



# NEWSLETTER

23 OCTOBER, 2014

Welcome to a new type of EBSN Newsletter. This document will from now be sent to you at irregular intervals, not necessarily once every three months but whenever there is a need to share relevant information. Members are hereby encouraged to share their news with the Secretariat, for inclusion in the EBSN Newsletter!

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EBSN is just about to launch a European wide communication and discussion forum on



# life skills on the recently published EPALE platform

October 30, 2014 is the day when Chair Graciela Sbertoli with her initial blog entry launches EBSN's thematic blog on life skills on the Electronic Platform for Adult Learning in Europe (EPALE).

EPALE is a newly established web platform funded by the European Commission and intended to become the “ultimate one stop shop” in the field of adult learning for teachers, trainers and volunteers, as well as policy-makers, researchers and academics throughout Europe.

EBSN was invited to take a major role as a consortium partner in developing and delivering relevant content to the website and in facilitating the involvement of users in professional discussions as well as in sharing of information and resources relevant in the field of basic skills.

In her first blog entry Graciela speaks about some of the “life skills” challenges of adult education professionals, especially in the area of exploiting the potentials of the digital world in order to enhance the quality and efficiency of adult learning. She also calls for interaction to promote mutual learning and competence development via the tools given by the EPALE platform. Please follow Graciela and join the discussion!

[http://ec.europa.eu/epale/en/content/epale\\_blog\\_post](http://ec.europa.eu/epale/en/content/epale_blog_post)

[More about EBSN's role in developing EPALE...](#)

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# New call for proposals of Erasmus+ and Programme Guide published: start planning your staff mobility for 2015-16!



The call for proposals of Erasmus + for 2015 is accessible from the 2nd of October in the Official Journal of the EU. The 2015 Erasmus+ programme guide was also published together with an indicative timetable and the allocated funds as well as the proposed numbers of applications to be selected for the various actions.

[2015 Call for proposals](#)

[2015 Erasmus+ programme guide](#)

[2015 Erasmus+ Indicative Funding and Timetable](#)

*Hereby we would like to kindly ask for information about each Erasmus+ project where two or more EBSN members participate in the implementation. Please send a short project description to [secretariat@basicskills.eu](mailto:secretariat@basicskills.eu) Thank you in advance!*

Notice also, in the Erasmus+ programme guide, from page 66 and onwards, the **important information about mobility grants for adult education staff**. Institutions wanting to participate in courses arranged under the EBSN Academy should start preparing their European Mobility Program. This particular action is decentralized, ie applications are sent to the applicant's National Agency. The deadline for proposals under this call is March 6th 2015.

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## EBSN Academy 2014 - 2015



The EBSN's Executive Committee is currently working on the production of a menu of courses for the next round of the EBSN Academy, in close cooperation with the NRDC at the Institute of Education, University of London. Several members who might be interested in organizing an EBSN Academy course can expect to be contacted in the next few weeks. Participants are expected to be able to finance all costs either with Erasmus+ staff mobility grants, or from their institutions' own budget. As soon as the program for the courses is ready, it will be made known to you in a new Newsletter.

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## Date and venue of the EBSN Annual Conference 2015 have been fixed!



The next Annual General Assembly and Conference of the European Basic Skills Network will be organised between the *3rd and the 5th of June, 2015 in The Hague, the Netherlands*. Please reserve the dates in your calendar! More detailed information will be announced in the coming period.

SAVE THE DATE



European  
Basic Skills  
Network

3 – 5 June, 2015  
The Hague  
The Netherlands

**The European Basic Skills Network  
Annual General Assembly and  
Conference 2015**

*Organized by EBSN in cooperation with local partners in the Netherlands:  
the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, CINOP,  
the Reading & Writing Foundation and  
the Vrije Universiteit Brussel.*



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## The EBSN family is broadening!



European  
Basic Skills  
Network

Since this May, when the General Assembly accepted 14 new members in Budapest, 3 new prestigious organizations expressed their intention to join the European Basic Skills Network. The 3 pre-members are:

- [The Centre for Vocational Education and Training from Montenegro - more information](#)
- [Macedonian Adult Education Centre - more information](#)
- [Folkeuniversitetet Adult Education Association from Norway - more information](#)

The pre-members will become officially full members after the positive decision of the General Assembly.

As EBSN aims to grow and extend its network in each European country the members are asked to suggest candidates from their national and international networks.

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## Important international prizes awarded to EBSN members!



The **Mother Child Education Foundation (AÇEV)**, Turkey received the International Prize of the US Library of Congress for its significant work in literacy in Turkey. The International Prize is one of three prizes presented by the 2014 Library of Congress Literacy Awards to honour organizations that have made a significant and measurable contribution to increasing literacy levels. AÇEV is one of the leading actors in adult literacy advancement in Turkey, having trained over 140,000 individuals in basic reading and writing skills while serving as a repository of innovation and best practices for the Ministry of National Education's (MoNE) programs. AÇEV has developed and implemented education programs tackling early literacy, family literacy and adult literacy within Turkey and abroad for over twenty years.



[Read more](#)

The Lifelong Learning School for Community Development 'Polígono Sur', member of the D.G. de Formación Profesional y Educación Permanente, Junta de Andalucía, in Spain has been awarded the UNESCO Confucius Prize for Literacy 2014 for its programme 'Networking as an Educational Project'. Established in 2005, the UNESCO Confucius Prize recognize the activities of outstanding individuals, governments or governmental agencies and NGOs whose work in literacy serves rural adults and out-of-school youth, particularly women and girls.



[Read more](#)

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# Important news for members working in the field of initial literacy for immigrants





The EBSN, represented by the chair of the Executive Committee, is currently leading a pre-project initiated by the Nordic Network for Adult Learning, NVL, to prepare a feasibility study on the use of MOOC-like approaches for the Continuous Professional Development of teachers of initial literacy to adult immigrants. The team includes representatives from the NVL's Alfa Council. The report will be published in December 2015 and an English summary will be presented on the EBSN web site.

The Nordic Network for Adult Learning is also preparing a webinar on the theme "Professional Development of Teachers of Initial Literacy". It will take place on Tuesday, November 11th, from 2 to 3 p.m. Norwegian time. Key-note speeches from Qarin Franker, Senior Lecturer for Swedish as a Second Language, University of Gothenburg, Sweden, and Helen Casey, Executive Director of NRDC, Institute of Education, University of London. The webinar will be conducted in English. If you are interested please click here for [more information and registration](#).

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## Information request from EBSN members who are National Coordinators of Adult Learning



The Executive Committee of EBSN would like to ask those members who also are National Coordinators of Adult Learning to send information about their completed projects if they relate to Basic Skills.

*Please send a short project description to [secretariat@basicskills.eu](mailto:secretariat@basicskills.eu) Thank you in advance!*



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Thanks for the reading! If you like this issue make sure to forward it to your friends.

