

TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION ACTIVITY (TCA)

Contact Seminar on Improving Access, Participation and Quality in Adult Learning for Low-Skilled Adults

21st – 23rd November 2018

Speaker Biographies

22nd November 2018

Welcoming and Introduction



Erik Goerens

Director

Department of Adult Education, Ministry of Education, Children and Youth

Erik Goerens is currently the Director of the Department of Adult Education in the Ministry of Education, Children and Youth. He graduated in electrical engineering at Technical University Vienna in Austria.

After a few years in the steel industry, he worked as a teacher in a public secondary school in Luxembourg and a European school in Brussels. Through his career in the Ministry of Education, initially in the Department of Secondary Education and since 2017 in Adult Education, he developed and implemented education, training and guidance measures with a special focus on integration and inclusion. He represents Luxembourg in European working groups and networks, and participates in international groups and conferences of UNESCO and the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM).

Plenary Session: Effective Outreach



Denise Shannon
Senior Executive Officer
Léargas

Denise Shannon is a Senior Executive Officer in Leargas and has strategic responsibility for the implementation of the Erasmus+ Programme in Ireland for the Adult Education field. She has worked in the agency since 2003, and oversaw the Grundtvig (Adult Education) Programme in Ireland from 2007 to the close of the LLP Programme in 2014. She was Coordinator of the Education Equality Initiative (EEI) from 2004 - 2006 (a national Programme), the aim of which was to fund projects with a view to informing policy and practice in adult education, particularly in relation to addressing educational disadvantage. Prior to her work in the agency she worked at a local level for both national and European funded programmes overseeing the development, evaluation and support of special innovative initiatives tackling disadvantage through school, adult education and community development context. She has recently completed a Master's degree in Adult and Community Education which undertook a Critical Discourse Analysis of EU and national adult education policy.



Ana Rita Alves Lourenço
Head of Unit for Social Innovation
APROXIMAR Cooperativa de Solidariedade Social

Rita Lourenço is a criminologist, finishing her Master's degree in Human Potential Management (thesis: "The impact of organizational training on organizational commitment and job satisfaction: Portuguese prison services as a case study"). She is also a Mentor's Coordinator certified by PENDULUM model.

Since 2009, she is involved in various projects on social innovation and external evaluation. Currently, at Aproximar, she is the Head of Unit for Social Innovation. Her main working area is the criminal justice system. She is also active in other areas like social economy, organizational development, volunteering, training, employment and mentoring schemes.



Aleksandra Kozyra
Membership and Events Officer
European Association for the Education of Adults

Aleksandra Kozyra holds a Master of Arts in Applied Linguistics from the University of Warsaw, where she also obtained her teaching qualifications. She previously worked with adults and young migrants as a language trainer in formal and non-formal environments. Since 2013, she has been involved in adult education projects funded with the support of EU programmes.

Aleksandra works now for the European Association for the Education of Adults as a Membership and Events Officer. In addition to coordinating EAEA training and conferences, she monitors some of the global policy developments in adult education and contributed to the mid-term review of CONFINTEA VI.

Plenary Session: Adult guidance and counselling



Cidalia Monteiro

Guidance Counsellor

Service d'orientation professionnelle de l'Agence pour le développement de l'emploi

Cidalia Monteiro has more than 20 years of experience in the field of education, both in the Netherlands and Luxembourg. She worked as a secretary and adviser in an association supporting parents with the school system.

Today, Cidalia works as a guidance counsellor at the *Agence pour le développement de l'emploi*, the national employment administration under the authority of the Ministry of Labour, Employment and the Social and Solidarity Economy.



Kelly Lebon

Coordinator

Leerwinkel West-Vlaanderen

Kelly Lebon works in the House of Learning/"Learningshop" since it has been founded in 2011. Before becoming the Coordinator of this organisation, she worked as an individual counsellor.

Kelly graduated as a social worker and is currently pursuing a Master's degree in educational science.



Ruzica Madzarevic

Junior Career Guidance and Mobility Officer

Foundation Tempus

Ruzica Madzarevic applies her knowledge of psychology working in the field of career guidance and counselling. She works at the Foundation Tempus in the Euroguidance and EPALE national support team, developing career guidance activities for adults and young people as well as developing training for career guidance practitioners. During

this TCA event, she will present how to use self-evaluation as a guide to creating client-centered services in adult education, for example in training sessions or when developing project ideas.

23rd November 2018

Plenary Session: High Quality Learning Opportunities



Alzira Mendes

Adult and School Education Project Officer
Agência Nacional Erasmus+ Educação e Formação

Alzira Mendes is a Portuguese and French-language teacher at the secondary level as well as an adult education trainer. She has a wealth of experience in formal and non-formal adult training and implemented Comenius and Grundtvig European projects under the Lifelong Learning Programme. She is a teacher-trainer in the field of Portuguese and French Didactics and has an academic specialisation in educational supervision.

Since 2015, she works in the Portuguese Erasmus+ National Agency as a Project Officer in the fields of Adult and School Education. She takes part in the National Agency Working Group for Inclusion and Special Needs, which implements the Role Models Initiative of the European Commission at national level.



Chantal Fandel

Deputy Director

Department of Adult Education, Ministry of Education, Children and Youth

Chantal Fandel is currently the Deputy Director of the Department of Adult Education in the Ministry of Education, Children and Youth. She graduated in educational science and political science at Innsbruck University in Austria.

Through her career in the Ministry of Education, initially in the Department of Vocational Education and Training (VET) and since 2008 in Adult Education, she has developed and implemented education, training and guidance measures with a focus on integration and inclusion. She represents Luxembourg in many European working groups and networks, initiated European projects and participated in international groups and conferences of UNESCO, OECD and ASEM.



Mike Richartz

Assistant Director
École nationale pour adultes

Mike Richartz is the Assistant Director at the École nationale pour adultes, formerly known as E2C (*École de la Deuxième Chance* – Second Chance School). He graduated as a primary school teacher at the *Institut supérieur d'études et de recherches pédagogiques* (ISERP). He continued his studies at the University of Liège in Medieval and Modern History. He worked as a history teacher as well as a manager of the lower vocational education and training at secondary schools in Luxembourg.

Partner Search Forum



Carla Welter

Manager of the National Support Structure EPALE Luxembourg

Department of Adult Education, Ministry of Education, Children and Youth

Carla Welter is of Luxembourgish, Irish and Polish decent. She graduated in the field of biology at Washington State University, Pullman, WA, USA. She was a science teacher in public secondary schools in Luxembourg and managed a local large-scale Egg-production in Luxembourg.

Today, she is the Manager of the National Support Structure of EPALE (Electronic Platform of Adult Learning in Europe) at the Department of Adult Education within the Ministry of Education, Children and Youth in Luxembourg. She is also a SEI certified riding instructor and has taught all kinds of levels and ages of students.