

Sole focus on adult learning for employment neglects Greece's societal issues

Adult education policies in Greece tend to focus on upskilling and vocational training, with limited attention to broader societal needs, according to EAEAs members DAFNI KEK and the Hellenic Adult Education Association report. Lack of funding continues to hurt the development of inclusive ALE programmes.

There have been no significant changes in ALE policies in Greece during 2022/2023. Yet, funding remains insufficient to meet the learning needs of the adult population. In fact, according to EAEAs members, most people cannot afford to participate in ALE. Participation of learners and civil society in decision-making processes also remains below standards.

Funding sources for ALE in Greece:

- Project funding
- Programme funding
- Fees paid by individuals
- Contribution paid by employers
- Vouchers
- Donations and other philanthropic funding

Despite challenges, EAEAs members lead innovative ALE projects

While the focus of government-sponsored programmes remains on vocational skills and employability, EAEAs members successfully run projects addressing major societal

challenges. For example, Dafni Kek has implemented several initiatives on the inclusion of migrants, the green transition and gender equality.

Key recommendations to improve adult learning and education

- Involve CSO's in the decision-making process in a structured way, promoting transparency and democratic participation.
 - Empower municipalities to run ALE programmes tailored to local needs.
 - Develop a comprehensive national strategy for ALE.
 - Shift the focus from purely vocational-oriented skills to skills related to democratic participation, diversity, critical thinking and life skills.
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