

## Innovation for Resilience - New Approaches to Basic Skills Provision in the Post-COVID Era

The Basic Skills Network  
Annual General Assembly  
and Conference



### WHEN

28<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> October 2021



### WHERE

Aula Magna, University of Malta,  
Valletta Campus  
Address: University of Malta, Valletta  
Campus, Triq San Pawl (St.Paul's  
Street), Valletta, Malta VLT1218



### ORGANIZER

EBSN in cooperation with the  
Directorate for Research,  
Lifelong Learning and  
Employability (DRLLLE) from the  
Ministry for Education, MFED



### GET IN TOUCH

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 [www.basicskills.eu](http://www.basicskills.eu)

## CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Thursday, October 28<sup>th</sup>

Venue: Aula Magna, University of Malta, Valletta Campus

09:00 – 09:30	Registration and coffee	
09:30 – 09:50	<b>Formal opening (Plenary)</b>	<i>Maltese authorities, Directorate, EBSN</i>
09:50 – 10:10	<b>Basic Skills in Malta - policy, implementation and visions for the future (Plenary)</b>	<b>Alex Farrugia</b> , <i>Director of Directorate for Research, Lifelong Learning and Employability, Maltese Ministry of Education</i>
10:10 – 10:30	<b>Towards a New Agenda for Adult Learning (Plenary)</b>	<b>Alison Crabb</b> , <i>Head of Unit, European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs &amp; Inclusion (virtual presentation)</i>
10:30 – 10:50	<b>The EBSN's CBS and PDS series in the context of current European Policy (Plenary)</b>	<b>Graciela Sbertoli</b> , <i>Secretary General and Zoltán Várkonyi</i> , <i>EBSN Secretariat</i>
10:50 – 11:20	Coffee break + Market Place ( <i>Presentation of participant institutions and their projects and products in an exhibition space outside the main conference hall.</i> )	
11:20 – 12:20	<b>First round of parallel sessions</b>	<i>All workshops consist of two presentations (20 min each) followed by time for Q&amp;A. Workshop W1 is presential. Workshop WV1 is virtual and will be held in Zoom at the same time. All workshops, presential and virtual, will be recorded.</i>
	<b>W1: Digital tools for sustainable learning provision (presential)</b>	
	Learning through Lockdown – Volunteers, English Language Learners and Conversation Clubs	<b>Alex Stevenson</b> , <i>National Learning and Work Institute, UK</i>
	Engaging SMEs in Hungary to invest in the skills of employees during COVID	<b>Zsolt Vincze</b> , <i>EBSN and ALLL, Hungary</i>
	<b>WV1: Innovative approaches (Hybrid)</b>	
	New and old perspectives on the professional expertise of adult literacy practitioners	<b>Sam Duncan</b> , <i>UCL Institute of Education, UK</i>
	Bridging Barriers - The Future of Adult Basic Education in Europe	<b>Eva Steinheimer and Günther Hefler</b> , <i>3s Unternehmensberatung GmbH, Austria</i>
12:20 – 13:30	Lunch	
13:30 – 13:40	<b>Implementing policy: presentation of the first draft of the Malta conference declaration (Plenary)</b>	<b>Graciela Sbertoli</b> , <i>EBSN General Secretary</i>
13:40 – 14:10	<b>Discussion of the draft in groups, one group online (Plenary)</b>	With rapporteurs, written report
14:10 – 14:40	<b>Webinars for CPD (Plenary)</b>	<b>Cäcilia Märki</b> , <i>SVEB, Switzerland</i>
14:40 – 15:10	<b>Approaches to Upskilling Programs for Adult Basic Skills Learners: The U.S. Perspective (Plenary)</b>	<b>Judith Alamprese</b> , <i>Principal Scientist, Abt Associates, USA, (virtual presentation)</i>
15:10 – 15:40	Coffee break + Market Place ( <i>Presentation of participant institutions and their projects and products in an exhibition space outside the main conference hall.</i> )	
15:40 – 16:40	<b>Second round of parallel sessions</b>	<i>All workshops consist of two presentations (20 min each) followed by time for Q&amp;A. Workshop W2 is presential. Workshops WV2 and WV3 are virtual and will be held in Zoom at the same time. All workshops, presential and virtual, will be recorded.</i>

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#### W2: Policy and frameworks (presential)

Basic Skills in Slovakia – from initial  
mapping to a national strategy

**Monika Drinkova**, State Vocational Education  
Institute, Slovakia

Common European Numeracy  
Framework – implications for policy

**Prof Kees Hoogland**, University of Applied  
Sciences Utrecht, The Netherlands

#### WV2: Basic Skills for Inclusion (Hybrid)

Understanding technology-supported  
literacy programmes for youth and adult  
refugees, internally displaced persons  
and migrants: A global landscape review

**Annapurna Ayyappan**, Unesco Institute for  
Lifelong Learning, Germany

Digital Literacy Improvement through  
Effective Learning Experiences for Adults

**Denisa Mariana Centea**, IREA, Romania

#### WV3: Digital skills for everyone (only online)

Technology should work for everyone –  
Follow-up on Nordic recommendations  
on adult basic digital skills, work in  
progress on a Nordic Inspiration  
catalogue

**Kerstin Gatu**, Mora Folk High School, Sweden  
(representing the Nordic Network for Adult  
Learning, NVL)

Lightening the load – vhs-Lernportal in  
the COVID crisis

**Michael Thiel**, DVV, Germany

16:40 – 17:00	<b>Summing up the first conference day</b> (Plenary)	Practical information for the evening
19:00	Conference dinner	

### Friday, October 29th

Venue: Aula Magna, University of Malta, Valletta Campus

09:30 – 10:00	<b>The Maltese national project for renewal of Basic Skills policy</b> (Plenary)	<b>Angela Jones and Rosemarie Debattista</b> , (Directorate for Research, Lifelong Learning and Employability (DRLLE), Malta) Plenary session (20min + 10 min Q&A)
10:00 – 10:30	<b>Check-In, Take-Off (CITO) - Innovative use of technology as motivation tool for adults with basic skills needs</b> (Plenary)	<b>Ailis Mardon-Egan and Elaine Cohalan</b> (NALA, Ireland), <b>Helen Murphy and Sarah Bates-Evoy</b> (WIT, Ireland) Plenary session (20min + 10 min Q&A)
10:30– 10:40	<b>Conference declaration, new draft</b> (Plenary)	
10:40 – 11:10	<b>Conference declaration – discussion</b> (Plenary)	Plenary discussion
11:10 – 11:40	<b>Strengthening digital competencies for better literacy provision under Unesco's Sustainable Development Goals</b> (Plenary)	<b>Jian Xi Teng</b> , Unesco Institute for Lifelong Learning, (virtual presentation)
11:40 – 12:10	Coffee break + Market Place	
12:10 – 12:30	<b>Final draft of conference declaration How to use the declaration</b> (Plenary)	
12:30 - 12:40	<b>Final greetings</b> (Plenary)	<b>Graciela Sbertoli</b> , Secretary General + Maltese authorities
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch	
14:30 – 15:30	Meeting of EC	