

# *Briefer than Brief*

The EBSN Task Force for Policy Briefs:  
achievements and plans ahead

## *Briefer than Brief*

- The BaseNet project proposal: a start for a Clearing House for Research on Basic Skills

*Less ambitious?*

- NRDC/Vox initiative: (a Columbi egg?)  
**A small collection of policy recommendations for all policy makers in Europe**



## The objective

- Evidence-based policy
- Consensus on priorities
- Synergy of efforts
- Benchmarking
- Overview of needs and challenges



## For whom?

Policy makers

## By whom?

All of us



European  
Basic Skills  
Network

## The Task Force (alphabetic order)



- Dimakos, Xeni, Vox, Norway
- Kästner, Monika, Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt, Austria
- Lindeskov, Lena, Danish Pedagogical University
- Mallows, David, NRDC, United Kingdom
- Mitruti, Andreea, Romanian Institute for Adult Learning
- Mozina, Ester, Slovenian Institute for Adult Education
- Tröster, Monika, DIE, Germany

# Criteria

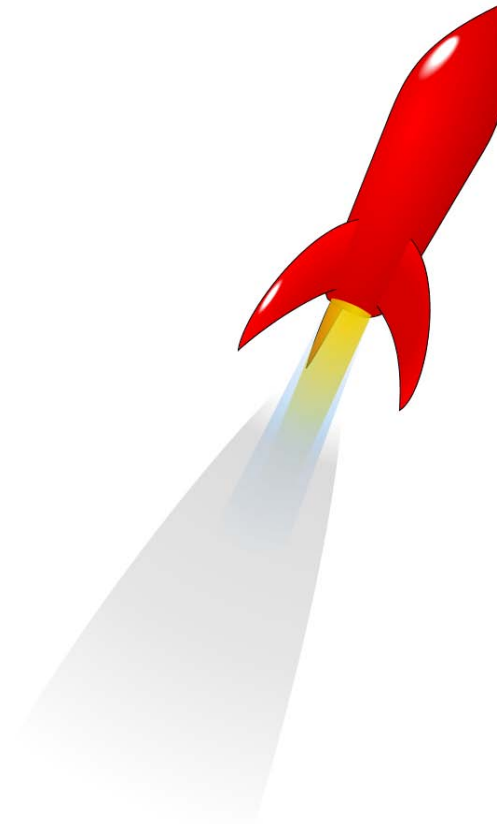
- Relevance to our field of study
- Sound research
- Concrete results that can be translated into concrete policy recommendations
- Transnational relevance





# Structure

- **B**ackground
- **R**esearch presentation
- **R**esults
- **R**eflexion
- **R**ecommendation



# Clustering research results

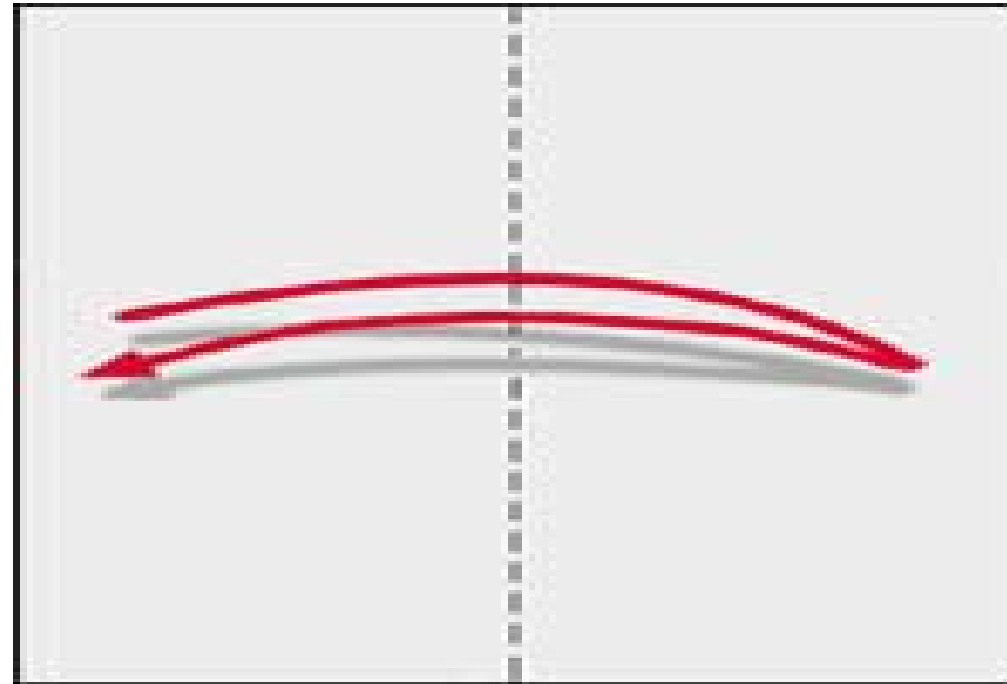
- One theme, many types of evidence
- From several countries
- One recommendation, relevant for all





## Why *Briefer than Brief*

- Short, concise, **readable!**
  - References in link
- Maximum: Double A4
- Traditional policy briefs: 15 – 20 pages



**Expectation: 10 to 15 *briefer briefs***

# Putting the chart before the horse?



## What about?

- What are we looking for?
- What do we know there must be evidence for?
- What do we want to recommend?
- Find that body of evidence and present it!

## Potential briefs on...

- Numeracy: focus as priority, awareness raising,
- Initial literacy training for immigrants (alphabetization process) – research and teacher training
- Teacher training for 2<sup>nd</sup> language (national language) training
- Embedded and contextualized learning – need for teacher training
- Financial literacy and problem solving skills
- Family learning and intergenerational learning: basic skills transfer between generations
- Training in subject specific pedagogy for teachers of literacy, language and numeracy
- Etc (coming soon!)

What research results do you know about, produced in your institution, in your country, or in your international network, which can provide evidence to support recommendations about these themes?

## (Preliminary) timeline

- One (preliminary) draft as example
  - Before Oct 15th
- Complete set of instructions sent to EBSN members
  - Before Oct 20th
- Collection of relevant results / desk research
  - From this moment on!
- Relevant research results sent to Task Force
  - Before Dec 1st
- Selection, clustering, editing of results
  - Before March 1st
- Publishing as pdfs on web site
  - Before May 1st



## Baltasar Gracián (1601 – 1658)



*Lo bueno, si breve, dos veces bueno*

*What is good is doubly good if it is  
also brief*

***(= less is more)***