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# Adult Education and Lifelong Learning in Greece



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- ▶ **Adult education** is about any learning activity or program deliberately designed by an educational institution, to satisfy any training need or interest, that may take place at any stage life of a person who is over his age compulsory education and its main activity is no longer education
- ▶ “It therefore covers non-professional, vocational, general, formal and non-formal studies, as well as education for social purpose” *(OECD) Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development*





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- ▶ The Adult Education is integral piece **of Lifelong Learning**, which covers each learning activity from preschool age until and after retirement.
- ▶ The "**Europe 2020**" strategy characterizes the Lifelong Learning and skills development as particularly important elements for the confrontation of the current economic crisis, of its aging population and the wider economic and social reality of European Union



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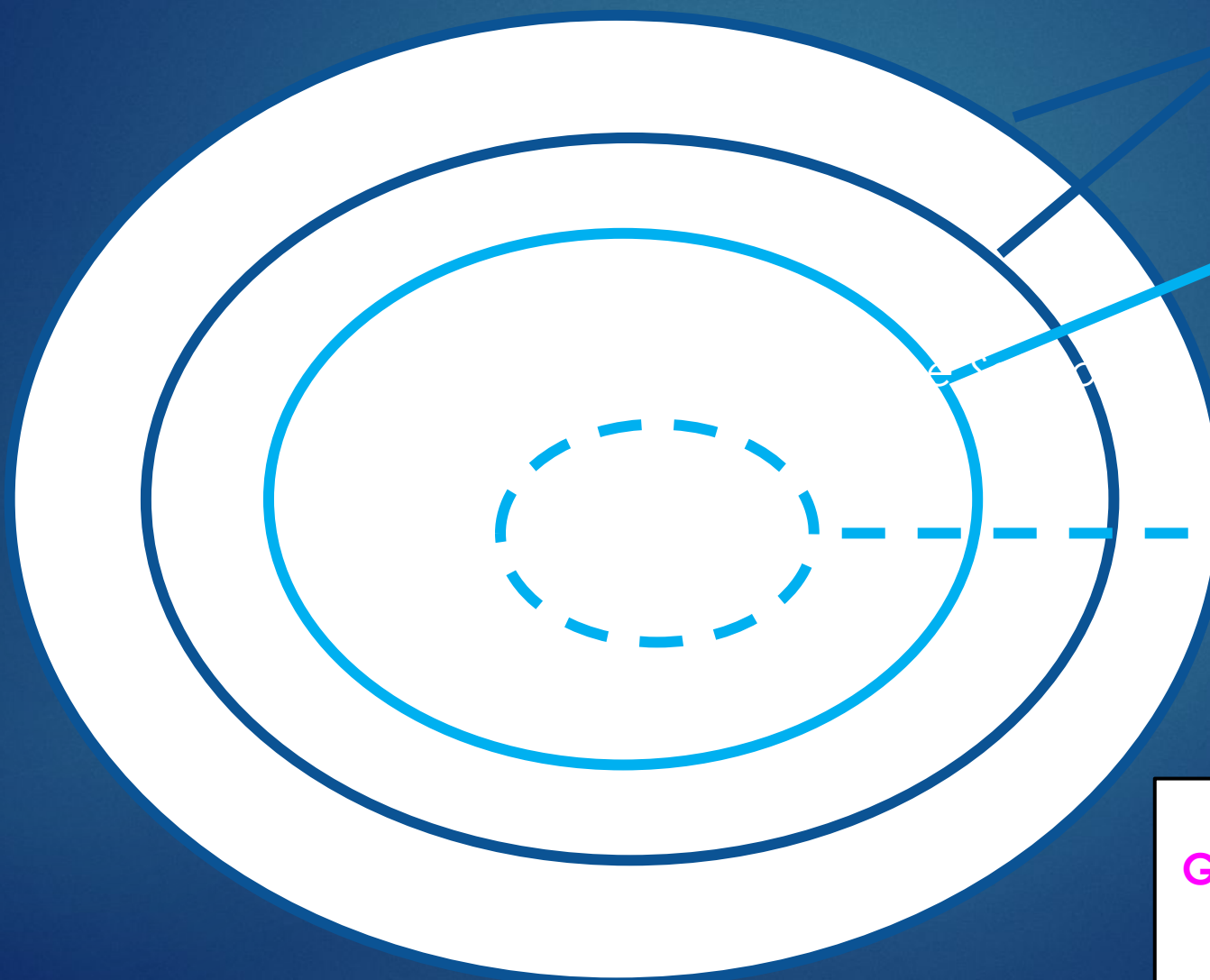
The "**Europe 2020**" strategy identifies strategies, targets, sets priority axes and specifies the categories of actions to be promoted in the EU Countries

