



Peer Reviews monitoring report

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Project information

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Main results of Peer Reviews

Mutual Peer Reviews among adult education providers and involving relevant stakeholders belonging to project's networks so to identify strengths and weaknesses with reference to quality areas and criteria linked to the identified ALE themes.

The European Peer Review methodology foresees that 4 Peers, intended as properly trained professionals with similar professional background as the ones working in the reviewed organisation, visit the institution by carrying out external assessment tasks on specific Quality Areas (QAs). In the case of the ONE project, the QAs were corresponding to the 4 main themes identified for the capacity building of the 3 networks¹. The QAs are preliminarily selected and self-assessed by the reviewed organisation so to provide Peers specific information and data to carry out their evaluation. The assessment tasks include interviews with teaching staff, learners and external stakeholders, observation of practices, collection of evidences through the consultation of the provider's documentation and the visit to the organisation venue. Once the evaluation tasks are performed, the peers give constructive feedback on the processes in the institution, in the form of a support for their continuous improvement approach considered the most functional in Quality Assurance systems to implement effective and appropriate quality tools and methods and not only showing a formal compliance to standards. Indeed, on the basis of the feedback, the reviewed organisation develops an improvement plan, including the action to be done within a specific time frame to enhance the quality of their provision, and review this plan in about 6 months.

In the ONE project, **32 Peer Review visits** (12 in Italy, 10 in Portugal and 10 in Slovakia) were carried out mainly in order to identify strengths and weaknesses with reference to quality areas and criteria linked to the 4 identified ALE themes. The reviewed organisations were ALE providers, member of the ONE partner networks. The Peer Review results informed the design process of the present Common capacity building strategy and the following Actions Plans at network level, which will constitute the Review Phase of the Peer Review visits.



In **Italy**, most of the reviewed organisations chose the QAs related to Outreach and Guidance, but all QAs were addresses. About the outreach, there is the **need to attract more and diversified users**, because several providers in the RIDAP network are experimenting a decrease of the applications for their courses, and/or their users limited to migrants enrolled in Italian as second language learning paths.

¹ <https://3.basecamp.com/4988653/buckets/20873356/vaults/5333246560>



Regarding guidance, there is the **need to guarantee effective guidance services** both while the learners access to the ALE providers and in the transition between the ALE paths and the subsequent ones (Vocational Education and Training, further education), with specific reference to migrant users.

With reference to Key/Transversal skills there is the **need to widen the providers' offer with new courses** – i.e. Italian as second language courses (higher level), as requested mainly by mothers, who need better competences to support the school path of their children.

About Validation, the emerging need is to **create a common framework to validate prior learning** that, at the present moment, is missing due to the fact that, although the system is designed and ruled at National level, each of the 21 Regions is formally independent in implementing it, thus leading to different methods and procedures as well as stages of setting up/implementation of the system itself.

In **Portugal**, the QAs mostly chosen by the 10 institutions were **Outreach** and **Key/Transversal Skills**. This is coherent with the state of play of ALE in the country, characterised by strong centralised models to provide validation and guidance services, through the Qualifica Centres which are well known by the practitioners.

Outreach, conversely, remains a challenge: there is the common **need to attract more adult learners and increase the number of participants/adult learners for ALE activities** (ways to reach to them, to incentive them, and to maintain them in the activities). For this reason, and in order to encourage and motivate adults to complete their training or school paths, in order to improve their qualifications and their employability conditions, the promotion campaign of the Qualifica Program, "Grab yourself and improve your future"², was launched last October (2022).

With reference to the QA related to Key/Transversal Skills, the focus was on the **development of the education offer to ensure based on well-structured and organised activities**, and most importantly, that they **meet the adult learners' expectations and learning goals and needs**.

As in Portugal, also in **Slovakia** the data shows that not all the QAs were chosen by the 10 reviewed institutions, but only the ones related to **Outreach** and **Guidance**. These choices reflect the Slovak context, as validation and basic skills models' implementation have not been focused on by ALE practice nor national policies yet. In Slovakia, there is a strong tradition of completing primary and secondary education in the formal education system and the system of validation of prior learning has been recently under development. Moreover, Slovakia has not received many migrants so far. Thus the **validation and recognition of non-formal education and informal learning and acquisition of basic skills have not been systematically developed and financially supported**. As expected, the most popular Quality Area chosen was Outreach. With the offer being established, it is the outreach that represents a big challenge for ALE providers. In general, there is a clear **need to attract more adult learners and increase the number of participants in ALE activities**.

² Videos: <https://youtu.be/zkZ7F0fZwB8> | <https://youtu.be/aeVej0fH7Lk> | <https://youtu.be/r753srFvqxA> | <https://youtu.be/Q85wcy74ATE>
Posters: https://www.anqep.gov.pt/np4/?newsId=868&fileName=Campanha_Qualifica_Cartazes.pdf

