adult education institutions how to organise this
- promote diversity in adult education organisations and their training
- develop empowerment strategies based on good practice and experiences of the network in order to activate learners from disadvantaged backgrounds
- improve teaching methodology for diverse target groups that empow-



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- ers them and publish methodology guidelines for trainers (EN, DE, FR)
- improve the management of adult education institutions through diversity and the inclusion of learners' voices
- look at how including diverse learners' voices can improve adult education
- provide policy recommendations that will tackle the integration of marginalised groups, their empowerment and participation in lifelong learning (EN, FR, DE).
- organize a European conference in Brussels to present the results

The network will have an impact on the participating institutions, teachers, trainers and (managing) staff in adult education, learners, especially from disadvantaged groups, other stakeholders in lifelong learning and policy makers. The network will improve approaches in reaching out to disadvantaged groups, promoting diversity in organisations, improve teaching methodology, promote active citizenship by participatory strategies and support the development of better policies aimed at integration and lifelong learning.

Partner organizations:

1. European Association for the Education of Adults (Belgium)
2. Deutsches Institut fuer Erwachsenenbildung (Germany)
3. Finnish Adult Education Association (Finland)
4. Deutscher Volkshochschul-Verband e.V (Germany)
5. FOLAC – Learning for Active Citizenship (Sweden)
6. International Organisation for Mi-

- gration Vienna (Austria)
7. Educational Disadvantage Centre, St Patricks' College (Ireland)
8. HYDRA (Turkey)
9. DAFNI KEK (Greece)
10. Danish Adult Education Association (Denmark)
11. La Ligue de l'enseignement (France)
12. National Institute of Adult Continuing Education (United Kingdom)
13. Estonian Non-formal Adult Education Association (Estonia)
14. NGO Home of Science and Technology (Bulgaria)
15. Movimiento Por la Paz El Desarme y la Libertad (Spain)
16. Drom Kotar Mestipen - Roma Association of Women (Spain)

Advocacy for adult education and learning

National, regional and local stakeholders in adult education still know too little about the developments in Education and Training at European level, and they often don't know how to have their voices heard.

Our members expressed 2 needs:

1. To learn more about European developments in LLL
2. To learn more about advocacy and lobbying for AE

This project will help practitioners to achieve these 2 objectives and become advocates for EU policies and contribute to the OMC.

Learning module about European developments in LLL

- This module will present the most important European texts and developments in lifelong learning. It



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will summarise and explain texts and provide a glossary. The module can be used individually, but also for organised trainings. EN, FR, DE

Learning module on Advocacy Strategies and Tools for LLL at national and regional levels

- The module will provide learning material how to improve advocacy, networking and lobbying for LLL on regional and national levels. EN, FR, DE

Template programme and methodology - Workshop on The Role of NGOs in the Promotion of LLL and the WS itself

- A template for a capacity building workshop for EU advocates
- A workshop with about 45 participants; EN, IT, FR

A network of EU advocates

- The workshop will launch a network of EU advocates that will be expanded over the years. They will maintain the connection between the local, regional, national and European levels and be able to inform and train other colleagues and to address other stakeholders.

Dissemination: through new + old media, to other networks

The products will have direct impact on participants. The wide dissemination of materials will reach a large target group. The advocates' network will assure further developments on national level. There will be a direct impact in 10 – 12

countries, which will increase over the next years. The materials are designed for further use (e.g. Grundtvig IST) and will become part of EAEA's regular work programme.

Partner organizations:

Finnish Association, NIACE

Projects in which EAEA agreed to be partner or do the dissemination (The partnership / contract with these projects will depend on the approval by the relevant agencies):

BeLL – Benefits of Lifelong Learning
(coordinator: DIE - Germany)

President Sue Waddington already presented a short paper on this issue in 2010, and the policy breakfast at the European Parliament introduced this topic, too. Following an initiative by EAEA, Professor Jyri Manninen and our members DIE prepared a project proposal on that topic in March 2010. We hope that it will be approved in later 2010, and even if this should not happen, we will continue working on this topic. Especially in times of economic crises, we need to underline how important adult learning and education are, and to provide evidence and tools for our arguments, which is exactly what this project intends to do.

InfoNet (coordinator: Akademie Klausenhof – Germany)

European InfoNet Adult Education is a network of leading representatives for national and international adult education journals in Europe.



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Literacy and Vocation (coordinator: Zukunftsbau GmbH Germany)

Integration of integrated literacy and vocational education into the respective national classification systems of general and vocational education (coherent system), further development of national literacy skills education via the introduction of competence orientation and connection with national qualification frameworks, connection to European educational policy via references made to the EQF and CEFR, future development of an own framework for adult literacy competences. (Dissemination)

ROMIO-ON (coordinator: Romani Association of Women Drom Kotar Mestipen – Spain)

Widening Romani women's access to non-formal and informal learning validation systems in Europe.

Vermittlung von Internetkompetenz als Mittel zur Integration für Migranten 50+ am „Lernort Bibliothek“ (coordinator: Goethe-Institut Barcelona – Spain)

Internetcompetence for integration of older migrants – library as a learning place

Strengthening Capacity for Human Resources Development

Call for tender for adult education in Bosnia

8. FINANCES

In late 2010, EAEA submitted another bid in the Jean Monnet programme, which provides operating grants for European associations active in life-long learning. We have been awarded another 3-year framework contract, which provides more stability and this time also the opportunity to increase the maximum funding amount over the years. EAEA will still have to submit a work programme each year, but there is still more security.

