

EUCEN

European Universities Continuing Education Network

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**VET Providers Meeting
Education & Culture DG**

**Unit B.2 – Vocational Training and adult learning; Leonardo da Vinci, Grundtvig
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EUCEN as Association



- EUCEN is an association (**not-for-profit**) based on Belgian law – founded 1991
- Currently more than **190 members** (institutional membership) from 36 countries including 16 national ULLL Networks
- Mission: the **promotion** and **advancement** of LLL within HE institutions in Europe and elsewhere; to **foster** universities' influence in the development of LLL knowledge and policies throughout Europe

EUCEN and University Lifelong Learning (ULLL)



Provision by HE institutions of learning opportunities, services and research for:

- personal and professional development of **individuals**
- social, cultural and economic development of **communities** and the **region**.

University level and **research** based;

Primarily focus on **needs** of the learners;

Often developed in **collaboration** with stakeholders and external actors.

EUCEN's activities in ULLL



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- Quality
 - Recognition of Prior Learning
 - Diversity
 - Indicators
 - Institutional development
 - Management in organisations
 - Curriculum development
 - Intergenerational learning
 - E-learning
 - Guidance and counselling
 - Recommendations
 - Guidelines
 - Tools
 - Check lists
 - Reports (e.g. national reports)
 - Analysis and evaluations
 - Models, case studies
 - Training materials

Final Target: **QUALITY**

EUCEN's achievements in LLL



EUCEN at European level

- **Two annual** conferences: Spring and Autumn; 45 conferences with about 5100 participants; in 24 countries; Proceedings; Study visits.
- **EU projects**: contractor of 15 EU projects and coordinator of 3; partner in many projects of members as experts, evaluators or dissemination; EUCEN managed project funds of over 15 million Euros.
- **Collaboration** with national LLL Networks: exchange of information, connection with the European debate; EUCEN conferences with topics specific national relevance

EUCEN's achievements LLL (cont.)



After more than 20 years: EUCEN's impact

- Support for institutional development LLL (e.g. strategy development, provision, specific areas such as **RPL/VNIL, quality, staff development**)
- Feeding into the **policy development** with units of the European Commission and added value of **European projects** – accumulation of relevant specific knowledge and also monitoring role (BeFlex <http://www.eucen.eu/beflex.html> or COMPASS <http://compass.eucen.eu>)
- Strengthening **national networks** for LLL for better performing their roles

EUCEN's achievements in LLL (cont.)



Institutional level

Professional knowledge – contacts – staff development

- Project IMPLEMENT – Implementing LLL with **online learning materials** for professionals working in ULLL | <http://implement.eucen.eu>)

Developmental work

- Project ALLUME – A Lifelong Learning University Model for Europe – **strategy** development at institutional level; site visits, workshops | <http://allume.eucen.eu/>

EUCEN's current projects



- DIALOGUE – **Bridges** between Research and Practice in ULLL (01/11-12/13): Case studies, barriers and enhancing factors <http://dialogue.eucen.eu/>
- OBSERVAL – Net (12/11-11/13): a stakeholder centered network of organisations looking at supporting the **validation of non-formal and informal learning (VNIL)** <http://www.observal-net.eu>
- Joint final **presentation** of these projects in Brussels 15Oct13

EUCEN's challenges



- Senior and Third Age LLL
- Qualification of professionals (VNIL and RPL)
- Research on LLL (autumn conferences)
- MOOC's role in LLL
- Training trainers with virtual courses
- Cooperation with other LLL providers
- Social investment in LLL (next spring conference)

Thank you!

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