

# Annual Report of the Latvian Adult Education Association 2001

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## **POLICY ON ADULT EDUCATION**

The most significant feature of the year 2001 was **discussion** on the EC work document "**A Memorandum on Lifelong Learning**", which proceeded among adult educators in Latvia. Latvia Adult Education Association (THE LAEA) used this as an opportunity to pay attention of Ministry of Education and Science of LR (LR IZM) to deficit of educational basic skills in Latvia and necessity to create an adequate education offer. Discussion about the mentioned document was important also because it emphasized equivalence of formal and non-formal education of adults and everyday learning in the process of the life-long education process, inter alia also in such aspect as recognition of the results of education.

LPIA also gave its contribution in the discussion on Memorandum of representatives of European Adult Education Association and Nordic countries.

The LR Parliament has accepted **amendments to LR Education Law** (came into effect from 01.09.01), which specifically concerns the development of the adult education:

Article 46, Adult Education Programmes.

(1) Formal and non-formal education programmes can be offered for the adult education.

(2) Arrangement of implementation of the adults formal education programme is set by this law, Vocational Education Law, Higher Educational Institutions Law and other standard acts.

(3) The adult non-formal education programmes set a content of this education and their compliance with interests of the government and employer, as well as personal development, and adults are empowered to acquire these programmes long life irrespective of their previous education.

(4) Programmes of the adult non-formal education and training courses are worked out and realised by the educational establishments and other legal or physical entities independently or in cooperation with customers.

(5) Educational establishments, which are found by the government or local governments, are empowered to implement programmes of the adult non-formal education without receiving licences, but other legal or physical entities have to receive licence from the local government.

(6) Adult education can be financed from:

- 1) the government or local government budget;
- 2) employers' resources;
- 3) learners' resources;
- 4) donations and grants;
- 5) by other sources.

Last year cooperation between the **LAEA** and **UNESCO Latvia National Commission** was extended. Members of LPIA Board, association members and executive director took part in preparation and process of the international conference "Creating the Civic Culture in Central and Eastern Europe Countries" (Riga, November 19 – 21, 2001).

Successful was work on creating the **adult education development strategy for Districts and local municipalities**. Growth of understanding on necessity of adult education policy and its role in a long-term development of Latvia between local government politicians, LR IZM and other government and non-government institutions is the most significant achievement of this work. The LAEA is especially thankful for an immeasurable work to Dr.hab.geogr. Aija Mellupa.

In the end of year 2001 was published Soros Foundation - Latvia Report on education in Latvia in year 2000 – “**On Way to Social Unity and Prosperity**”, which included situation with the adult education analysis.

The LAEA kept track of the development process of Latvia **Education concept** prepared by the Education Policy Department of LR IZM.

## **LAEA's CO-OPERATION NETWORK IN LATVIA AND EUROPE**

In a world, where the volume of information continues to increase, problems are getting more and more complex and resources for their solving are insufficient, the importance of co-operation networks increases. Networking is a crucial means for the effective use of resources, upholding possibilities to influence political and social processes, and increasing impact of implemented work.

Therefore it is good to see that in 2001 the LAEA's co-operation network in Latvia and Europe has been strengthened and widened.

In regard to co-operation within Latvia two tendencies can be seen: Links to social partners and key players of the society have been strengthened, e.g., with the State Employment Service, the Employers' Confederation, the Personnel Management Association, the Latvian UNESCO Office, the Society Integration Foundation. And a lot has been done to widen the existing co-operation network to a regional and local level; the implemented projects “Education for Human Future” and “Education Possibilities - For All”, which were focused on the development of regional and local development strategies for adult learning, are two good examples for this development.

On the European level co-operation with our long-term partners has been fruitfully continued, e.g., with the Nordic Folk Academy, the Institute for International Co-operation of the German Association of Adult Education (IIZ / DVV), the German Institute of Adult Education (DIE), our Lithuanian and Estonian partner organisations, Arbeit und Leben - Hamburg, Heinrich-Pesch Haus. The LAEA has been actively involved in the work of the European Association for the Learning of Adults, the Nordic-Baltic adult education network and the Baltic Sea Academy - Network of Adult Education. Additionally new partnerships have been created, e.g., with adult education organisations in the Bordeaux region in France, the IIZ / DVV office in St. Petersburg and the Adult Education Association of the Pskov region.

## **THE LAEA TODAY AND IN FUTURE**

In the LAEA Board meeting on September 26, 2001 were defined association's strong and weak points and worked out work plan for the following period, which was based on further realisation of the LAEA strategic trends. The main task of THE LAEA is to promote public understanding of the long-life education necessity.

Necessity of education services grows fast. Spectrum of those services providers is wide, which is testified by 65 the LAEA member organizations that can be divided in 4 groups. Non-formal education is offered by: first, adult education centres and folk high schools; second, companies' and business training centres; third, non-government organizations; fourth, formal education providers: district education authorities, higher education establishments, vocational schools and evening-schools.

Work of the centre is oriented to the project management according to specific character and trends of the LAEA members' activities, involving member organizations and cooperation partners in its implementation.

Year 2002 we have started with implementation of eight projects and two publications: Brita Lønstrup book "Teaching Adults - With Openness 2" and manual for youth workers "Youth...!?"

As a result of worked out strategy of the human resources development in year 2001 one of the tasks of adult education centres and NGO is to support these population groups, which need help to get out of economical and social depression. Target groups of these projects are youth and adults, which are not studying and do not have permanent job. Summary of the experience and results of project implementation was developed and published in scope of EU *Phare Access* programme pilot project (1) "Building Learning and Social Integration Pathways for Excluded Youth and Young Adults" in 6 municipalities of Madona District and in 1 municipality of Aizkraukle District. At present the LAEA together with representatives of the Adult Education Centres work on the project (2) how to promote education of social competences and basic skills of communication to adults in 10 districts, financed by Society Integration Foundation.

