

## The results of Grundtvig workshop in Esch-sur-Alzette

## Promoting literacy is part of the lifelong learning process:

At the level of early childhood, mother tongue learning is the basis for successful initial alphabetization. Promoting success in basic and lower secondary education ensures that young people don't leave school without the basic skills needed to acquire a qualification. 2nd chance, adult and continuing education offers bring back adults to education and give them the basic skills required for professional development, access to sources of knowledge, citizenship and personal fulfilment.

That is why this workshop has associated at national and international level not only adult education services, but also actors of basic education such as the Inspectorate of the city of Esch/Alzette and the city of Liège, as well as city councils in Romania who presented projects to support children and parents from disadvantaged backgrounds or immigration.

## Literacy training for adults must be diverse and flexible:

In all countries, the number of adults who engage in basic education is still far below the number of people affected by illiteracy. To this end and to promote participation, training should be close to the citizens, easily accessible and adapted to the situations of life of learners. In Hungary, the adult training centers 'doors open' offer targeted training of short duration; in Bulgaria, the approach is oriented towards older persons; in Marseille, it encourages enterprises to mentor disadvantaged apprentices; in Liège, orientation sessions and French foreign language training are available; the municipality of Paris offers courses in French language and literacy.

In Luxembourg, the adult education department, the national language institute, municipalities (e.g. the House of citizens in Esch/Alzette) and associations representative of migrant communities have joined together in a network to promote basic education. They welcome about 300 students per year in various courses.

## The methods and the contents of training must focus on the needs of adult learners:

When an adult decided to renew with education and to engage in a learning process, it is important that training methods are effective and allow identifying learning outcomes in the short term. To ensure effectiveness, it is important that trainers are real professionals, capable of positioning the learner and to propose individual and lasting solutions. The trainers of the municipality of Paris presented their manuals for adults as well as different methods of training based on authentic documents and computer media.