

3RD PLA MEETING PROMOTING ADULT LEARNING IN NETWORKS (PRALINE)

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ADULT QUALIFICATION IN PORTUGAL: CHALLENGES AND ONGOING POLICY MEASURES

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VET IN PORTUGAL: THE NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS SYSTEM (NQS)

- In PT the VET system is centrally governed by the ministries responsible for Education and Labour
- NQS was created in 2007 (and updated in 2017) to reform VET within the education system and within the labour market by establishing common objectives, tools and structures
- NQS sets up the legal framework for adult VET as well as young people VET
- Recently (February 2022) there was a regulatory legislative update concerning adult qualification

THE NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS SYSTEM: GUIDING PRINCIPLES



THE NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS SYSTEM: STRUCTURES AND INSTRUMENTS

STRUCTURES

Central Administration Body ANQEP

Sector Councils for Qualifications

Training Providers network

Qualifica Centres

INSTRUMENTS

National Qualifications Framework (NQF)

National Catalogue of Qualifications (NCQ)

System for the Anticipation of Qualifications Needs (SANQ)

National System of Credits for VET

Qualifica Passport

Quality Assurance EQAVET

National
Qualifications
System

ADULT VET: THE QUALIFICA PROGRAMME



The Qualifica programme is an integrated strategy to foster the training and qualification of adults, launched in 2016 as a political priority of the Government to tackle the deficit of qualifications of the population.

Main principles

- ✓ Raise the qualification level of adults and their employability
- ✓ Increase digital and functional literacy
- ✓ Better align the training provision with labour market needs



THE QUALIFICA PROGRAMME: MAIN OBJECTIVES

- Promote training pathways that lead to an increase in the qualification level of adults
- Encouraging the completion of qualifications for adults with incomplete education and training paths, using different qualification offers
- Improve the complementarity between the recognition, validation and certification of competences (RVCC) and adult education and training offers (i.e. adult education and training courses – EFA)
- Develop local networks for qualification, reinforcing the coordination and signing of protocols between municipalities, companies, local agents and Qualifica Centres
- Making the Qualifica Centres the main gateway to adult education and training

THE QUALIFICA PROGRAMME: MAIN RESULTS (2017-2021)



- Qualifica Centres Network: 310 centres
(+ 9 Qualifica Centres AP - specially oriented for public administration workers)
- 713.374 enrolments in Qualifica centres
- 87% (621.672) of the enrolments have already had their skills assessed (Lifelong Guidance and referral)
- Adults were predominantly (almost 470.000) oriented to ET pathways (tailored learning offer) and more than 152.000 are in RVCC processes
- Almost 730.000 attained a certification, 98.655 of which correspond to total certification (i.e. that awarded a higher school level and/or a qualification level of the NQF)



THE QUALIFICA PROGRAMME: ADULTS' PROFILE

- ❖ 58% are women and 42% are men
- ❖ The majority (63%) are under 45 years old
(38% are aged between 30-44 years old and 25% are aged between 18-29 years old)
- ❖ 57% don't have the upper secondary level and 34% don't have the lower secondary level
- ❖ 43% are unemployed and 51% are employed

ADULT QUALIFICATION: CHALLENGES AND ONGOING POLICY MEASURES

- ✓ Mobilising adults to LLL, specially the low skilled
- ✓ Improving guidance and monitoring of VET pathways
- ✓ Increasing/investing in the completion of incomplete pathways
- ✓ Creating a new approach to RVCC, making it more flexible
- ✓ Strategic updating of NCQ by increasing agility, flexibility, and the ability to respond to labour market needs (digital and green transition)

ADULT QUALIFICATION: CHALLENGES AND ONGOING POLICY MEASURES

- ✓ Recognising qualifications within and across borders
- ✓ International qualifications within NQF
- ✓ Investing in micro-credentials
- ✓ Increasing the engagement of stakeholders, specially employers, in the NQS
- ✓ Raising the awareness to the benefits of learning