Development of districts adult education centres is supported by International Cooperation Institute project of German Adult Education Association in scope of the cooperation programmes (3) since the LAEA was founded.

Education is an important resource and precondition for raising employees' competences and competitiveness of companies. Many companies' training centres are working in this area every day. Companies and business centres (members of the LAEA) participation (4) in the project "ASN, Adult Study Net" (Use of information technology in adult education. The central organization of the project – National Council of Adult Education (FBR), Sweden) of EU Socrates Programme will promote mutual exchange of information and experience of training programmes providers that is necessary for the business environment.

The project (5) "Learning 4 Sharing" will provide the educational service not only to LPIA members, but to wider range of those people who are interested in it, and as a result of this a training programme and a manual for preparing trainers and organizers of adult education will be worked out, and professions of adult education specialists will be included in the official classifier of professions.

Project (6), which is investment of municipalities, NGO's and other social partners in promotion of local society and of sustainable development in Latvia and which is supported by Nordic Countries Folk Academy, (this is a lasting partner of the LAEA), will end in the beginning of summer with an international conference in Geteborg.

Continued is Leonardo da Vinci programme project (7) "Placement of Young Workers" and in cooperation with Heinrich Pesch Haus (Germany) - project (8) "Education for Youth Workers".

Range of prepared projects are waiting for financing: from the USA Embassy – for the LAEA adult education library development; from UNESCO Latvia National Commission - for promotion of understanding of long-life education; from EU Delegation – for cooperation strengthening between folk schools and self-government politicians, from World Bank and UNDP for approbation of basic skills training programmes.

New applications of projects are being prepared intensively:

- on working out proposals which define licensing mechanism of non-formal adult education programmes for all Latvia municipalities, in cooperation with Latvia Union of Local Governments and IZM according to amendments of Article 46 of Education Law;
- investigation about adult education service providers and services offered
- in Riga (in cooperation with Entrepreneurship Department of Bank High-School);
- about functional optimisation and repair works of the LAEA office;
- approbation and publication of Denmark methodical manual "Planning of Employees Continuing Education" (in cooperation with NCM and Fund of Culture Capital);
- promotion of the civic education;
- promotion of rural population initiatives activation for development of the local community.

Already "traditional" is contradiction – implementation of the projects ideas and its viability depends on funds and programmes what they support, not on the needs of the LAEA member organizations. Projects of Latvia adult education sectors do not provide following financing of many ideas and solution after the projects are implemented.

Where are we going? The slapping election time has started. Irrespective of the results of politicians struggle society has acquired recognition of necessity to continue studies through all life, and this is the only way towards development. This sense spirits for new projects and makes us possible to hope that they will bring positive changes in the future to make Latvia a democratic and civic country.

## **ADULT EDUCATION CENTRES – DURING SEVEN YEARS**

Motto of Latvia adult trainers is – **“Way to Ourselves”**. This is like a symbol of life-long development and education. LPIA was one of initiators of creation of the districts adult education centres.

Seven years have passed since adult education centres have started their activities in Latvia. Their number has been variable. What has happened during these seven years? Number “seven” is like a mythological cycle – seven circles, which have to be passed, or seven doors, which have to be opened. Adult education centres have passed this circle together with the Latvian Adult Education Association. We have been taken part in creation of the adult education system in the country and facilitated development of the support net on the local level. Unfortunately, it is developing outside the official system of education and is based on financing of district local governments and participation in the LAEA projects.

What changes adult education centres have made in their environment? Established are databases on education opportunities - continuing education courses, professional education programmes, courses of interest education etc. With the LAEA support and in cooperation with municipalities civic education programmes are being worked out, which facilitate development of active society, teach individuals of different opinions to live together creating tolerant mutual attitude. Adult education centres help to create and develop local folk high schools, interest groups and clubs, which promote individual’s positive attitude towards himself, his place of residence and people around him.

Most of centres have taken part in working out local strategy of adult education and development programmes, which will let to determine needs and problems of population. At present education is accessible only to socially active people that are capable to pay. There are no integration and motivation programmes for people who have no possibility to take part in economical activities and whose ability to pay is low. The LAEA coordinates work of adult centres and projects implementation and hence promotes development of adult education centres network and helps to work out programmes in areas where is need for education offer.

“Way to ourselves” is endless, and the new circle we are entering ourselves without support of government.

## **THE SECOND EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADULTS AT EVENING-SCHOOLS**

Latvia evening-school system, providing formal general education possibilities is connected with many establishments of formal general and professional education; they can create connection also with non-formal education and provide opportunity to continue education at any age.

The number of evening (shift) and distance training secondary schools has not changed in Latvia during last years (37 evening schools), but the number of students has grown for 45% compare to school-year 1995/1996.

In the seminar of Latvia evening-schools directors on September 27, 2000 it was stated, that during last years mostly has grown the number of students at age of 15 to 42, also has grown the average age of students – 74% of evening students are older 18. Therefore evening-schools can be considered as a part of adult education system.

Although the place of evening-schools still is not clear in Latvia, because tasks of evening-schools are not defined on the state level (Education Development Programme for period 2001 – 2004 contains only few sentences about evening-schools fate and problems of development: adjustment of this school network should be started in conformity with the development of professional and adult education network), the situation is not hopeless – acknowledgeable is variety of school regimes and education programmes of evening-schools.

