



Focus on Basic Skills Teachers and Trainers

The European Basic Skills Network Annual General Assembly and Conference, 2012
Prague, May 30th – June 1st

Organized in cooperation with the European Commission and the Ministry of Education of the Czech Republic

Background:

The new European Agenda for Adult Learning, approved by a resolution of the Council of the European Union on Nov 17th 2011, establishes five priority areas for the period 2012 – 2014.

Priority number 2, regarding the quality of provision, focuses on *"Improving the quality of adult education staff, for instance by defining competence profiles, establishing effective systems for initial training and professional development, and facilitating the mobility of teachers, trainers and other adult education staff."*

The EBSN member institutions consider that it is particularly urgent to ensure the quality of provision of basic skills training, as a necessary condition for the development of adult learning in Europe.

The European Basic Skills Network was officially launched in June 2010 and it gathers European policy makers, policy providers, research institutions and national provider associations working in the field of basic skills for adults.

The network's members will contribute to better policy and practice for the enhancement of basic skills in the European population by benchmarking national policy and effects, exchanging examples of promising policy and practice at national or regional level, creating a common knowledge area through the exchange of research results, facilitating cooperation between European stakeholders, raising awareness about relevant issues, creating a common pool of resources, and establishing cooperation with relevant stakeholders outside Europe. Read more at www.basicskills.eu

Conference program

Wednesday, May 30th

10.30 – 11.00	Registration and coffee	
11.00 – 12.30	EBSN General Assembly	
12.30 - 14.00	<i>Lunch</i>	
14.00 - 16.10	EBSN General Assembly (cont)	
16.10 – 16.30	<i>Short meeting of the EBSN's Executive Committee</i>	
19.00	<i>Conference dinner</i>	

Thursday, May 31st

09.00 – 09.30	Conference opening	Jakub Starek , <i>Director of Adult Education Department at the Ministry of Education</i> Martina Ni-Cheallaigh , <i>European Commission</i> Graciela Sbertoli , <i>Chair of the EBSN Executive Committee</i>
09.30 – 09.50	The European Agenda of Adult Learning 2012- 2014	Martina Ni-Cheallaigh , <i>European Commission</i>
09.50 – 10:10	The Commission's Thematic Working Group on Quality in Adult Learning	Graciela Sbertoli , <i>Vox, NO</i>
10.10 – 10.30	Professional Development of Basic Skills Trainers in Europe: the current situation	Margrethe Marstrøm Svensrud , <i>Vox, NO</i>
10.30 – 10.50	<i>Coffee break</i>	
10.50 – 11.20	Training the trainers of trainers in Basic Skills	Helen Casey , <i>NRDC, UK</i>
11.20 – 11.40	BASKET, Professional Development of Basic Skills Trainers: project results so far	Cath Hamilton , <i>Education Scotland, UK</i>
11.40 – 12.10	Symposium: How can EBSN contribute to the Renewed Agenda for Adult learning?	Group work
12.10 – 12.40	Presentation of results and plenary discussion	
12.40 – 14.00	<i>Lunch</i>	
14.00 – 14.20	Numeracy, the forgotten basic skill?	Dr Mieke van Groenestijn , <i>University of Applied Sciences, Utrecht, NL</i>
14.20 – 14.50	Symposium: What are the main elements in the profile of a numeracy teacher?	Group work
14.50 – 15.20	Presentation of results and plenary discussion	
15.20 – 15.40	<i>Coffee Break</i>	
15.40 – 16.00	The In-Balance Numeracy Framework	Dr Mieke van Groenestijn , <i>University of Applied Sciences, Utrecht, NL</i>
19.00	<i>Conference dinner</i>	

Friday, June 1st

09.00 – 09.20	Briefer than Brief: EBSN's policy brief initiative	Graciela Sbertoli , <i>Vox, NO</i>
09.20 – 09.40	Second language teaching and initial literacy for immigrants: the current situation	David Mallows , <i>NRDC, UK</i>
09.40 – 10.00	ALFIE, Alphabetization of Immigrants to Europe: results so far	Hanne Christensen , <i>Vox, NO</i>
10.00 – 10.30	Symposium: What are the main elements in the profile of a teacher of initial literacy for immigrants?	Group work
10.30 – 10.50	<i>Coffee break</i>	
10.50 – 11.20	Presentation of results and plenary discussion	
11.20 – 11.30	The Profile according to AlfaRådet (Nordic Alfa Council).	Antra Carlsen , <i>NVL</i>
11.30 – 11.50	The EDAM project: research results	Maurice de Greef , <i>LVO, NL</i>
11.50 – 12.10	The TRAIN project and its relevance for the professional development of basic skills trainers	Monica Tröster , <i>DIE, DE</i>
12.10 – 12.30	Cascading Professional Development: the Norwegian Model	Sissel Vollan , <i>Vox, NO</i>
12.30 – 14.00	<i>Lunch</i>	
14.00 – 14.20	"Writing Your Way to Reading", report from a pilot project	Kari Gregersen , <i>Vox, NO</i>
14.20 – 14.40	Future EBSN initiatives for IST of Basic Skills Teachers	Graciela Sbertoli , <i>Vox, NO</i>
14.40 – 15.10	Round Table: "What is our homework?" Expected impact of the EBSN conference in participating countries and beyond	Moderated by Bettina Bochynek , <i>Unesco Institute for Lifelong Learning</i> Participants: Martina Ni-Cheallaigh , <i>European Commission</i> ; Antra Carlsen , <i>NVL, Nordic Countries</i> , Helen Casey , <i>NRDC, UK (tbc)</i> ; Jan Bruha , <i>Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports</i> ; Sreten Koceski , <i>Community Development Institute, Macedonia</i> .
15.10 – 15.30	EBSN: Stock taking and plans ahead. <i>Conclusions and farewell</i>	The EBSN Executive Committee