

EU Project: Professionalization of Literacy and Basic Education – Basic Modules for  
Teacher Training: TRAIN

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE FIELD OF LITERACY AND BASIC  
EDUCATION**

**Country report Netherlands**

**Summary**

**1. General description of the situation regarding professionalisation of basic skills teachers**

Part of the country – wide campaign launched in 2006 to prevent low levels of literacy and illiteracy involves the development of a competency profile for literacy teachers working in the adult education sector. Related activities available to literacy teachers include, among others, courses for literacy teachers to train former literacy students to become ambassadors and access to a digital literacy expertise centre.

**2. National professionalisation policy / program**

Description	Literacy teachers competency profile
Priorities / Aims / goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a competency profile for literacy teachers</li> <li>• Reintroduce the training of literacy teachers by establishing literacy teacher training at professional colleges and/or universities</li> </ul>
Target group(s)	Current and future literacy teachers
time span	2006 – 2010
financial resources	The professionalism of literacy teachers within the 'Plan of attack against illiteracy' is funded by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science.

**3. Current situation for literacy trainers / practitioners**

Once the competency profile for literacy teachers has been developed the related teacher training project will take clearer shape.

**4. Description of Best Practice / literacy teacher course**

Name	Literacy teachers competency profile
target groups	Current and future literacy teachers
duration	This is not yet known
qualification/level	This has yet to be determined

Goal	Provide a comprehensive and transparent list of competencies that teachers require for teaching literacy skills.	
content (broadly)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Teaching methodologies</li><li>• Literacy issues such as culture, psychology</li><li>• ICT</li><li>• Language issues such as development, language learning</li></ul>	
5. Competences – Framework		
<p>The competency profile is in the developmental stage but teachers will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Glean information as to what the students' needs are</li><li>• Design lessons to suit the needs/background of the students</li><li>• Use varied and appropriate teaching approaches</li><li>• Engage in self-reflection</li><li>• Participate in courses to keep abreast of new developments in literacy teaching.</li></ul>		