Investigations on evening schools have shown significant problems – there is inhomogeneous contingent of students, which have no learning skills, students have low results in examinations, dropout, insufficient knowledge of teachers about teaching methods in work with adults, no school cooperation with parents and other family members.

Problems of evening (shift) schools can be valuated as problems of general education system; they are focused on this part of education system, but the other part is still oriented towards elitist education and their work evaluation is based on students success in different olympiads and competitions.

To solve these problems experience of European countries in adult formal education is valuable. Important was cooperation of the LAEA with Denmark Adult Education Centres (VUC), which are one of analogues to Latvia evening schools. As the result of this cooperation was created LAT – VUC project “Second Chance Education for Youth and Adults” in 1998 continuing of which as a new project is submitted to EU programme Socrates – Grundtvig 1 (submitted for the 2<sup>nd</sup> turn) in year 2001 in which it is planned to involve most of evening schools of Latvia.

Linars Deidulis, the LAEA project co-ordinator, actively cooperates with the Association of Evening Schools that uses for their meeting premises of the LAEA; some of schools are the LAEA member organizations.

It would be good if members of this specific system of Latvia education – evening students, their parents, teachers, administration of evening-schools – themselves spoke openly about evening-schools problems, which can be a serious obstacle for the development of evening schools. Therefore positively can be estimated work of the Board of principles of the evening-schools during year 2000 and 2001, as well as the result of this work – foundation of Latvia Association of Evening and Distance Training Schools on January 11, 2002.

Evening-schools undoubtedly are the most flexible part of Latvia formal education. Teachers of evening schools have adapted to work with students who have different level of knowledge and skills, different motivation, age and social state. Teachers understand students and are tolerant, and this is an advantage of the evening-school and shows readiness of evening schools to change. The LAEA has an important role in the development process of evening schools.

## **ROLE OF NGO'S IN PROMOTION OF ACCESSABILITY OF ADULT EDUCATION IN REGIONS**

Non-governmental organisations have important role in development of adult education in districts and towns of Latvia. One of them is non-profit organisation **"Latvia - Estonia Institute"**, founded on October 11, 1999. Its founders are Valka district council, Valka town Council, Latvia University and Vidzeme University. This Institution is a non-government organisation whose main goal is to create an education centre, which promotes reforms of regional development, and to facilitate integration of Latvia and Estonia into European Union. Work is mainly focused to adult education and cooperation with Estonia (in Valga, the Republic of Estonia, there is Estonia – Latvia Institute).

What role does Institute have in development of our district and city today?

This the second year when one has possibility to acquire Bachelor studies programme of Pedagogy in Valka, but the first year for those who wish to acquire Bachelor degree in Economics. Institute performs the coordinator's functions. "Memorandum on the Life-long Learning emphasises the important role of education, which can be provided close to place of students residence. We can provide it, and therefore we help people to become educated and to stop their outflow to Riga. We have to note that our students are of age 19 – 62, and they represent different occupations – teachers, clerks, librarians, border guards, customs officers, social workers, employees of banks, private companies, municipalities and other.

One of the most important tasks is to work out different projects for engaging people in different democratisation processes and activating them, educate politically. One of the most important events in year 2001 was elections of local governments, therefore successfully was realised project "Educated Elector – Promoter of City Development", which was implemented with financial support of EU Micro Grant Programme "Europe Union for Democracy and Human Rights". In scope of this project the polling of people was implemented, and all (4) lists of candidates Valka city deputies were introduced with the results of this polling, a large meeting was organised where Valka city people could meet with leaders of all deputy candidates lists. As the result people had opportunity to have face-to-face meeting with leading managers, ask them questions and to receive answers.

To organise events for large auditorium with good lecturers as well as to provide organisation with all necessary technical equipment, stationery etc., we need comparatively large financial resources. This is one of NGO problems, which it tries to solve working out projects and submitting them to different support funds. In year 2002 the project "Engaging Valka and Valga people in Creation and Management of the City of Future" will be realised, which will include Valka inhabitants polling, course of seminars "NGO Role in Society and Creation of the Society Network", cycle of lectures – discussions "Questions about Competence

of Local Governments”, meeting with president of EC in Latvia A. Dimants and president of EC in Estonia A. Roop, development and presentation of informative booklet. Baltic – American Partnership Programme supports the project.

Projects are focused on people involvement, rousing their interest, improvement of their political understanding, and on the basis of realisation results of previous project I am sure that people will be active.

In Valka there are 20 smaller and larger non-government organisations, which have no experience and knowledge for successful development of their activities, therefore there must be provided an educational work.

Lot of knowledge can be acquired in activities that are organised in scope of the LAEA projects and in seminars. I hope on as well successful cooperation in future.

## **OPPORTUNITIES OF CONTINUING EDUCATION IN COMPANIES**

Today in many big companies continuing education centres are created. The Training Centre of state stock company "Latvian Railway" (LDz) is member of the LAEA since its establishing.

The company's culture of the LDz more and more marks tendency to learn constantly and purposefully. Gradually LDz is becoming a company, which learns and whose value, practice and structures support and facilitate employees education, giving them ability to acquire new knowledge, improve their professional and social competencies.

New identity of a/s "Latvijas Dzelzceļš" is being created – it grows into a concern, whose business units are oriented to customer service. Therefore employees' continuing education and development is becoming one of LDz priorities. The Training Centre started its work in summer of 1998 as a support institution for restructuring process, being like some kind of agent of changes. The main task of the Training Centre is to create an active system of training for managers, administrative workers and trade union, which covers needs, is of good quality and facilitates to reach goals of the company's business, develops a team, provides perfection and development of competences. The Training Centre provides an opportunity for fast answer to needs of company employees training, possibility to engage employees themselves into organisation of training process. Policy of company's education has positively influenced knowledge and skills of managers and employees.

