



# Erasmus+ in Adult Education Works!

## Results of the Impact Study on Erasmus+ in Adult Education in Europe

**Erasmus+** is the European Union's education programme to promote education, youth and sport in Europe. The aim is to strengthen the personal, professional and social development of participants through mobility activities and European cooperation. Adult education in Erasmus+ provides general **lifelong learning** and is aimed in particular at people who face difficulties accessing education and participating in society due to various barriers.

In 2023/2024, an **impact study** on adult education in Erasmus+ was carried out. The aim of the study is to gain a better understanding of the specific effects of the programme on learners, staff and participating organisations. The study is part of the European research network **RIA-AE (Research-based Impact Analysis of Erasmus+ Adult Education Programmes)** under the coordination of the National Agency at BIBB. National agencies from all over Europe participate in the research network.



### The RIA-AE network

Further information on the research network and the impact study on Erasmus+ in adult education can be found at [The RIA-AE Network | EPALE](#).

## Impact of Erasmus+ on the Adult Education Sector

### 1) Erasmus+ offers organisations:

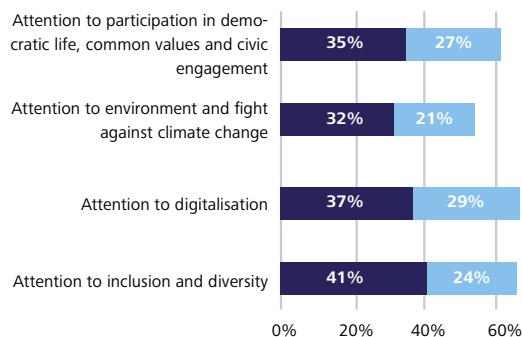
- the opportunity to establish a European network  
**"We have this "strategy of the best partnership" in our organisation, meaning that we strive to find the best partner in the world, or at least in Europe, for each need."**
- better conditions for internationalisation processes
- funding opportunities for projects that in only 5% of the cases could have been realised without Erasmus+
- space for developing curricula and learning opportunities, which in more than 60% of cases continue to be used after the end of the project
- support in tackling societal challenges

Sport  
Youth  
Higher education  
School education  
Vocational education and training

**Erasmus+**  
Enriching lives, opening minds.

Adult education





■ Rather much ■ Very much

Topics that receive more attention in the funded organisations as a result of participation in Erasmus+

## 2) Erasmus+ offers staff:

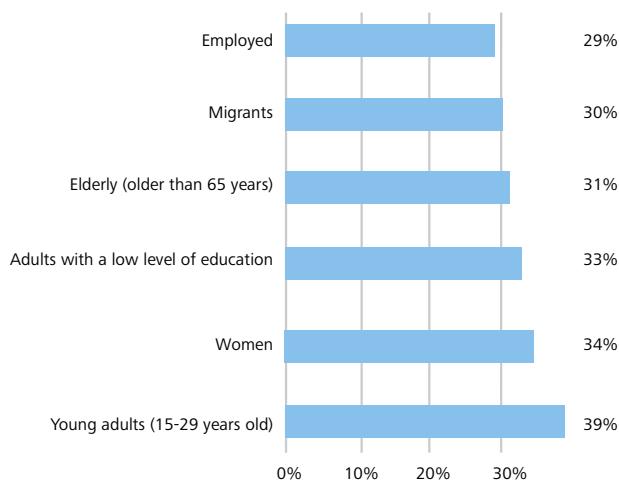
- professionalisation through European exchange
  - increased international competences and pedagogical and didactical skills
- > 93% of the staff have improved their international competences thanks to Erasmus+.**
- engagement in innovation processes
  - increased language skills
  - more awareness of inclusion and diversity

## 3) Erasmus+ offers learners:

- increased self-confidence and motivation to learn
  - new social contacts outside of their own environment
- > 79% of learners have gained new social contacts outside of their own environment.**
- an enrichment of their living environment

## Achievements of Erasmus+ in Adult Education

- The project results also benefit other adult education organisations beyond the programme, according to 68% of respondents.
- Once Erasmus+, always Erasmus! 89% of respondents stated that they intend to apply for an Erasmus+ project again in the future.
- Erasmus+ reaches a broad and diverse target group.



Target groups of Erasmus+ projects

## Challenges for the Adult Education Sector in Erasmus+

- Limited human resource capacities, lack of leadership support, financial constraints, difficulties in finding suitable partners and high administrative burdens pose obstacles to participation in the Erasmus+ programme.
- The organisation and implementation of mobility activities for learners with fewer opportunities is a challenge for beneficiary organisations.
- Erasmus+ projects have a limited impact at system level due to a lack of dialogue between programme and policy levels.

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