FOR GREECE THE MAIN PRIORITY AXES ARE 4

1. ENHANCING THE ACCESS AND PARTICIPATION OF ALL IN LIFELONG LEARNING AND RECOGNITION OF ITS RESULTS
2. IMPROVING QUALITY AND EFFICIENCY OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING
3. PROMOTING RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT TO SUPPORT LIFELONG LEARNING
4. IMPROVING EMPLOYABILITY (PROMOTING INTEGRATION / REINTEGRATION INTO THE LABOR MARKET)



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Adults in EU-28  
(18-100 years old)  
**410.3 millions**  
(25-64 years old)  
**279.6 millions**

Adults who participated  
in Education and  
Training programs Last  
**12 months**  
**30.6 millions**

Adults who  
participated in  
Education and  
Training programs Last  
**4 months**  
**11.6 millions**

**Goal for "Europe 2020"**  
**15% : 41,5 millions**





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- ▶ In Greece there is a special secretariat in the Ministry of Education and Religions, which has the responsibilities of Adult Education, for Lifelong Learning, for Vocational Training, initial and continuing and for Youth. And the initials are ΓΓΕΕΚΔΒΜΝ (GSVTLLL&Y)

**ΓΓΕΕΚΔΒΜΝ**

**Γενική Γραμματεία**

Επαγγελματικής Εκπαίδευσης, Κατάρτισης,  
Διά Βίου Μάθησης και Νεολαίας

- ▶ ΓΓΕΕΚΔΒΜΝ (GSVTLLL&Y) was founded in 1929 at an early stage and changed many names over the years.
- ▶ **It's main tasks and activities are:**
  1. SDE (Second chance Schools)
  2. DIEK (Public Institutes of Vocational Training)
  3. Several Professional Training programs for adults
  4. Lifelong Learning Programs for social purpose
  5. Programs for youth such Erasmus+ , EuroDesk, European Solidarity Corps.



## 1. SDE (Second Chance Schools)

- ▶ Second Chance Schools (SDCs) are public adult schools in the field of Lifelong Learning. They are addressed to citizens aged 18 and over, who have not completed the nine-year compulsory education. This institution provides the opportunity to obtain a degree equivalent to a high school diploma (Law 2525/1997), emphasizing the acquisition of basic qualifications and the development of personal skills. Immigrants can participate SDE
- ▶ Today, there are 76 SDEs, of which 12 in Detention Centers (Prisons), in the 13 Regions of the country.



## 2. **DIEK (Public Institutes of Vocational Training)**

- Public Vocational Training Institutes (DIEKs) are included in non-formal non-compulsory post-secondary education.
- The main purpose is to provide Initial Vocational Training to secondary education graduates without age limit (Age 18+ )
- DIEKs already has 25 years of presence in Greece and there are 174 in the territory of Greece with almost 35.000 registered students
- Upon completion of studies in DIEK , 4 semesters and 960 hours internship , certification exams in Theoretical and Practical Part are required, to obtain a Level 5 Diploma according the EU Qualifications Framework
- *Immigrants can participate DIEK only if they know Greek Language*