Continuing education for management is organised according to "Conceptual Programme of LDz Managers Continuing Education" approved in 1999.

LDz personnel continuing education includes special programmes developed by trainers of the Training Centre, which constantly are reviewed, and adult training programmes that are offered by other training centres on the basis of systematic preliminary evaluation analysis of used programmes, available changes in the offer of new programmes as well as optimum interconnection between costs and received knowledge and skills.

The biggest training projects which are implemented by the Training Centre are "Conceptual Programme of the Managers Continuing Education", which is planned for the period of 4 years, and "Latvian Acquirement Programme LAT-2 for Railway Employees".

LDz Training Centre is also a member organisation of the LAEA since its beginning. LDz Training Centre employees regularly take part in the LAEA seminars and many ideas received there are used to accomplish the work of the Training Centre. Computer Trainer Brigita Ruško is a participant of two LAEA projects: in the work group of "Adult Education through a Network", which is organised in the scope of EU Socrates programme, and in the work of partner group of ZTA project "Learning 4 Sharing".

## **LAEA PROJECTS IN YEAR 2001**

In year 2001 most of projects were connected to promotion of adult education development on the regional and local level to accordingly in a great extent continuing work, which was started in previous years. Now we can see growing the difference of development between Riga, other cities and rural area are still growing, therefore more and more actual are following questions:

- ***How to promote uniform development of all populated areas in Latvia?***
- ***What specialists are necessary in rural area and towns in near and further future?***
- ***How can be provided education opportunities for people of any age and different social state?***
- ***How to build up sense of positive perspective to people in municipalities and towns?***
- ***How to engage people to participate in their community life?***

The LAEA believes that education - inter alia adult education - is not and cannot be an end in itself. It must be a mean of common development of the society and a precondition of the development of physical and mental welfare of each individual. Therefore we together with our member organisations and cooperation partners are looking for effective ways to associate adult education with present-day and future labour market and needs of the social situation and civic society development.

One of six main ideas of EU "Memorandum on Life-long Education" is: "To provide schooling as possible closer to the place of residence."

Possibility to participate in solving these problems in years 1999 - 2001 to LPJA were provided by EU Socrates Programmes and support of European Commission Delegation, Nordic Council of Ministers and EU Phare Programmes.

In year 2001 Latvia Adult Education Association mutually integrated several projects, which were united by a common theme - **local and regional development - human resources - life-long learning.**

### **EU Socrates Programme, project "DEVELOPMENT AND ADAPTATION OF THE ADULT EDUCATION MODULES AND CREATION OF REGIONAL STRATEGIC ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMME"**

**Project leader** - Anita Jākobsone

**Project co-ordinator** - Linards Deidulis

**Work Group:** Anita Ostrovska (Aizkraukle District), Ināra Līdaciņa (Alūksne District), Daiga Rubene (Cēsis District), Ināra Mukāne (Daugavpils District), Ingrīda Mikiško (Jelgava District), Judīte Grugule (Jēkabpils District), Maija Pīlāga (Limbaži District), Anita Sergejeva (Ludza District), Sarmīte Pīlāte (Ogre District), Marika Lange (Saldus District), Inta Pudure (Talsu District).

**Co-operation partners:** Germany Adult Education Institute, Nordic Folk Academy, Latvian State Employment Service, local governments of 11 districts, Latvia Employers Confederation.

**Time and place:** 01.09.00. - 31.08.01.

**Target group:** District councils, their institutions (adult education centres, education boards, development departments), state districts education and culture institutions, non-government organization.

**Goal** – to work out and approve strategies of adult education development, which are included in the district development plans.

**Description of the Programme:**

In each district the planning started with a seminar, in which representatives of the LAEA and invited experts together with districts work groups discussed about situation in the district, the adult education situation and planning of human resources development, definite steps to prepare the plan.

The district council institutions (education authorities, development departments), district structural units of the government institutions (State Employment Service, Agriculture Consultation Service), education institutions, and non-government institutions took part in preparation of districts strategies. Districts adult education centres carried out most of coordination tasks. Time for the project implementation was quite limited, but districts work groups prepared and submitted projects of strategies to district councils for evaluation by the end of June. Presentation of total results of the project was done in seminar on August 23, 2001, when each of representatives of 11 districts could receive all prepared materials of all districts, which were engaged in this project.

Work in scope of the project was organized in two levels. Simultaneously with work in districts there were organized also common activities for the participants of the project. We organized seminars for representatives of all districts, every month leaders of district groups came together to discuss the development of the project and to look for solutions to overpass similar difficulties.

Representatives of districts involved in the project had opportunity to take part in study trips to Sweden and Germany, which were organized by foreign partners of the project.

Every month meetings and consultations of the project district coordinators were hold, as well as organized seminars with participation of foreign experts: 1) Seminar "Adult Education within the Regional Co-operation Network" that was managed by the director of Germany Adult Education Institute prof. Ekkehard Nuissl von Rein; 2) seminar "Possibilities and Preconditions to Realize Ideas of Memorandum of Life-long Learning", which was managed by the rector of Nordic Folk Academy Carina Abréu Fardby and lecturer Arild Mikkelsen.

**Results of the Project:**

- Project helped to work out and accept in district council 11 district strategies of adult education development. Materials are submitted to Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Environment Protection and Regional Development, Society Integration Department of Ministry of Justice, regional development agencies,

Society Integration Fund, Latvia Personnel Management Association and to other institutions.