EAEA has put forward two bids in the Grundtvig programme in 2011, and will have the information whether none, one or both projects have been approved only by June or July. This will of course have a strong impact on the financial situation of the EAEA.

For the second half of 2011, EAEA will sign an agreement with EfVET (European Forum for Vocational Education and Training). The EAEA staff will work a percentage of their time for EfVET and EAEA will be paid. From a financial perspective, this can at least partly compensate for the DOLCETA project, which comes to an end in June 2011.

Despite these positive developments, EAEA will have to continue to raise money in order to keep its staff and implement its ambitious work plan. The executive board is following this up with a number of activities and proposals. EAEA will develop a strategy for acquiring more projects that are both financially and strategically useful.



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The EAEA membership fees have not been changed in more than 10 years and the executive board has had long discussions how to deal with this situation. The board proposes that, from 2012 onwards, the membership fees will be adapted to the inflation rate. Belgium has an official indexation, and this percentage will be applied in the following year (i.e. the Belgian index in 2011 will take effect in 2012).

The board will investigate a possible adaptation of the membership fees based on the principle of solidarity for next year. As already pointed out in the introduction, there are increasing differences between countries and what they can finance and consequently also in our membership. There are some members who would not be able to pay a higher fee but there are others who could. The board will take this situation into account and is planning to present the results of its discussions next year.

9. MEMBERSHIP

EAEA continues to attract new members, and we are especially happy that we now have members in each of the EU member states. Nevertheless, our membership in Southern Europe is a lot weaker than in other regions of Europe, and EAEA will put a special emphasis on this region in 2012.

10. MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

The meetings of the Executive Board are necessary for the decision-making of EAEA. Additionally, the meetings are held in different countries, which will enable the Executive Board to meet with (potential) member organisation. In 2012, between three and six meetings will be organized according to need.



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Activities		
Budget year 2012		
Objectives	Actions	Expected results on target group and/or E&T policy at European level
<p>Policy advocacy for LLL</p> <p>To intensify contacts and relations with the different levels in the EC and EP. To be a consultation partner in the field of (non-formal) adult learning for European bodies, with the capacity to strengthen its position and the role of adult education in lifelong learning policy.</p>	Influencing public policy	<p>Meetings with policy makers, taking positions, commenting on current policy developments, to act as the representative of national member organisation and to link them with the relevant policy makers.</p> <p>Results of other activities to be used;</p> <p>Contributing to all objectives of ET 2020</p>
<p>To provide a forum for the members of EAEA to decide on the general direction of the association, to evaluate its performance and to discuss topics of importance for European adult education.</p>	General Assembly	<p>Exchange of practice and discussion forum</p> <p>Monitoring and evaluation of the work plan;</p>
<p>To promote good practice examples in Adult Education related to the theme of older learners and intergenerational learning around Europe and to raise awareness on this particular subject, as well as to contribute to the further development of good practice examples around this theme.</p>	Grundtvig Award on the topic of the European Year	<p>Grundtvig Award Ceremony followed by publication of the contributions submitted within the call – awareness raising and promotion of good practice examples and innovation;</p> <p>Celebrating excellence and innovation;</p> <p>Contributing to Enhancing creativity and innovation and Improving the quality and efficiency of education and training</p>
<p>Presentation of strategic discussions, recommendations and good practice examples; advocacy;</p>	Policy debate in the European Parliament	<p>Awareness raising among decision-makers; impulse for (better) policies for the topic;</p> <p>This will be connected to the policy paper and the conference;</p> <p>Contribution to Promoting equity, social cohesion and active citizenship</p>
<p>Provide recommendations, proposals and good practice examples for the relation between demographic change and adult education; Exchange between members, stakeholders and policymakers on this topic;</p>	Conference on older learners and intergenerational learning	<p>Exchange of information and good practice among members; a set of examples, proposals and recommendations for the European level; inspiration for high-quality and innovative approaches for adult educators;</p> <p>Connected to other activities such as policy debate and policy paper; results to be used for lobbying and dissemination;</p>



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Activities

Budget year 2012		
Objectives	Actions	Expected results on target group and/or E&T policy at European level
Provide recommendations, proposals and good practice examples for the relation between demographic change and adult education;	Policy paper on demographic change and the role of adult education	<p>Policy paper which will be presented to key stakeholders and decision makers and used in further discussions on demographic change.</p> <p>Present results of the other activities on the same topic; to be used for lobbying;</p> <p>Contribute to Making lifelong learning and mobility a reality and Promoting equity, social cohesion and active citizenship</p>
To increase user participation and engage in dialogue. An expanded concept of communication with and for the members, stakeholders and policy-makers;	Information and Communication strategy	<p>Provision of information on adult education & LLL developments at the EU & national levels; engage members, stakeholders and policymakers in dialogue, using new technologies; information and dialogues links between European policy, national & regional adult educators; will disseminate the results of the other activities;</p> <p>Contribute to Making lifelong learning and mobility a reality and Improving the quality and efficiency of education and training</p>
The meetings of the Executive Board are necessary for the decision-making of EAEA. Additionally, the meetings are held in different countries, which will enable the Executive Board to meet with (potential) member organisation.	Meetings of the Executive Board	<p>Monitoring and evaluating the work plan</p> <p>Decision-making</p>



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Education, Audiovisual & Culture
Executive Agency

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EAEA General Assembly 2011