



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 Cyprus Summary**

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

At the moment there is no any initiative-only sporadic seminars-for the professionalization of literacy teachers. There are few classes for illiterates and little discussion for the need of professional development of literacy teachers. There is a sound network of Adult Education Centres which could assist the efforts for identification of illiterates and therefore the need for professional development of literacy teachers.

There are many preventing measures which many training institutions are taken in order to secure high levels of education

In Primary and secondary education the introduction of innovative programmes secure that the drop outs of the system will be gradually less and less. The all day schools, the introduction and expansion of information technology, health education, intercultural education, education for Cypriots immigrants, are some of the new programmes.

The Pedagogical Institute for inservice and preservice training for teachers in order to perform satisfactory in schools especially in using modern methods of teaching.

The Adult education Centres of the Ministry of Education is the main non-formal education programme and responsible to eradicate illiteracy. The training of the tutors of the centres is not satisfactory. The tutors attend every year a very short seminar.

The Human Resource Development Authority, a semi Governmental organisation is responsible of the upgrading of the country human resources promoting the training of employees, the new entrance in the labour market the unemployed, the economically inactive women and low skills and older age persons. The HRDA recently has active role in the training of training centres directors and teachers.

**2. National professionalisation policy / program**

Description	
Priorities / Aims / goals	Adult Education and Lifelong Learning is becoming recently a priority area due to EU initiatives and policy. The Cyprus Government is working on a policy paper to promote Lifelong Learning. The Ministry of Education and Culture, is the responsible Ministry for Adult Education and Lifelong Learning and aims to ensure that all citizens have sound level of education which enable them to perform satisfactory in the society. All citizens will be given all necessary means to have the best education.
	The drop outs, the elderly, women in refugee communities and in

Target group(s)	rural areas, disable persons, the workers with low education, are the priority groups to have sound levels of literacy and basic education. Teachers working with the priority groups will have the necessary training
time span	The training at the moment is of short duration-about a week- and is of inservice training nature. There is no pertaining to work with adults.
financial resources	All necessary financial I resources are covered by the governments or the social security system of the employees.

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

The literacy trainers have a lot of experience working on basic skills but not training on the methodology of teaching. The practitioners are usually teachers of Primary and Secondary Education and attend a short seminar every year. There is no requirement for initial training of literacy teachers.

The two main institutions which employ many basic education teachers are the Adult education Centres of the Ministry of Education and Culture and the Human Resource Development Authority .The institutions are recently taking necessary steps to ensure satisfactory levels of training. The institutions cooperate with other countries on training issues and use the expertise of foreign experts .

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

Name	Managemnet of training centres for managers-directors of training institutions
target groups	Managers or Directors of learning Organisations and Centres whose activities cooperation with the Human Resource Development Authority -HRDA-.
duration	10 working days -two weeks-.
qualification/level	Training certificate
Goal	To develop the skills, the knowledge and attitudes of managers of learning organisations /centres in key aspects of the effective management and of such organisation/centres.
content (broadly)	Strategic options/placement in the learning market Quality management in training Planning and implementation of learning activities Selection of suitable trainers Creating and keeping training records Communication skills Tarket group selection on the basis of training needs Design of learning activities Identifying and Analysing Training Needs. Information and communication Technologies Evaluation of Learning activities

### 5. Competences – Framework

A teacher in order to have effective results working in literacy and basic education should have many competences

- a. Interpersonal skills and qualities
  - Social competences
  - Personal Attitudes and values
  - Cognitive skills and competences for problem solving.
- b. Administrative –Management-Organisational skills
  - Management of learning programmes
  - Overall organisation
- c. Methodological skills
  - Participation methods

- Advising
- Teaching
- Professional practice-Group Dynamics
- d. Knowledgable competences
  - How adults learn
  - Languages teaching
  - Open for changes
  - knowledge of law
- e. Communication skills
- f. Techniques in working with adults

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.