- "Possibility to Learn for Each Person – 2001. Planning of the Adult Education and Human Resources Development in 11 Latvia Districts." – the publication about the process of the project, achieved results and summaries of district plans, which is prepared and published:

### **Delegation of the European Commission Project "LOCAL HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT WITHIN CONTEXT OF EUROPEAN UNION REGIONAL POLICY"**

**Project leader** – Anita Jākobsone and Inga Galvāne

**Project co-ordinator** – Linards Deidulis

**Work Group:** Daiga Rubene (Vidzeme Region), Ināra Mukāne (Latgale Region), Ingrīda Mikiško (Zemgale Region), Marika Lange (Kurzeme Region).

**Co-operation partners:** 40 municipalities from different parts of Latvia (Dunika, Dunalka, Medze, Ģibuļi, Lībaga, Ivande, Zirņi, Šķēde, Skrunda, Dagda, Skaista, Mežvidi, Rugāju, Rušona, Višķu, Nautrēni, Naujene, Bebrene, Malnava, Madliena, Mazozoli, Lēdurga, Nītaure, Līgatne, Jaunlaicene, Irši, Sēlpils, Sauka, Līvberze, Iecava, Rundāle, Biksti, Jaunberze, Talsi, Balvi, Lielvārde, Ķegums, Limbaži, Ape, Aizkraukle, Kalnciems).

**Time:** 12.12.00. - 12.12.01.

**Co-operation partners:**

**Target groups:** District councils and city councils, chairmen of municipal councils, adult education coordinators of municipalities, local education and culture institutions (schools, clubs), local NGO.

**Goal** – to prepare adult education development plans in local municipalities.

**Description of the Programme:**

Implementation of the Project started with 8 regional seminars in Saldus, Daugavpils, Jelgava, Ogre, Limbaži, Aizkraukle, Jēkabpils, Ludza where representatives of districts and local municipalities, NGO, and state institutions together with specialists involved by the LAEA discussed about the situation in own region, acquainted themselves with materials of EU opinion on these questions and agreed on the further work trends.

Simultaneously were chosen and signed cooperation agreements with interested local municipalities for project implementation. Their representatives participated in several seminars in Riga where the main guidelines were given about the planning work and mutual exchange of experience was provided. The project group had regular meetings. The main work of course took place in rural municipalities and towns.

In the end of the project a conference was organized (Riga, 14.11.2001.), which did evaluation of the accomplished work and provided discussion about the most important directions of work in future.

At present a similar work is started in many municipalities, which were not in the number of the participants of the project at the beginning. Worked out plans are very different both in content and in scale. Wide statistic materials, SVID analysis, and summary of residents polling supplement many of them. We really hope that all these documents have been prepared by their authors based on local needs and understanding of specific situation.

**Results of the Project:**

- Plans of the adult education and human resources development in 40 municipalities are worked out.
- Publication on the results of the project "Development for the Human Future" is prepared and published.

## **NORDIC - BALTIC PROJECT FOR NGO LEADERS**

**Project leader** – Anita Jākobsone and Inga Galvāne

**Project co-ordinator** – Linards Deidulis

**Co-operation partners** - Nordic Folk Academy

**Time and place:** 01.01. – 31.12.01.

**Target group:** local NGO and local municipalities.

**Goal** – to facilitate development of the local partnership and international cooperation of municipalities.

### **Project activities and results of the Project:**

- In the scope of the project 2 regional seminars and 10 seminars were organized in local municipalities; participants of these seminars discussed how to create effective and specific cooperation between municipalities, NGO, entrepreneurs, education institutions.
- Project provided opportunity to 8 persons –representatives of 4 municipalities, one from which represented decision makers (council of rural municipality or town), but the other – local non-government sector –, to participate in two weeks study trip to Scandinavia countries in autumn where they had opportunity to get acquainted with mechanisms of cooperation between municipalities and NGO, as well as got possibility to start a direct cooperation with interested municipalities of these countries.
- Meeting of leaders of Baltic and Nordic NGO in Tallinn, October 5 – 7. 7 persons represented Latvia in this meeting.
- Flexible planning of this project provided the LAEA with possibility to organize also several thematic seminars, which were devoted to actual questions of development of life-long education in Latvia. Representatives of Ministry of Education and Science, Latvia Self-government Association and companies, private training centres were invited to take part in common seminar – discussion on November 1 to discuss approved amendments of LR Education Law, Article 46, “Adult Education Programmes”. As a result of this meeting a joined work group of Ministry of Education and Science, Latvia Self-government Association and the LAEA started work whose main task was to develop mechanisms for practical implementation of these amendments.
- Seminar (27.11.01.) for evening secondary schools with participation of Adult Education Centre of Northern Jytland (Denmark). Possibility to provide second education to adults and youth is a question of the day in Latvia at present. As a result of the seminar there was worked out a project tender to EU Gruntvig Programme whose goal is to improve work of evening-schools as well as to promote a development of Latvia Evening Schools Association.
- Meeting with the president of European Adult Education Association (EAEA) Jorma Turunen (26.01.02.), who introduced with the results of discussion on EU “Memorandum on Life-long Learning” and

summary of these results in EC work document "Making of European Area of Life-long Learning a Reality".

- The project simultaneously took part also in Lithuania and Estonia and discussion on total results and exchange of experience is planned on conference in Geteborg (Sweden) on May 31 – June 1, 2002.

### **Co-operation Programme with the Institute of International Co-operation of the German Adult Education Association (IZZ/DVV)**

**Project leader** – Anita Jākobsone and Inga Galvāne

**Co-operation partners:** Institute of International Co-operation of the German Adult Education Association.

**Time:** 01.01. – 31.12.01.

**Goal and tasks**– to support Latvia Adult Education Association in work with adult education centres and folk schools in districts, facilitate understanding of necessity of adult education on local level.

