



The Voice of
Adult Learning

Find out what Europe is
doing to support adult
learning in Ireland

European Agenda for
Adult Learning

Increasing Pathways,
Increasing Participation



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

What's being done at European level?

The European Commission works with 32 countries to promote adult education across Europe. They offer policy advice and support to national programmes to ensure they meet the needs of their citizens. Each country has a designated Coordinator who guides the implementation of EU policy at a national level and manages an innovative project with activities to increase adult participation in lifelong learning.

AONTAS is the National Adult Learning Organisation and designated National Coordinator for the EAAL in Ireland.

European Agenda for Adult Learning

The EAAL defines the focus for European cooperation in adult education policies. It highlights the need to increase participation in adult learning of all kinds (formal, non-formal, and informal learning) whether to acquire new work skills for active citizenship, or for personal development and fulfilment.

Specific priorities for the period 2015 - 2020 are:

- ✓ Governance
- ✓ Supply and take up
- ✓ Flexibility and access
- ✓ Quality

For more information visit:

https://ec.europa.eu/education/policy/adult-learning/adult_en

Upskilling Pathways Recommendation

Upskilling Pathways is the key policy within the EAAL. It aims to provide a 'skills guarantee' with opportunities for up to 70 million Europeans who struggle with basic reading and writing; calculation; and using digital tools in everyday life. People with qualifications at level 4 and below on the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) will have access to Upskilling Pathways in three key steps:

Step 1 – Skills assessment

Step 2 – Learning offer

Step 3 – Validation and recognition

For more information visit:

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1224>



What's being done in Ireland?

Increasing Pathways, Increasing Participation 2017 – 2019

In our current project, AONTAS as National Coordinator supports the European Agenda in the following ways:



ONE STEP UP INFORMATION AND REFERRAL SERVICE

Supporting learners to access information on their education and training options.

Website: www.onestepup.ie
Freephone helpline: 1800 303 669



PROJECT ADVISORY GROUP

Working with an expert panel of leading professionals in the fields of education, policy, business and innovation to collectively support the implementation of EAAL in Ireland.



LEARNERS AS MOBILISERS

Empowering learners to mobilise adults to engage in learning by building their capacity as advocates.



COLLABORATIVE TRAINING FOR COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Providing professional development of front-line education staff in the adult and community sector through a blended learning programme with An Cosán Virtual Community College. Improving the quality of community and adult education for staff and learners.



SUPPORTING EUROPEAN POLICY IN IRELAND

Supporting the implementation, and promoting national dialogue, of the Upskilling Pathways Recommendation in Ireland.



PARTNERSHIP EVENTS

'Self-Care for Educators' with EPALE


Facilitating dialogue and learning opportunities by working closely with partners to provide national seminars. Cultural Heritage: The Challenges of Diversity with EPALE Ireland and EPALE UK (& more)

For more information on AONTAS events:
<https://www.aontas.com/events/>



ENGAGING EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES

Supporting employees to engage in adult learning through their workplace with our partner Skills for Work .






CAMPAIGNS & PROMOTION

Reaching out to people across Ireland and promoting adult education and lifelong learning through targeted campaigns.

#ChooseYourPath #EAAL

How Can You Get Involved?

Follow our work on   
#ChooseYourPath #EAAL

Share your adult learner story with us or submit a blog on
EPALE: <http://ec.europa.eu/epale/>

Attend an **AONTAS** event or find a local education event
on the calendar on www.onestepup.ie
For more information contact Dearbháil Lawless,
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Project Funding and Partners

With financial support from the European Commission
Erasmus+ programme and the Department of Education and
Skills through SOLAS, we are collaborating with partners An
Cosán VCC, Skills for Work, Léargas, EPALE,
and National Adult Literacy Agency.

For more information contact:

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Charity Reg: 6719 | Company Reg: 80958



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