



ET2020 working group
on adult learning policy

Effective policies for adult basic skills

Stuttgart, 26-29 October 2014

The Netherlands:

What worked and why

Policy/Project summary

What are the key elements of the policy or project that you present?

- » **Name: "Language for Life"**
- » **Based on inspiration from UK and Ireland**
- » **In 6 regions in the Netherlands**
- » **Three years funding ad € 5 mln/year**
- » **Formal and non-formal providers of adult education cooperate to "trace" illiterate and low skilled citizens**
- » **Improving quality through new learning materials**
- » **Blended learning environment in which professional teachers and trained volunteers cooperate**

What worked – assessing success

- Quantitative
 - **Number of people reached**
- Qualitative
 - **Degree to which reading skills improved**
 - **Degree to which self-reported levels of social inclusion improved**

Name of Agglomeration	Partners involved	Participants july 2012 – july 2014	Trained volunteers
Rotterdam	77	2665	913
Amsterdam	34	809	308
Utrecht	45	1266	492
Den Haag	42	2010	566
Flevoland (province)	23	363	129
Zwolle/Enschede	128	1613	640
Total	349	8.726	3048

Policy design

What were the key strengths and vulnerabilities in the design of your policy

- Focus on proven methods and practices to find and train low skilled people
- Stakeholder ownership
- Research driven, network oriented, evidence based
- No identified target group(s)
- No quantitative targets
- No national coverage of interventions

Policy implementation

What were the key strengths and challenges of the implementation of your policy?

- High organizational capacity of implementing partner
- Commitment of stakeholders at regional level
- Focussed in scope, targeted in space
- Steering difficulties for policy makers because of autonomy implementing partner
- Balancing between quantitative political demands and qualitative objectives

Lessons learnt

- Align policy objectives with available resources (time, money, people)
- Define realistic qualitative and quantitative goals and monitor for results
- Ask, don't tell (building equitable partnerships)