#### **Description of the Programme:**

- Two informative seminars for the LAEA member organizations about adult education development in Latvia rural area, 13.03.01 – 10.09.2001;
- General meeting of Latvia Adult Education Association, 15.05.01;
- Informative seminars of the LAEA for new and prospective member organizations, 26.11.01.;
- Conference " Cooperation between The LAEA, Adult Education Centres and Folk High Schools. Problems and Problem Solving", 18.12.01.;
- Radio broadcasting programme "Education for Everybody" in the 1<sup>st</sup> programme of Latvia Radio every Friday, 10 min. (January – November), producer Ligita Zandovska;
- Development and publication of the LAEA Annual Report on year 2000;
- Booklet "Vārti" about adult education in Liepāja District. Author Tamāra Štrausa, 1000 copies. Experience of Liepāja District in development of the network of adult education in municipalities.

### **Nordic - Baltic Module-based Further Training for Adult Educators "LEARNING 4 SHARING"**

**Project leader** - Toms Urdze

**Steering group in Latvia:** Anita Jākobsone, Tatjana Koķe, Toms Urdze

**Partners:** Nordic Folk Academy, Lithuanian Association of Adult Education (LSSA), Estonian Association of Non-formal Learning (AHL).

**Time:** 2000 - 2002

**Target group and participants:** Teachers, multipliers and organisers of adult education.

**Objectives:**

- To create a set of adult educators competences and related assessment criteria.
- To develop a new education for adult educators.
- To foster personal development, exchange of experience and co-operation between adult educators of the participating countries.

#### **Main objectives for 2001 in Latvia:**

- To raise the Latvian Project group's professionalism in regard to adult education.
- To prepare the project group for the international modules in Viljandi, Estonia and Gothenburg.

#### **Project activities in Latvia**

##### **Seminars for the Project group**

Two seminars took place before the 1<sup>st</sup> international module in Viljandi in May (08.-10.02. and 08.-10.03). In the first seminar objectives and outcomes of the project, roles and needs of the participants, and the plan of activities for 2001 were clarified.

The second seminar was focused on adult education psychology, the training of English adult education terminology and explanation of the Nordic AE system.

From 23.04. - 06.05. an **International Course** in Viljandi took place, where all participating countries' project groups took part.

On 12.05. an Evaluation meeting on the International module was held.

From 28.-30.06. the next seminar for the Latvian project group was organised, which was focused on the training of curriculum development. Also an input on the motivation and personal development of adults was provided.

From 20.-22.09. the participants prepared the teaching of the "Background group", which took place on 12./13.10. and 19./20.10. Participants were experienced teachers and experts of adult education. The seminars were divided in 8 modules, e.g. "How do adults learn", "Practitioners Research", "Methods in Adult Education", "Teambuilding", "Assessment of Competences". An important aspect of the teaching was practitioners research on the project groups work.

On 24.11. one more seminar for the participants took place, where the teaching of the Background group was evaluated. Also it was decided, that the practitioners' research experience should be shared in the next international module at the Nordic Folk Academy in Gothenburg, which took place in the beginning of January, 2002.

In order to provide **additional practise opportunities** two seminars developed by part of the project group were organised on 13.12.01 and 15.02.02. The topic for the first seminar was marketing in adult education; for the second seminar practitioners' research. Participants were mainly representatives from adult education centres.

In 2001 work on the development of the education for adult educators and its licensing process has begun.

**Results:**

1. Criteria of a good adult educator have been developed.
2. A brochure on the participants and implementation of the project in Latvia has been published in Latvian and English.
3. A competent and experienced project group has been created.
4. Experience and materials for the curriculum and training materials have been gathered.
5. Other countries experience in the creation of education for adult educators has been acquired.

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## **EU Programme Phare Partnership Project "INITIATIVE OF SOCIAL ENTERPRISES IN LATVIA AND LITHUANIA"**

**Project leader** - Linards Deidulis and Toms Urdze

**Co-operation partners:** Heimvolkshochschule "Stephansstift" Hanover, Lithuanian Association of Adult Education and Latvian State Employment Service.

**Time and place:** 1999 - 2001, Latvia, Lithuania, Germany

**Target group and participants:** State Employment Service, municipalities, and persons interested in creating a Social Enterprise

### **Objectives:**

- To adapt the German experience of Social Enterprises as a means for decreasing unemployment;
- Initiate the development of Social Enterprises in Latvia and Lithuania.

### **Results:**

1. The project proved that Social Enterprises could also in Latvia be a means for the reintegration of unemployed in the labour market.
2. A booklet with the results of the project and guidelines for the founding of Social Enterprises has been published (German and Latvian).
3. The State Employment Service has started a pilot project "Social Enterprises for the employment of elderly and long-time unemployed people", which intends to create 50 jobs for the defined target group.

## **EU Programme *Leonardo da Vinci* Project "PLACEMENT OF YOUNG WORKERS IN GERMANY AND LATVIA"**

**Project co-ordinator** – Žanete Jēkabsons

**Co-operation partners:** Arbeit und Leben – Hamburg, Gesellschaft für Berufsförderung und Ausbildung.

**Time and place:** 01.01. – 31.12.01.

**Participants of the Project:** 10 young employees (craftsmen) from Latvia, and 12 young employees from Germany.

**Task and goal:** to promote professional development of new employees, increasing their competitiveness in the labour market of the national country and in the context of Europe.

