

Grand-Duché de Luxembourg

Adult Education

Dok. 5.2



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Adult education

Some figures:

- Population: 448 000 (around 38% foreigners)
- Employment: 285.000:
 - 100.000 crossborder workers
- Unemployment: 8.000 people, 3,9% (oct. 2003)
- Three official languages: luxemburgish, french, german.....so that education is being done in these 3 languages
- Smallest and richest country in Europe (industry, commerce, finance and services, ...)

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About education:

- *Initial education:*

1. *« Kindergarten education »: children from 4 to 6*
2. *« Primary School »: from 6 to 12*
3. *« Secondary School »: from 13 to*
 1. *either « general education » (7 years)*
 2. *or « technical education »: 3 regimes*
 1. *Professionnal*
 2. *Technical*
 3. *Technician: for higher studies*
4. *Higher education:*
 1. *University: since september 2003: a brand new « University of Luxembourg» but for now: no complete cycle (BA, MA, PhD). And lots of Luxemburgish students study abroad (Belgium, France, Germany...)*
 2. *High schools: management, social workers, teaching*

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Adult education is described as

- opposed to « initial education » for students up to 16 years old
- All the educational actions oriented for adults are:
 1. Vocational training:
 - Collective Access: for professional purposes only. « Law » of 1999
 - Individual Access: for professional and extra-professionnal purposes. « Union-Management Agreement » of 2003.
 2. « Social promotion »:
 - Second way of qualification: secondary schools for adults
 - Misc.: illiteracy, luxemburgish for foreigners (and other languages), computers, arts, social, politics
 - « Training for adult trainers »
 - Organized by schools, districts, NGO's or not-for-profit organization

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Challenges for adult education in Luxemburg: how to deal with:

- Many foreigners: 160.000 but 40%
- Three different official languages + portuguese, italian, croatian, ...:
 - Ethical problem: how to keep culture (luxemburgish or others) and improve integration in a multicultural society
- **Problems:**
 - Education (cf PISA study): very bad results:
 - especially for foreigners and/or students with a weaker socio-economic level -> equity and education
 - Waiting lists
 - Integration is not the objective of participants but vocational training

Propositions:

- Promoting a concept of integration in multicultural societies
- Promoting Individual Access to training and social promotion
- Changing methods of our training
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