

# Adult learning low on the political agenda in Bulgaria

**Affirmative measures are needed to ensure equal participation in adult learning. Supporting women from rural areas will be a key activity of EAEA member Bulgarian Platform EWL.**

## Civil society takes initiative to implement adult learning programmes

Adult learning remains low on the policy agenda in Bulgaria: according to the EAEAs Bulgarian member, it is not considered important by policymakers either for the labour market or social cohesion. While there is EU, national and private funding available, most people cannot afford to participate in adult learning and education.

## Funding sources for ALE

- Vouchers
- Paid training leave

As adult learning is not the priority of the government, when and if it is organised, it is mainly in the framework of projects run by civil society organisations. EAEAs member Bulgarian Platform EWL is currently developing initiatives that aim to support participation in adult learning of rural women. At the same time, civil society is not consulted in policy-making processes.

# Key recommendations to improve adult learning and education

- Allocate budget at the local level for ALE
  - ALE should be elaborated and implemented in cooperation between public institutions, civil society organisations and private companies
  - More inclusive and affirmative measures are needed, starting from the European level
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