

The Linguistic Integration of Adult Migrants

Topics for discussion - day 1

Five challenges identified by participants

- Developing curricula and training programmes
- The Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR)
- Dealing with differing needs
- Teacher training & development
- Quality Assurance

1. Developing curricula and training programmes

- Developing training modules for the effective teaching of migrants; developing textbooks and teaching materials for teachers to use
- Sharing and analysis of language teaching materials to develop an improved resource base for all teachers
- Developing a sound approach to literacy (for instance, with regard to basic administrative documents), and to migrants' competence in speaking and writing

2. Applying the principles of the Common European Framework

- Developing curricula and programmes, and aligning these to the CEFR and to the national qualifications framework
- Aligning programmes to the levels of the CEFR
- Adapting language tests so that the results are aligned to the levels of the CEFR

3. Dealing with the differing needs

- Meeting the needs of different immigrants and taking account of the changing profile of immigration
- Making language training relevant to the needs of individual learners
- Giving proper attention to intercultural skills
- Ensuring that language learning is continued even after the course has been completed

4. Teacher training & development

- Providing in-service teacher training in the effective teaching of migrants, and promoting the exchange of good practice
- Continuing teacher training in order to improve the quality of language teaching
- Supporting and improving the training and qualification of teacher of migrants, defining a specialised training plan for these teachers

5. Quality Assurance

- Setting minimum quality standards for training courses for migrants, and accrediting of these courses
- Securing good quality language teaching in all parts of the country
- Improving quality by providing open and distance training opportunities
- Developing a network of accredited language training centres and institutions

Five themes identifies by the Co-ordination Group

1. The role and objectives of language support for adult migrants (p.4, p.6)
2. Individual migrants' educational and language background, and their situation (p.8)
3. Language support programmes – needs, approach and content (p.11)
4. The Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) (p.12)
5. Quality Assurance (p.20)