

# DEMAL

Designing, monitoring and evaluating adult learning classes  
Supporting quality in adult learning

## Project completion

The DEMAL project is coming to its end. After two years of successful work, the DEMAL project will finish on 30 September 2018. On this occasion, this newsletter will give an account of the final DEMAL events and bring reflections from all partners on the project's achievements and future perspectives.

## Final Conference

The final conference of DEMAL took place on 25 September 2018 in Bonn, Germany and gathered multipliers from 11 European countries, including representatives from international organisations (EAEA, UIL). Thematically, it focused on three major aspects which had been addressed in the project:

- digital media as a tool for developing professional competences of adult educators
- the role of competence standards and validation frameworks in promoting professionalisation
- the potential of European training courses for adult educators



All DEMAL products were presented by the project partners in the plenary and in greater detail in three parallel workshops. They were furthermore put into a broader context through additional presentations of related practice examples.

**“The DEMAL products are very relevant for adult learning. I liked very much”**  
(Participant quote)

The DEMAL outcomes met with great interest of the participants who engaged in very active discussions.

Find the full programme [here](#).

## DEMAL in Greece



The products of DEMAL, especially the e-learning and the Course Planner App were received very well in Greece. As there was an explicit interest from Greek adult trainers to attend the e-learning course, IDEC decided to offer the two e-learning courses in Greek language.

Therefore, the Greek e-learning courses opened in the beginning of September and 236 participants are attending them. The project comes to fulfil a real need in Greece, where there is an on-going process of professional development of adult trainers.



The Greek conference took place in the centre of Athens on 27th of September 2018. In total 80 people participated in the conference. The main outputs presented in the conference in Athens were the two training courses on “Design of adult education courses” and “Evaluation of adult education courses” and the Course Planner. During the conference, two parallel workshops took place, one on Design and one on Evaluation of adult learning courses. The workshop on Design was organized using the Course Planner App. Participants had the chance to work with the App, test it and develop their own courses. The workshop on Evaluation was organized around three different evaluation tools and how they can be used for the evaluation of adult learning course. In addition to the workshops, there was one learning station, where IDEC’s staff demonstrated the e-learning courses, supported the participants to register and attend the courses and answered their questions.



The potential for future implementation of the two blended courses is great, both in English and Greek language. IDEC will include these courses into the training catalogue. The course Planner App has been already incorporated into the planning process of new courses and there is great potential to be used by other training courses as well.

## DEMAL in Switzerland

DEMAL has been an interesting and inspiring project for Switzerland. We already have a national train-the-trainer system which includes competence profiles for course design and evaluation. The project was a good opportunity to widen the horizon and be part of a transnational experience in course design at the conceptual and practical levels. The insights we gained from DEMAL flow into the current revision process of our train-the-trainer system.

The Swiss multiplier event is still to come. It will take place on 10 December in Zurich and concentrates on the topic: Development of the digital competencies of adult educators in the future. The focus will be on competencies in the areas of course design and evaluation as well as consulting. The workshop will reflect on DEMAL's experiences with the integration of digital technologies and e-learning phases. We will also present the DEMAL App and test it with the participants.

In addition, we plan to present and discuss the results of a survey conducted in Switzerland within the framework of DEMAL. We asked in an online survey 1,200 adult educators about their digital skills and experiences in course design.

At the workshop we want to facilitate an exchange on current competences and discuss how the competence profiles of adult educators will change in the future under the influence of digitalisation. We expect about 40 participants.

## DEMAL in Spain

Final Dissemination event in Spain took place on 20th September in the premises of Fondo Formación Euskadi in Trapagaran. The event was organized with the objective of disseminate the final outputs produced during the implementation of DEMAL project as well as the courses organized within the project: “Design of Adult learning activities” in Bilbao and “Evaluation and monitoring of Adult learning activities” in Athens.

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20 people from organisations from different fields were invited to this Multiplier event: educational field as VET organizations, Universities, non formal training organizations, responsible of training of business organisations, public organisations.