### **3. Several Professional Training programs for adults**

#### ***Lifelong Learning Centers (KDVM)***

- ▶ *There are public or private Lifelong Learning centers (KDVM) offering Training programs for special groups of people (e.g. unemployed, special occupational groups,) with duration 50 to 800 hours, or for some months and their main goal is to provide certifications (e.g. ICT certifications, accounting - financial certifications) or training programs for the long-term unemployed in order to return to the labor market.*



## 4. Lifelong Learning Programs for social purpose

- ▶ There are many different educational programs provided to adults in cooperation with the municipalities and the GSVTLL&Y depending on the special needs of each area (e.g. parent schools or language learning schools)
- ▶ The GREEK LEARNING program “ELLHNOMATHEIA” in areas with immigrants where of course they can participate

## 5. Programs for youth such **Erasmus+** , EuroDesk, European Solidarity Corps

- Erasmus + is the European Commission's program for Education, Training, Youth, and Sport for the period 2014-2020. Erasmus + aims to improve skills and employability and modernize education, training and youth systems. Specifically in the field of Youth, Erasmus + enables young and informal groups, individuals and organizations active in the field of Youth to travel abroad and participate in Youth Exchange programs, to carry out Volunteering Activities and to participate in European seminars and transnational meetings. The aim of these programs is for young people to get to know Europe, its institutions, to participate in the democratic life of their country and to help improve the quality of work in the youth field.



## **5. Programs for youth such Erasmus+ , *EuroDesk*, European Solidarity Corps**

- ▶ *Europe is full of opportunities, which need the right and timely information to take advantage of. The Eurodesk Network provides information to young people and those working with young people about European policies and the opportunities offered by the European Union. Eurodesk is funded by the European Commission and with its full support is now implemented in 35 countries and has more than 1,200 national, local and regional partners, coordinated by the headquarters in Brussels and all working to provide valid and timely information. Eurodesk offers you online, free and direct access to specialized and accurate information, covering a wide range of topics such as: work, education, employment, mobility, volunteering, etc. and can guide you in the right direction, using specialized information tools.*

## 5. Programs for youth such Erasmus+ , EuroDesk, **European Solidarity Corps**

- ▶ *Is it about young people between the ages of 18 and 30 looking for an opportunity to help the wider community, inside and outside Europe. The program is funded and supported by the European Solidarity Corps, which helps young people to participate in projects that benefit communities, either abroad or in their own country. These projects offer an experience full of vision and strength, as well as the opportunity for change, while developing your skills and abilities.*
- ▶ *So what can a young person do?*
- ▶ *In general you can participate in:*
  1. Voluntary,
  2. programs internships,
  3. jobslocal,
  4. solidarity projects





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- ▶ Despite the opportunities provided by Adult Education, continues to be the weak link in its development for national lifelong learning systems, in all countries of the European Union
- ▶ Participation in Adult Education in Greece and the rest of Europe continues being low, from 9,8% in category of the population aged 25-64 years in 2005, to 9,7 in 2014 in the EU 27 and to 11% in 2016 % in category of the population aged 18-100, so the strategic goal framework for European cooperation in its field education and training "Education and Training 2020 "for a rise to 15% by 2020 is even greater challenge

- ▶ **The situation in our country:**
- ▶ High rates of completion secondary education, Which based on recent Eurostat data for 2016 in Greece, 83%4 of the population 20- 24 years has completed the senior secondary education, comparative percentage greater than that of the EU of 27 which was79%



- ▶ **The situation in our country:**
- ▶ Stable high number of students in Universities completing higher education. Indicatively, during the academic year 2015 2016 (in relation to the year 2008 2009 there were about 28% more Postgraduate students and 12% (most PhD students)
- ▶ As result, the recording of high educational level of human resources.
- ▶ Only a few aged 18-25 wish to pursue vocational training or education. Those who do not pass the national exams and do not attend private universities abroad or by distance.

- ▶ ***The situation in our country:***
- ▶ *At the same time, the percentages from Adults participating in Lifelong Learning Programs remain low in Greece. In European records the participation for Greece in lifelong learning is 5% vs. 9,1% of the EU of 27*



Thank you for your attention



*It is never too late to learn*