



BETter COMMunicate and Identify training Needs of basic skills for workers

BECOMIN is a Learning Partnership project funded by the Leonardo Da Vinci Programme. The project focuses on the issue of basic skills training for workers, with a focus on the conditions of implementation of such training.

Over the last years, basic skills have caught the attention of policy makers at both European and national levels. In the education and social area, basic skills are a core subject since 50 years, and are very much linked with people's empowerment and social rights. Today, basic skills are presented as « the competences that every person needs to get a job and reach personal satisfaction, social inclusion and active citizenship in the current knowledge-based society ». The ability for a person to master oral and writing communication, to count and to develop new competences such as the digital competence is essential. Because not mastering basic skills doesn't just represent a danger for people's security, in working or everyday life situations, but it also greatly affects people's autonomy in the knowledge society, and hampers their ability to cope with quick evolutions, structural changes and labour expectations.

Recent surveys showed that nearly 10% of the population of a country like France or Belgium is illiterate; most of the persons (57%) concerned are working. The observation of BECOMIN partners is that in Europe, a growing number of citizens don't have a sufficient level of basic skills to adapt to the working and everyday life changing situations.

The partnership gathers 6 organizations working in the field of adult education and inclusion as research centres, training institutes and social enterprises. They observed the difficulties to develop basic skills training for workers and have identified several obstacles to its implementation.

The focus is on 3 main aspects:

- the communication on basic skills training with the employers and the workers
- the identification of the workers' training needs
- the evaluation of the workers' levels

The partners planned to brainstorm together, exchange their experience and practices during thematic meetings hosted in each country during the 2 years of the project. They will notably focus their exchanges on the communication with the employers and with the workers, on the experience of the trainers and on the on-the-job pedagogy to develop. The main project outcome planned is a guide of good practices, integrating comparison elements between the different national states of the art in relation with basic skills.

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