The participants showed their interest in the results obtained and how the results can contribute for improving the quality of the training activities for adults. The participants are involved in training / adult training from different perspectives in their daily work so they thought that these materials could be a positive input in their work

## DEMAL in Hungary

In Hungary the DEMAL project results are primarily intended to be utilised by the Knowledge Center of the Open Learning Centers' network (NYITOK). The network - which is consisted of 50 centers - offers a solution as to how an open adult training infrastructure can be set up incorporated in the local community and economic life, flexibly customized to the local needs and individual requirements, inclusive towards various informal and non-formal learning forms, and with a low entry threshold and maintenance cost - especially in regions where adult training is difficult to access, and where low education is typical.



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The project results have been introduced to the learning counsellors of the NYITOK Knowledge Center in the framework of a multiplier event. The main task of the learning counsellors is to support and manage informal adult learning programs. Following the assessment of local learning needs the learning counsellors take part in the development of the tailored learning programs and in the operation of the trainers network.

The focus of this event was to present the project outcomes and inform the learning counsellors about the products which can be effectively utilized by the knowledge center to support the professional development of the learning counsellors as well as the teachers', trainers' and other adult educational professionals involved in the programs provided by the NYITOK Network.



The most relevant DEMAL Project outcomes for the knowledge center are the two e-learning training courses with their related learning resources and the course planning application which seem to be very promising for the learning counsellors as these products are already available in Hungarian. Progress Consult, which is responsible for running the knowledge center is intending to make the course content and the course planning available through its own website and possibly on the NYITOK website from the beginning of 2019.



## DEMAL in Romania



The multiplier event in Romania had as main objective to spread the intellectual outputs realized in the project so that these have a greater possible impact, as well as to offer an invaluable opportunity to discuss in depth the strong points and the weaknesses of the DEMAL products, as perceived by people interested but not involved in the project.

The event took place in the center of Bucharest, on the 28th of September 2018 and met with a great interest among participants. The 40 professionals who attended the workshop came from different institutions at local and national level, and were mainly teachers of university programs, adult trainers, designers of adult learning courses and activities (mainly from the educational field) and programme planners.



The final open discussion that followed the presentation was fruitful, with interesting inputs and suggestions. The attendees could also make comments that were generally very positive and challenging for the next DEMAL project development. They most often appreciated the materials accessible in different languages. Moreover, the online availability to the public for free was viewed as a very positive point of the project. Some participants recommended adapting the training sessions and learning resources to specific target groups, such as language trainers or trainers who support and help develop materials for future teachers. All in all, feedback by all participants, with no exception, was enthusiastic and useful for the project and its further steps.

## DEMAL in Germany

The DEMAL project has been coordinated over the last two year by the German Institute for Adult Education (DIE). It links well with the institute's aims to promote quality and effectiveness of adult learning. Various (national) DIE projects and DEMAL could be successfully linked and benefitted from each other.

Just to give two examples: Professional competence standards for adult educators are a big issue in Germany. Although formal regulations at national level are not a realistic perspective, given the federal structure of the country and differing interests of stakeholders, a concern for quality based on professional competence is common for the field. At national level the GRETA project, coordinated by the DIE, has joined various major provider organisations to agree on a voluntary basis on a shared competence framework for adult educators. The development of the GRETA framework and of the DEMAL competence framework went partly in parallel in the last two years, and through a regular exchange between these projects valuable inputs were given and received in both directions.

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## Closure and Outlook

We hope you have enjoyed this newsletter! DEMAL is finishing as a project. All products are currently being prepared for publication on the DEMAL homepage, and final versions of all products will be available there by end of November 2018. Building on the DEMAL outcomes, various plans for new projects are also currently being developed. Keep on visiting us for news on the DEMAL homepage. It will be functioning also after the project's lifetime.



Second example: The Course planning app developed in DEMAL could benefit from previous work and the related expertise from a cooperation project between the DIE and the university of Tuebingen. The further work on the App in DEMAL helped on the other hand to test the overall concept for its European potential, enrich the app with additional features and considerably enlarge the repertoire of methods. The German version of the DEMAL app will be integrated into the DIE's comprehensive own online portal for teaching staff in adult education, the platform wb-web, and will thus be made available to a large community of potential users.



The DEMAL Project Team

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