

Course planning and course evaluation – Two unjustly neglected key competences for teachers and trainers in adult education

Final Conference and Multiplier Event of the European Project “Designing, monitoring and evaluating adult learning classes – Supporting quality in adult learning” (DEMAL)

Bonn, 25 September 2018

The conference addresses two professional tasks of adult teachers which tend to attract less attention than the “actual teaching”. However, planning and evaluation of adult learning activities are of equal importance for the quality and the success of these activities.

At the conference new European approaches to define and develop these two key competences will be presented and further development needs will be discussed. Besides a general introduction to the topic, three aspects will be explored in greater depth in parallel workshops:

- digital media as a tool for developing professional competences
- the role of competence standards and validation frameworks
- the potential of European training courses

The conference targets practitioners and researchers in the field of adult learning and education.

Questions that will be addressed during the conference include amongst other:

- How is the role of design and evaluation of adult learning seen in the field?
- How do these two key competences contribute to the quality of adult learning?
- What are further development needs regarding competence development of adult educators – regarding design/evaluation and beyond?
- What approaches should be adopted for promoting such competence development?
- How can digital media contribute to the competence development of adult educators?

Conference Programme

(as of 29 August 2018)

09:15	Arrival and registration of participants		
10:15	Welcome address	<i>Prof. Josef Schrader, DIE</i>	
10.30	Plenary session		
10:30	Introduction to the conference	<i>Susanne Lattke, DIE</i>	
10:45	Key note: Professional key competences for adult learning – enhancing quality through digital media	<i>PD Dr. Hannes Schröter, DIE</i>	
11:30	The DEMAL project – background and outputs – an overview	<i>Susanne Lattke, DIE Ildiko Tapasztó, Progress Consult, Hungary</i>	
12.15	Lunch		
13:00	Parallel workshops: design and evaluation of adult learning: professionalization perspectives with an European dimension – inputs and discussion		
	Workshop A Harnessing digital media for professional competence development in adult learning	Workshop B The role of competence standards and validation frameworks	Workshop C The potential of European training courses – experiences and perspectives
	Inputs - The DEMAL course planning app <i>Moritz Sahlender, DIE Dr. Sabine Schöb, University of Tübingen</i> - The wb-web/EULE platform: self-directed learning for adult educators <i>Annika Clorius-Lehmann, DIE</i>	Inputs - The DEMAL competence profiles and validation framework – a European approach <i>Miruna Miulescu, ISE, Romania</i> - The examples of GRETA (Germany) and SVEB-AdA (Switzerland) - experience from national projects and systems - <i>Dr. Anne Strauch, DIE Irena Sgier, SVEB, Switzerland</i>	Inputs - The DEMAL training courses and learning resources – experience with the blended format <i>Natassa Kazantzidou, IDEC, Greece</i> <i>Javier Riano, FFE, Spain</i> - The EAEA AE-Pro and younger staff training – different formats for different needs <i>Francesca Operti, EAEA</i>
14.45	Coffee break		
15:15	Plenary session		
	Closing discussion - Key messages from the workshop (rapporteurs) - Moderated discussion: rapporteurs and plenary		
16.15	Closing of conference		

Workshop Descriptions

Workshop A

Harnessing digital media for professional competence development in adult learning

Digital media may be sometimes seen as a panacea to solve all kinds of problems. While this is certainly exaggerated, digital media nevertheless open up innovative perspectives for adult educators - including for their professional development. The workshop will introduce two distinct examples of how digital media can support teachers and trainers of adults in both their daily work and in their own learning and competence development: A course-planning app as a tool to support both the daily work and the self-directed learning of adult educators and a web-based platform which offers adult educators both structured learning pathways and informal, ad-hoc learning experiences.

Inputs:

- The DEMAL course planning app
Moritz Sahlender, DIE; Dr. Sabine Schöb, University of Tübingen
- The wb-web/EULE platform: self-directed learning for adult educators
Annika Clorius-Lehmann, DIE

Questions to be addressed in the discussion may include:

- *How attractive are digital tools for adult educators? Why?*
- *What are the potential and limitations of digital tools regarding professional competence development?*
- *What (kind of) digital tools would practitioners need/request in the future?*

Workshop B

The role of competence standards and validation frameworks

Adult education is a wide and diverse traditionally weakly regulated sector. Trends of standardization have however become more prominent in the last decades, following policy and market-driven concerns for quality. The role of professional competence standards is controversial – with critics blaming their formalistic and potentially restrictive character while supporters praise their potential for enhancing transparency and quality in the field of adult learning as well as their potential to support the validation of informally acquired learning outcomes.

The workshop will introduce different examples – both European and national ones - of competence standards for adult educators. It will explore in more depth their usage potential and success factors as well as the possibility to link European and national perspectives.

Inputs:

- The DEMAL competence profiles and validation framework – an European approach
Miruna Miulescu, ISE
- The examples of GRETA (Germany) and SVEB-AdA (Switzerland) - experience from national projects
Dr. Anne Strauch, DIE; Irena Sgier, SVEB

Questions to be addressed in the discussion may include:

- *What are the benefits of national vs. European approaches in competence modelling and validation? What are the restrictions?*
- *How could both approaches best be combined?*
- *European certificates: Would they be helpful for/needed by adult education practitioners? What conditions would the certificates have to meet to achieve a value?*

Workshop C

The potential of European training courses – experiences and perspectives

European training courses for adult education practitioners may offer a particular added value to the participants, in terms of exposure to intercultural perspectives and intercultural learning but also in terms of a broader approach to the core topic of the training. One should however not overlook existing barriers (language issues or lack of travel funds ...) which make it more challenging - compared with similar national offers - for learners to enroll and for providers to set up sustainable training offers.

The workshop will introduce two examples of European training courses and will reflect the practical experience gained with these. Moreover, perspectives for the future development and management of cross-border learning opportunities for adult educators will be explored – both in the virtual sphere of the worldwide web and in local spaces requiring physical mobility of the learners.

Inputs:

- The DEMAL training courses and learning resources – experience gained with the blended format
Natassa Kazantzidou, IDEC; Javier Riano, FFE
- The EAEA AE-Pro and younger staff training – different formats for different needs
Francesca Operti, EAEA

Questions to be addressed in the discussion may include:

- *How do adult educators benefit from European course provision?*
- *Pros and cons of different learning formats: physical mobility is it still needed for intercultural learning? Affordable? For whom (not)?*
- *What kind of (European) training opportunities would practitioners need/request?*

Conference Venue:

Gustav-Stresemann-Institute
European Conference and
Education Centre Bonn, GSI
Langer Grabenweg 68
53175 Bonn

www.gsi-bonn.de

Organiser:

German Institute for Adult Education
Leibniz Centre for Lifelong Learning,
DIE
Heinemannstr. 12-14, 53175 Bonn

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Costs: No conference fees will be charged.

Registration:

<https://www.die-bonn.de/weiterbildung/veranstaltungskalender/Details.aspx?id=1834>



www.demalproject.eu/index.html



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