

LLL Policies and how they support Partnerships between Adult Learning and Education and Higher Education



Participation in Lifelong Learning

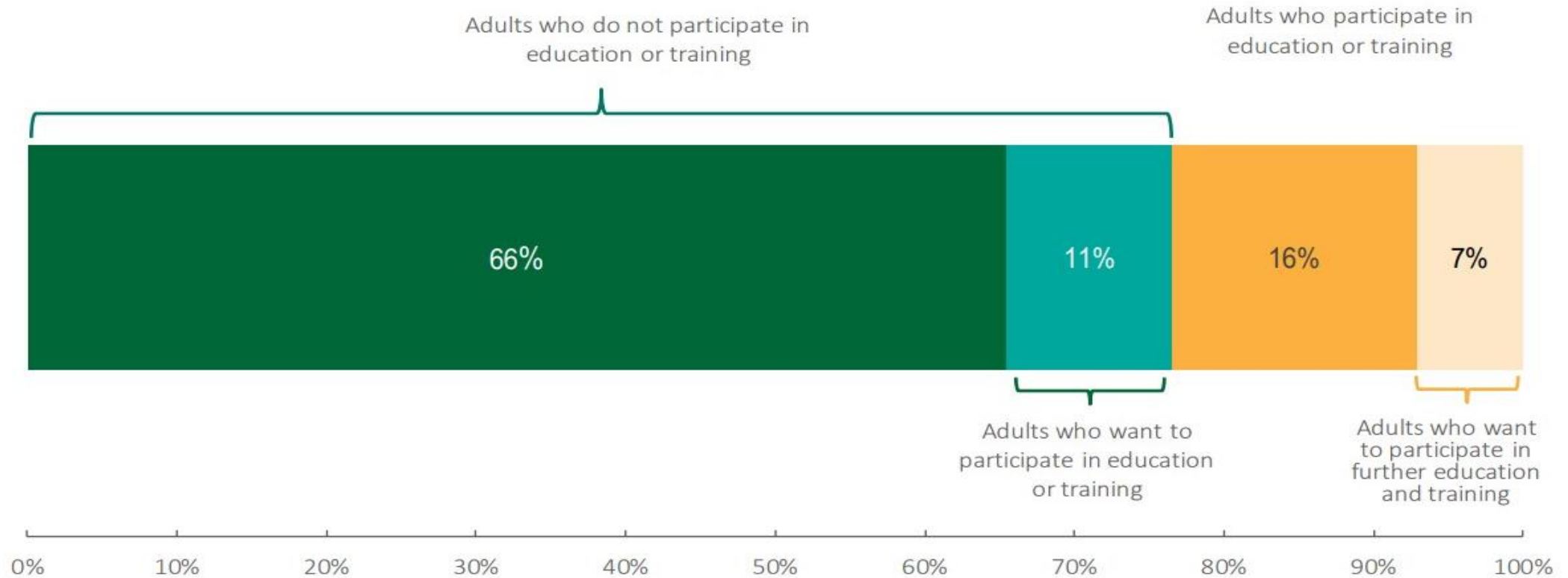
2012/2015 PIAAC (= OECD Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies):

- 20% of adults with low skills (in job-related adult learning)
- 37% and 58% of adults with medium and high skills respectively

2016 AES (= EU Adult Education Survey):

- 11.6% of adults with low skills
- 35.5% of adults with high skill levels

Participation and non-participation in learning



Source: OECD (2019): Getting Skills Right. Engaging Low-Skilled Adults in Learning.
<http://www.oecd.org/employment/emp/engaging-low-skilled-adults-2019.pdf>

Examples

CASE 1:

Ireland: An Cosán Community College (VCC)

- Strives to bring higher education opportunities to adults across Ireland through blended learning and online learning to reach remote areas – learner-centred approach with individualized schedules
- Courses are delivered in partnership with local community organisations

Policies: Irish Back to Education Initiative (BTEI) and Further Education and Training Act; access to guidance services through the Education and Training Boards

Participation in Lifelong Learning

CASE 1: Ireland:

Adult participation in lifelong learning (age 25-64)

By prior level of education



Ireland

Highly skilled **9%**

Medium skilled **5.6%**

Low skilled **2.5%**

Source: Eurostat (EU-LFS, 2016)
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Support to policy

CASE 1:

Ireland:

- National Upskilling Pathways Steering Group at the Department of Education and Skills to support the implementation of Upskilling Pathways and increase participation levels
- Steering group composed of civil servants and civil society organisations/umbrella organisations in ALE

Examples

CASE 2:

Measures for Adults to Support Transition to further Education and Re-skilling opportunities (MASTER)

- Erasmus+ KA2 project that aims to facilitate the participation of low-skilled adults in (formal) further education/training opportunities and in the labour market by developing or reinforcing their personal, social and learning competence (PSL competence)
- Will run until April 2022
- Reinforces partnerships between ALE providers, guidance services and VET/HE institutions

Policy: Upskilling Pathways

ALE Policies/Strategies at the EU level

- **Upskilling Pathways:** Adults should benefit from a ‘broader set’ of skills by progressing to a level 3 or 4 in the EQF (= upper secondary school)
- **European Skills Agenda:** brings together Skills for Life with STEM, green and digital transitions – *potential for more cooperation between ALE and HE?*
- **European Education Area:** includes i.a. Key Competences for LLL – *potential for more cooperation between ALE and HE?*
- **European Agenda for Adult Learning:** to build up adult learning structures in Europe; will end at the end of 2020 – *continuation?*
- **Erasmus+:** brings together various sectors of education and LLL – *future programme?*

Challenges

- Different objectives of sectors, different legal frameworks in which they operate
- Structures and funding of ALE vs. HE
- Dynamics of cooperation
- Competition at the policy level

Potential fields for partnerships

- Democracy, citizenship, critical media literacy
- Green skills
- Digital skills?
- Development of new learning & teaching methods and experimentation
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Support for partnership through policy

- Learner-centredness as the key to good cooperation
- Specific calls (at the European, national and/or regional level) for diverse partnerships
- Decentralisation of LLL policies to make learning programmes with diverse partnerships meaningful and learner-centred
- Structural funding for ALE so that the sector can have confidence to go into partnerships with formal education