

**Workshop of the advisory group on
“Adult Education and Development: Lifelong Learning for all”**

SDG 4 and LLL: Which space for civil society?

by the European Association for Education of Adults and DVV International

Wednesday, 28 September 2016 – 14:00-17:00

Mundo-J, Rue de l'Industrie 10, 1000 Brussels



SDG 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

The Sustainable Development Goals were approved in September 2015 - and now back to business as usual until the deadline for the implementation of the new development goals approaches? Civic engagement and building bridges across policy sectors and fields is crucial in order to go from a wish list to a concrete action plan and make the SDGs a reality. How do we deal with issues such as shrinking spaces for civil society engagement and de-democratisation of society? Can civil society be held accountable when there is a clear lack of political, financial and institutional support for its work? And how can non-formal adult education contribute to active citizenship and social change?

In our meeting, we want to address a topic that is marginalised in the mainstream debate about development: the role of non-formal adult education and lifelong learning as a vehicle for active citizenship, inclusion of socially disadvantaged groups of society, and empowerment. Active citizens play a central role for achieving the SDGs, and adult learning can ensure that no-one is left behind in the process. It has the power to give a voice to all citizens and build bridges between different policy sectors and fields, from social to economic to environmental issues.

MEETING AGENDA

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Welcome

Ms. Gina Ebner (EAEA)

Which space for civil society?

Ms. Deirdre de Burca (World Vision Europe)

Adult education, the EU and the SDGs

*recent trends in EU policy-making on LLL,
the role of non-formal adult education in the EU policy agenda,
the implications of the SDGs for adult education and the space for civil society, and
what next?*

Prof. John Holford (Robert Peers Chair in Adult Education, University of Nottingham; also Joint Editor of the International Journal of Lifelong Education, Co-ordinator of "Encouraging Lifelong Learning for an Inclusive & Vibrant Europe" (Horizon 2020, commencing Oct. 2016), Recent book "Adult Education Policy and the European Union")

Q&A and discussion

Conclusion

Dr. Sylvia Schmitt (DVV International)

We are looking forward to welcoming you at the debate!

Please register by 21 September 2016 by sending an email to raffaella.kihrer@eaea.org