

Denmark introduction

At present Denmark is experiencing a lot of positive changes in the sector of adult education - this means that plans for the implementation of more projects and funding are being brought in by the new government. In order to raise awareness about adult education, more learning opportunities must be provided, and to do this the political agenda must continue to adopt solid schemes.

Links to EU and international policy in Denmark

The implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is one of the objectives of EAEA member, Danish Adult Education Association (DAEA). To support the goal 4 of the SDGs, DAEA will continue funding projects of its member organisations on quality education. In order to ensure quality education, DAEA is considering setting up a network of member organisations for them to discuss and learn from one another.

Despite the fact that the Upskilling Pathways initiative is not being officially implemented in the country, some of its values are present in the work of our EAEA members. For instance, DAEA is going to focus on digital education, young peoples mental health, and life skills, in addition to its work on SDGs and adequate funding initiatives.

Challenges and recommendations in Denmark

As indicated by DAEA, the main challenge for adult education in Denmark is staying present and relevant to the political agenda. This is where the work and responsibilities will be divided between adult education providers and larger associations. Being part of state policies is essential for the financing of adult education sector. DAEA encourages the state authorities to adopt funding schemes and allocate at least - of the capital to adult education.

Recent developments in Denmark

This year, a new government was elected in Denmark, and as a result the public is expecting new policies, including educational reforms. The actors and organisations in adult education have positive expectations as the new minister of Culture and Education has expressed his support for non-formal learning, particularly regarding digital education and young adults mental health. More specifically, the new minister has set up a plan to review the funding plans for so-called "free schools" in order to make them more "socially responsible".

The civic community is increasing its presence and working on advocating for adult education. Both the study associations and EAEA member, the Danish Adult Education Association, have increased their campaigning activities in order to make adult learning

more visible to both policy makers and the broader population. This has been done through campaigns on social media and a public award ceremony.

The concept of life skills has also been on the agenda of the Danish Adult Education Association and its member organisations. The Association and its members are working on providing wider learning opportunities for adults, as well as raising awareness about the purpose and value of non-formal adult learning, especially in terms of life skills.
