

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN TRAINING AND INCLUSION

Adult Education and Experiences for Employment

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**Universidade Aberta** 



# Good practices and multiculturalism in adult education

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Sharing effective educational practices and systematising a training

competences programme for employment and inclusion for vulnerable adults

## Theoretical framework

- Horizontal extension of education (Serrate and Pérez, 2005).
  - Equal opportunities
  - Eradication of socio-educational exclusion
  - Features: freedom and flexibilityIt
  - Contributes knowledge, skills, promotes attitudes and promotes social participation.

## Theoretical framework

- UNESCO Recommendations (2018):
  - Actions aimed at promoting participation, inclusion and equity: accessibility, autonomy, equity, inclusion, respect for different forms of diversity, multilingualism, qualifications.
  - Equitable access to learning and promote participation.
- Multicultural contexts

## Problem and objectives

- Need to respond to the specific needs of adult students. Analysis of organizational contexts and how they influence adult education (Franz, 2017)
- Select good practices in adult education from an international perspective.
  - Good practice: One that is innovative and develops new and effective solutions, demonstrating a positive and tangible impact on improvement, sustainable and maintained over time to society and the economy, and replicable by serving as a model to develop policies, actions and initiatives in other places.

## Methodological design

- Multiple case study, non-probabilistic, intentional sampling, based on the narratives of a sample from each of the 4 participating countries.
- The data generated are qualitative, and are descriptions that collect data from a sample of adult teachers.

## **Sample**

- Criterion of convenience
- 4 types of institutions
- Scenario of 4 countries: Portugal, Italy, France and Spain.
- Year 2016
- Portugal: lifelong learning courses
- Italy: Courses for over 16 years
- Spain: Courses for over 16s and PUMUO
- France: ICT training courses for the elderly.

### Instrument

- Narrative questionnaire with 30 features:
  - A. Identification data
  - B. Context and Objectives
  - C. Strategies and actions
  - D. Difficulties
  - E. Conclusions

- 50 successful experiences
  - 13 Universidade Aberta (Portugal)
  - 5 CEPIA (Italy)
  - 9 CEPA (Spain)
  - 15 PUMUO (Spain)
  - o 8 E-seniors (France)

#### Table 1. Profile of the students of the courses of Adults

Student's age	Nº cases	Student profile	Nº cases	Educational level	Nº cases
50 a 60 Años	22	Unemployed	29	Secondary education high school	16
60 a 70 years	20	Retirees	27	Higher education	11
30 a 40 years	16	Low qualification employees and housewives	20	Primary education	8
40 a 50 years	16	Skilled workers	20	Vocational training	2
+ 70 years	10	Immigrants	14	Without alphabetize	1
18 a 30 years	7	People with disabilities	6		

#### Table 2. Thematic of the courses

Thematic summaries of the courses	Cantidad de cursos
General and specific culture of certain subjects	15
Basic skills reading, writing, calculation, use of ICT	8
Practices languages applied to certain specific activities	7
Preparation of qualifications and access tests	3
Basic Professionalization Practices	2
Advanced professional specialization practices	2
Activities geared towards equal opportunities	2

#### Table 3. Objectives of the courses

Objectives of the courses	Cantidad de cursos
Improve students' self-esteem	35
Improve social integration	25
Improve labor insertion	16
Improve academic performance	12

#### Table 4. Attitudes generated in the courses

Actitudes	Nº casos
Appreciation of diversity and multiculturalism	60
Motivation for achievement	43
Concern for quality and well done things	41
Teamwork	6
Responsibility for the task	4
Respect standards	3
Leadership	2
Effort	2

## Conclusions

- The profile of the students is very heterogeneous, unemployed people, immigrants, people with low-skilled employment, housewives and retired people and are data that can be compared with those disseminated by UNESCO (2016).
- Underlined attitudes such as appreciation for diversity and multiculturalism are linked to one of the frequently mentioned goals of social integration.
- In adulthood we must contribute with education and training to a better society, which allows a better coexistence between people and convert the difference into wealth.
- Encourage people to have a fair and supportive social conscience in the face of social inequalities and counteract the effects that progress and technological development have on certain minority groups.



#### **GRACIAS**

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