

Implementation of the European Agenda for Adult Learning 2012-2014 – Spain

The aim of this 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. A means to achieve this goal is to increase the number of people who obtain the Lower Secondary Education Certificate.

National and regional educational administrations, aware of the problem, developed flexible arrangements adapted to different training needs to allow them to obtain this certificate and others. However, many people don't know about the different possibilities and pathways offered to them.

In order to get individuals informed and to encourage their engagement in adult learning as a means of strengthening social inclusion and active participation in the community and society, as the European Agenda recommends, and also as personal and professional development, this project focus on the creation of a website which would explain the different pathways that lead to certifications.

Besides, the website will also contain educational resources that would help potential learners to gain the necessary skills and competences to be able to apply for exams leading to the achievement of an official certificate that allows them to advance in the educational system or the professional world. Teachers would also benefit from the existence of these materials to prepare their courses.

The project would comply with the first objective of the European Agenda: "making lifelong learning and mobility a reality". Through the website and the resource bank we expect to develop comprehensive and easily accessible information that would raise awareness and motivation among potential learners, with specific focus on early school leavers, young people not in education, employment or training (NEETs) and low-qualified adults.

It would also comply with the second objective of the European Agenda: "improving the quality and efficiency of education and training: intensifying cooperation and partnership between all stakeholders relevant for adult learning, notably public authorities, the different providers of adult-learning opportunities, social partners and civil society organisations, especially at regional and local level in the context of developing learning regions and local learning centres". Regarding this objective, we intend to lay the foundations of a closer collaboration among the Autonomous Communities and the Ministry of Education Culture and Sport. This collaboration would be an added benefit which could result in a better co-ordination and a most efficient use of resources. Besides, we also count on the collaboration of other stakeholders, which have been informed and invited to participate giving their input and advice.

Collaboration between this Ministry and the education public authorities of the seventeen Autonomous Communities has been accomplished thanks to a series of coordination meetings with their representatives. The project scheduled six

coordination meetings, of which we have successfully completed three of them. A meeting with other stakeholders took place in the site of this Ministry, with the attendance of representatives of the Ministry of Employment and Social Security, NGOs, the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces (FEMP), trade unions and professional organizations related to adult education.

Once the website and resource bank are finished, a conference will be held in Madrid to present both to all institutions, organizations and social agents in contact with the target public. We expect that 160 persons will attend the presentation to, in turn, pass on their knowledge to a further group. In other words, the cascade method of dissemination would be used.

Additionally, to increase the dissemination of the website and resource bank, we intend to distribute flyers, brochures and posters to employment agencies, health centres, adult education centres, NGOs, municipalities, etc. By this means, we expect to reach the 8116 Spanish municipalities. This is especially important for the almost 5000 municipalities with fewer than 1000 inhabitants, which have fewer possibilities to get information about new pathways to get their certifications and some don't even have adult education centres to attend their needs.