

Organisation: IREA

Meeting: Bonn

Host organisation: DIE

Date: 22-23 October 2012

Location: DIE

I. Reflections

What were the most useful experiences?

It was very useful that we got an overview of the basic skills issue and teacher training in Germany, but also heard about other experiences of other partners like the development of the framework for Scotland's adult literacies workforce in Scotland, the transnational qualification framework for adult learning facilitators developed within the QF2TEACH project, the Eur-Alpha project and the discussions on the Final Report of the EU High Level Group of experts on Literacy.

What can be considered as examples of good practices?

Eur alpha project- the charter developed for promoting self-determination and raising awareness. Another positive aspect is the Manifesto developed by the learners involved directly into the project activities; this is not something that usually happens in EU projects.

Final Report of the EU High Level Group of experts in Literacy – this was the first big initiative of the European Commission to pay attention and investigate the issue of basic skills in Europe. The need for having qualified/well trained basic skills teachers expressed in the report, reinforces the objectives and work of the BASKET partnership.

Scottish framework- the framework identifies 3 key roles, for tutor assistant, group tutor and co-ordinator of provision. The framework describes typical pathways for each role, opportunities for people to develop and specialise in each role, opportunities for progressing beyond each role. It also identifies three areas of qualifications to support entry, development and progression: core qualifications (teaching), specialist, with potential relevance to the roles.

What did you learn that is similar or different from policy and practice in your own country?

There is one main aspect that emphasizes the difference between Romania and other more developed countries: interest for research in the field of basic skills and funding. The presentation of the Research Programme "alphabund" carried out in Germany showed us a massive investment of the German government in research in adult literacy and basic education.

Another big difference is the lack of training programmes for training basic skills teachers. As a result of the "alphabund", in Germany were developed two training programmes: a M.A in adult literacy and basic education; a basic qualification in adult literacy and basic education.

What conclusions can be drawn from the experiences of the meeting?

We have advanced enough with the presentations and discussions. In the following months we should focus more on the elaboration of the general recommendations for policy and practice regarding basic skills teacher training. The online debate set up for January 2013 will give us the opportunity to gather more opinions and recommendation from the practitioners and policy makers.

What recommendation can be made based on the experiences and discussions of the meeting

- at national policy making level;
!!! More funding and research.