### **Description of Project:**

- Traineeship of 10 young employees in Germany for 13 weeks (03.03. – 27.05.01. Hamburg, 18.03. – 16.06.01. Munster). During this course young adults improved their knowledge of German, acquired new skills in their profession (for representatives of craftsmen specialities), learned more about Germany history, culture and social life and improved their communication skills.
- Traineeship of 2 young workers in Riga for 13 weeks in period from 14.01 to 16.06.01, and during this traineeship young adults learned Latvian within scope of 40 lessons and improved current

and acquired new skills in their profession. Traineeship places: Folk Art Study "Zile" (forging works), Riga Craft School.

- 10 young Germany workers had traineeship in Riga from 15.09 to 15.09.01. During this time young adults learned Latvian within scope of 80 lessons and improved current and acquired new skills in their profession. Places of traineeship: the corner-jointed building company "Dziedrs", the Restoration Centre of Latvia History Museum, the Polygraphs Group "Remarks -R", the Tourism Agency TAS, the Exhibition Association "BT 1", SIA "Livo Art", the Advertising Agency "Veiksme Baltijā".

#### **Results:**

- Young adults improved their competitiveness in the labour market;
- Young adults acquired new professional skills.
- They improved their knowledge of foreign language.
- They learned more about Latvia/ Germany.
- Young adults developed their social skills.

### **EU Programme *Phare Access Project* "BUILDING LEARNING AND SOCIAL INTEGRATION PATHWAYS FOR EXCLUDED YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS"**

**Project leader** – Inga Galvāne

**Steering Group:** Linards Deidulis, Veronika Caune, Inese Nagle, Margrieta Broka.

**Co-operation partners:** The Madonas District Adult Education Centre, The Professional Career Choice Centre

**Time and place:** 01.10.2001. – 30.05.2002., Madonas District

**Project youth co-ordinators in municipalities:** Māra Briede (Ērgļi), Anna Solzemniece (Barkava), Ināra Fedotova (Lazdona), Baiba Pētersone (Saskaņi), Inga Medveckā (Ošupe), Veronika Caune (Bērzaune), Astra Siliņa (Irši).

**Target group:** youth in age from 15 to 25 with primary school education, which do not learn and do not work wage labour, from 6 rural municipalities of Madona and 1 municipality of Aizkraukle District.

#### **Goal and Task:**

- To prepare programme for creation of personal development plans for 15 to 25 years old young adults.
- To help to **work out personal development plans** to 50 young adults from 6 municipalities of Madona District and 1 municipality of Aizkraukle District in age from 15 to 25, which they can use in their continuing education, employment and social integration. In the result of successful implementation of this project these young adults will expand their competences, integrate in the process of social and economical activities of life continuing their education in prospective.
- To promote development of cooperation network of governmental and municipal institutions (local municipalities, State Employment Service, the Professional Career Choice Centre, evening secondary

schools, establishments of vocational education, coordinators of youth work), private sector and non-government organizations that will help to these young adults integrate into society, to find suitable job opportunities and to integrate into labour market.

**Description of the Project** (untill 15.04.2002):

- The project introduction seminars in Madona , 1<sup>st</sup> part on 30.10.01 and 2<sup>nd</sup> part on 28.11.01.
- Work on booklet for inviting these young adults to take part in this project and send out theses booklets to co-ordinators of municipalities.
- Choice of 70 young adults, appraisal through questionnaire and interviewing in 7 municipalities. Summarization of questionnaires and analyses.
- Meeting of work groups. Seminar for youth coordinators of municipalities "How to Work with Youth?", Madona, 28.11.01.
- 7 seminars for young adults "Professional Career Test" in 7 municipalities, 10 participants in each municipality, 1 day (Ošupe – 04.12.01, Irši –15.12.01, Bērzaune – 06.12.01, Lazdona – 17.12.01, Sarkaņi – 18.12.01, Barkava – 19.12.01).
- Preparing of seminars for youth. Selection of trainers/seminar leaders. Creating trainers database, seminar of trainers.
- Booklet creation and send out to young adults with invitation to take part in the activity where they will be acquainted with work of different institutions (library, police station, State Employment Service and other), Madona, 28.01.02.

**THE BOARD OF THE LAEA DURING 2000 - 2001**

1. Toms Urdze - Chairman of the Latvian Adult Education Association
2. Brigita Ābiķe - vice-chair of the LAEA, Director of the Training Centre of the Latvian Railway
3. Arnis Mugurēvičs –vice-chair of the LAEA, Head of the Board of the Rainis and Aspazija Foundation
4. Anita Jākobsone - UNDP, Project "Support to the implementation of the National Programme "Integration of Society", advisor
5. Jānis Krastiņš -vice-chair of the Latvian Trade Union of Education and Science Workers
6. Ruta Kreituse - Course Manager of the Consulting Centre of the Latvian Municipalities
7. Marika Lange - Deputy Director of the Saldu Children and Youth Centre
8. Gaida Masaļska - Director of the Latvian Folk School
9. Ingrīda Mikiško - Director of the Jelgavas District Adult Education Centre
10. Anita Ostrovska - Chair of the Aizkraukle District Adult Education Centre
11. Ligita Petrova - Prezident of the "Training Commercial Company"

12. Maija Pīlāga - Head of the Board of the Ledurga Folk High School
13. Aija Priedīte - Director of the National Programme for Latvian Language Training
14. Inta Pudure - Chair of the Talsi District Adult Education Centre
15. Daina Raituma - Co-ordinator of culture projects of the Riga Latvian Society
16. Daiga Rubene - Director of the Cesis District Adult Education Centre
17. Ilmārs Slaidiņš - Dean of the Electronics' and Telecommunications Faculty of the Riga Technical University
18. Māra Pušpure - Project Co-ordinator of the Institute for Adult Pedagogical Education Centre of the Latvian University
19. Baiba Začenoka - retired

