

BRIDGING BARRIERS:

COMPETENCE DEVELOPMENT OF TRAINERS IN ADULT BASIC EDUCATION



PROJECT UPDATE

4 EUROPEAN COUNTRIES:

- AUSTRIA
- ITALY
- SLOVAKIA
- SWITZERLAND

5 EUROPEAN ORGANISATIONS:

- 3S
- ISOP
- IL MONDO NELLA CITTA'
- E - CODE
- SVEB - FSEA

WEBSITE:
[WWW.BRIDGING
BARRIERS.EU](http://WWW.BRIDGINGBARRIERS.EU)

E-MAIL:
[INFO@BRIDGING
BARRIERS.EU](mailto:INFO@BRIDGINGBARRIERS.EU)

FACEBOOK PAGE:
[BRIDGING BARRIERS](https://www.facebook.com/BRIDGINGBARRIERS)

The Erasmus+ Bridging Barriers project is progressing, despite the difficulties of the last year due to the spread of Covid 19 and the consequent restriction measures adopted by the various European governments. We have been granted an extension of 6 months, so the new project end date is February 2022, instead of August 2021.

In these months each partner has completed a series of activities related to IO1 (Intellectual Output 1): 15 interviews with Adult Basic Education teachers, 3 expert interviews and a case study on ABE system in its own country. All activities were carried out remotely due to the impossibility of meeting in person. It was not always easy, but thanks to technological tools (Skype, Zoom, Teams, etc.) our work was able to go ahead. At the end of IO1, a competence matrix on skills used by ABE teachers was elaborated.

CASE STUDIES: SOME SIGNIFICANT EXTRACTS



The goals of our case study researches are:

- to understand the principles of the Adult Basic Education (ABE) system in the participating countries
- to get insight into day-to-day practice
- to provide concise summaries of country specific results
- to make knowledge transfer among project partners easier

Specifically, the case study intended to describe the range of activities covered by the local concept of ABE, the institutional setting providing ABE courses and their funding lines and ABE teachers' education and career pathway.



Adult basic education in Italy is not a formally defined field. It includes different experiences: from public school, active in this field through "CPIAs" (Provincial Centers for Adult Education), to private organization experiences in teaching various adult courses. The public system and private activities are not integrated into an organic education offer.



In Slovakia adult learning culture is underdeveloped, participation in adult learning is low, and those most in need of continuous education participate the least.



In Switzerland, a working group for the development of a training and further education system in the area of basic skills was formed in the summer of 2020. Under the leadership of SVEB, this working group will work out a systematization of the training and further education of course leaders in the area of basic skills.



In Austria, a wide discourse on Adult Basic Education began in the mid of the 1990s (cf. methodical and didactic basic work, expansion of target group, knowledge and needs, definition of ABE, public relations and awareness work). These essential steps were necessary to institutionalize Adult Basic Education in the second millennium .

INTELLECTUAL OUTPUT 2 AND 3

On the basis of the competence matrix (IO1), a **competence-based Curriculum** (IO2) is currently being developed with the aim of contributing to the professionalisation of trainers in adult basic education in Europe. The curriculum translates the jointly identified competences of trainers in ABE and their training needs into concrete learning processes. Specifically, the curriculum defines a course of six to twelve weeks, which will place in all partner countries in early summer. The pilot courses consist of digital (e-learning), work-based (practical testing) and social (workshops, working groups) learning processes. During the 2,5 days workshop, all activities will be carried out on the basis of **peer learning**. The focus is on the challenges of dealing with learning barriers of participants. The course uses approaches such as "**deliberate practice**".

After the implementation of the pilot courses in the partner countries, experiences are condensed and reflected in an international workshop, which will take place in Italy in October 2021. The methodological implementation as well as the experience gained in the pilot courses will be discussed jointly with the developed learning methods, materials and tips for good practice presented and published in a **Handbook** (IO3). The handbook will subsequently support adult education organisations in reorganising the professionalisation and professional development of their pedagogues.

DELIBERATE PRACTICE

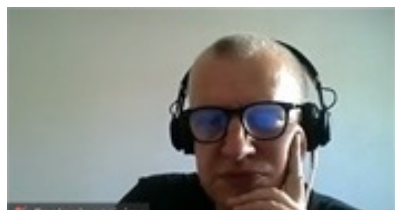
The concept of 'Deliberate Practice' has been developed in the field of development of expert knowledge where the learner is confronted by a learning barrier which seems to be non-penetrable in the first place. An experienced teacher is able to guess where the particular difficulty comes from and can therefore suggest exercises allowing for 'working around' a particular barrier, so that by doing 'something different', learning will become possible.

PEER LEARNING

Peer learning is an educational strategy which suggests a two-way, reciprocal learning activity. Peer learning should be mutually beneficial and involve the sharing of knowledge, ideas and experience between the participants. The great advantage of peer learning is that it offers the opportunity for learners to teach and learn from each other, providing a learning experience.

PILOT COURSES

"As part of the project, our pilot course will be about how to motivate adults to learn and the psychological aspects of working with adult learners"

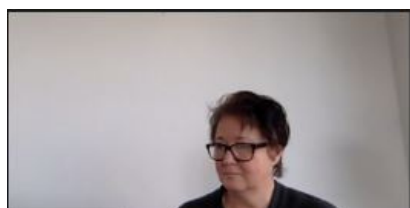


"In our workshop, contents will be about literacy teaching and innovative methods for group management. A part of the workshop will be dedicated to an exchange of good practices among participants"



"In this training, we want to make our knowledge and experience as practitioners and our competences visible, analyze difficulties in teaching and expand possibilities for action"

"The aim of our workshop is to identify and define the required skills in dealing with different learning barriers"



COME AND MEET US!



3S RESEARCH & CONSULTING

3s is a research and consultancy firm specialised in national and European project work in the fields of initial and continuing vocational education and training, higher education and adult education.

WEB SITE: WWW.3S.CO.AT



ISOP - INNOVATIVE SOZIAL PROJEKTE

Since 1987 ISOP has supported migrants and refugees, (long-term) unemployed, and people with basic education needs through counselling, qualification/education and employment projects in social and professional integration.

WEB SITE: WWW.ISOP.AT



ASSOCIAZIONE IL MONDO NELLA CITTÀ'

Il Mondo nella città is a non-profit association managing a reception center for refugees and asylum seekers by providing housing facilities, legal and social support and Italian language courses.

WEB SITE: WWW.ILMONDONELLACITTA.IT



E-CODE

e-code is a non-profit association based in Krupina, Slovakia active in the fields of adult and youth education.

WEB SITE: WWW.E-CODE.SK

SVEB - FSEA

SVEB is the Swiss national umbrella organisation for adult education and operates as a professional association and pressure group. It also manage the national training-of-trainers system and are responsible for eduQua, the national quality label for adult learning providers.

WEB SITE: WWW.ALICE.CH

S V E B
F S E A