

# Liechtenstein introduction

The Adult Education Foundation in Liechtenstein sets its goals on promoting adult education provision focusing on widening educational opportunities for under-represented, low-skilled adults coming from disadvantaged social and economic backgrounds.

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## Recent developments in Liechtenstein

In recent years, the Adult Education Foundation has successfully implemented a project which aims to reach out to underrepresented learners in adult education and open up learning opportunities for those from disadvantaged backgrounds. The idea of the project is to offer low-skilled and socially disadvantaged adults vouchers to participate in various learning activities and courses.

In 2018 the foundation reached out to different stakeholders, including government offices, trade unions, and NGOs. In addition to financial incentives in the form of educational vouchers, learners also have access to improved individual educational consulting services. In order to ensure the broadest and most diverse range of services possible, non-formal adult education in Liechtenstein is presently subsidised. This is done by means of service agreements with accredited educational institutions.

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# Links to EU and international policy in Liechtenstein

The Foundation has already created a preliminary guideline to take the action forward, e.g. making a "Counselling landscape of Liechtenstein" to find the gaps in existing coaching offers and strengthen the cooperation among all stakeholders. To address the gaps the Foundation is going to test its new coaching and counselling approach in 2021.

Furthermore, the Foundation stressed the need to strengthen the links between adult education policies in Liechtenstein and the EU's strategies and recommendations, such as Upskilling Pathways, Life Skills approach with a focus on Basic Skills, as well as continuing to advocate for equal rights and access to quality adult education.

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## Challenges and recommendations in Liechtenstein

The foundation's main challenge is ensuring that activities are accessed by those who need it most. Adult learning opportunities offered by the Foundation are mostly used by well-educated adults. The foundation has set a goal to develop a subject-oriented education subsidy to be elaborated and implemented in cooperation with all responsible authorities, ministries, interest groups, organizations, and experts. In addition, it is

important that the Foundation works to develop a systematic approach to assessing the needs of underrepresented adult learners in order to improve consulting and coaching services.

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