## **THE AUDIT COMMISSION OF THE LAEA DURING 2000 - 2001**

1. Juris Kalniņš – Head of the Audit Commission, Head of the Latvian Trade Union of Public Service Workers “Lakrs”
2. Brigita Ruško –Teacher of the Training Centre of the Latvian Railway
3. Māra Skuja –/ chair of the Baldone Adult Learning and Culture Centre

## **FINANCIAL REPORT FOR YEAR 2001 (LVL)**

<b>Remainder on the 1st January, 2001</b>	<b>10 897,39</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>106 181,24</b>	<b>100</b>
Institute for International Co-operation of the German Adult Education Association	5 686,20	5,36
EU Phare Partnership Programm project	7 726,23	7,28
EU Leonardo da Vinci programm project	18 370,47	17,30
EU Socrates programm (project)	31 684,02	29,84
European Commission Delegation (project)	10 307,89	9,71
Finnish Adult Education Association (project)	3 158,83	2,97
EU Phare Access Programm (project)	2 270,48	2,14
The Nordic Folk Academy (projects)	15 559,81	14,65
Membership fees	1 873,00	1,76
The Nordic Information Office (project)	3 343,72	3,15
Other economic activities	6 200,59	5,84
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>107 385,64</b>	<b>100</b>

Conferences, seminars	24 519,74	22,83
Radio spots	3 540,00	3,30
Publications	11 462,00	10,67
Participation in conferences, seminars, study visits	23 763,21	22,13
Rent of premises	10 394,18	9,68
Obtaining of office equipment	1 270,68	1,18
Maintenance and service of technical equipment	509,65	0,47
Post and phone expenses, subscription of newspapers	3 691,03	3,44
Household expenses and stationary	2 772,05	2,58
Membership fee in EAEA and ESREA	217,37	0,20
Wages for staff, persons, involved in projects	18 012,69	16,77
Social tax	4 699,51	4,38
Advertising expenses	252,28	0,24
Audit	206,50	0,19
Banking services	1 260,62	1,17
Decrease of currency exchange rate	814,13	0,76
<b>Remainder on 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2002</b>	<b>9 692,99</b>	

**1 EUR - about 0,559 LVL**

\* including projects within EU Leonardo da Vinci and SOCRATES programmes

## **RADIO SPOTS "EDUCATION FOR EVERYONE"**

- *Trends in development of education in 21st century*
- *Role of education in human resources and economical development*
- *Place of education in planning of regional development*
- *Adult education and employment*
- *Education from the standpoint of employer*
- *Non-formal education possibilities for youth*
- *Education of population on legal issues*
- *Environmental Education in Latvia*
- *Education possibilities for farmers*
- *Activities and results of the LAEA projects in year 2001*
- *Work of the LAEA member organisations - content, results, problems*

## **PUBLICATIONS DURING 2001**

1. Handbook for NGO's "Keys to success".
2. Handbook for trainers of basic skills "Communication Skills".
3. Development of AE work in Liepaja District "The Gate".

4. Adult Education and human resources development planning in 11 districts of Latvia "Education Possibilities for everybody- 2001".
5. Adult Education and human resources development planning in 40 municipalities "Development For Human Future".
6. "How to Create Social Enterprise?" (in Latvian and German).
7. Handbook for youth workers "Youth!...?"

## **The LATVIAN ADULT EDUCATION CENTRE**

Aim of the LAEC - to create and offer client-oriented training programs, to support existing and developing adult education centers, affording necessary knowledge in adult education organizing and training of adults to their staff and lecturers.

The LAEC offers:

- 32 integrated programs for administration and organization of training process;
- courses and seminars for competence professional and personal development of adult educators;
- consultations.

### **Latvijas Pieaugušo izglītības centrs / Latvian Adult Education Centre**

Žanete Jēkabsone, direktore / director  
 Merķeļa 11, Rīga, LV - 1050  
 tel.: 7 212214, 6 596362; fakss: 7215050  
 e-pasts: *kursi.laea@parks.lv*

## **THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS**

Institute for International Co-operation of the German Adult Education Association

Nordic Council of Ministers

Delegation of European Commission in Latvia

European Union Programme *Leonardoda Vinci*

European Union Programme *Phare Access*

European Union Programme *Phare Partnership*

European Union Programme *Socrates*

State Youth Initiative Centre

Soros Foundation - Latvia

## **THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS**

Arbeit und Leben DGB/VHS Hamburg e.V.

Austrian Adult Education Association

Baltic Sea Academy

Danish Culture Institute

Embassy of German in Latvia

Estonia Association of Non-formal Education  
Estonian Adult Educators Association "Andras"  
European Adult Education Association  
Finnish Adult Education Association  
Folk High School "Stephanstift" (Germany)  
Germany – Ministry of Families, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth  
Germany Adult Education Institute  
Gesellschaft für Berufsförderung und Ausbildung (Germany)  
Heinrich Pesch Haus (Germany)  
Latvian Association of Business Consultants  
Latvian Confederation of Employers  
Latvian National Commission for UNESCO  
Latvian Personnel Management Association  
Latvian State Employment Service  
Latvian State Radio  
Latvian Union of Local Governments  
Lithuania Association of Adult Education  
Republic of Latvia – Ministry of Education and Science  
Republic of Latvia – Naturalisation Department  
National Programme for Latvian Language Training Latvian Language  
Programme Unit  
NGO Centre  
Nordic Folk Academy  
Nordic Information Office  
Nordsyssel VUC (Denmark)  
Pedagogue Education Support Centre  
Pskov Adult Education Association  
Publishing House "Remarks – R", Ltd.  
Publishing House "Artekoms", Ltd.  
Society Integration Foundation  
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)  
United States Peace Corps