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EUROPEAN AGENDA FOR ADULT EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Recommendations on the Dissemination of Lifelong Learning at Regional- Local, National and European Level

ABSTRACT

"European Agenda for Adult Education and Training" program included the implementation of 13 two- day information- educational meetings in the 13 regions of the country, during which working groups were formed that resulted in producing conclusions on the current situation as well as proposals- recommendations on improving Lifelong Learning.

The common conclusions and **common recommendations** for improvement that were noted are related to **organization- networking** that can lead to an improvement of the quality and monitoring of the provided programs of LLL and the timely information and therefore increased participation of beneficiaries, the need for adequate **publicity** that contributes to removing barriers and increasing participation, the importance of **a stable framework of the adult education operation**, the emergence of **socially vulnerable groups** in points of awareness and information for Lifelong Learning programs, **exploitation of new technologies** and **quality assurance**. Participants generally claimed that it would be useful to repeat the educational information meetings of the program of the "Agenda".

In parallel, **proposals- recommendations on local/ regional, national and European level** are assorted. Regarding the **local/ regional** level are noted, among others, recommendations on **increasing cooperation** between stakeholders, **improving coordination** between national and local authorities, raising **awareness and motivation of employers** for Adult Education and Training and proposals regarding **structures, partnerships** with local universities, **staffing, "bottom- up"** planning and implementation and reducing **bureaucracy**. The proposals referring to the **national level** include **increasing expenditures, improving coordination**, creating

a **stable framework** for Adult Education and Training and **improving cooperation** between competent ministries and making good **use of best practices** from the European and International field. Finally, at the **European level**, among other proposals, suggestions noted were related to **increasing funding** for adult education, increasing **scholarships** for people involved in adult education, promoting a **European Campaign** for Adult Education and **extending communication/** creating tools **and cooperation** among the EU member- states.

Recommendations at the three levels were especially recorded as far as socially vulnerable groups are concerned. These recommendations included the **creation of trust** towards structures and programs, the need to recruit the appropriate **educators and staff** and offer them training, **networking** of all LLL bodies especially in the framework of municipalities, the upgrading of **counseling**, the **development of partnerships between local networks and national bodies**. At a **national level** recommendations noted include the **training of educators and staff**, the development of **methodological pedagogical tools** for the specific groups and the **updating of the existing ones, involving bodies** such as museums, **networking** of all LLL bodies within the local community and municipalities in particular, **recording groups** by region, the **participation of vulnerable groups in designing and implementing** programs, **raising funds**, the **creation of an Interchange of information and raising awareness** by the General Secretariat for LLL and the use of **new technologies**. At a **European level** the recommendations are related to **increasing funding** for vulnerable groups training and infrastructure improvements for accessibility, the development of methodological tools for **cooperation among member states** for these groups and **raising awareness actions** to reduce racism.

Specifically, closing, for **the islands and the mountain areas** it was mentioned that there is a need for special treatment in order to reduce the inequalities recorded in all the statistics in the fields of access to LLL and low educational levels. Reference was made to the recognition of insularity clause in all policies relate to vulnerable groups and the involvement of these groups to the designing.