

*Project Bell – Benefits for Lifelong Learning – 519319-LLP-1-2011-1-DE-KA1-KA1SCR
Subprogramme Key activity 1 of the Lifelong Learning Programme*

SAMPLE PLAN CZ

Liberal Adult Education in Czech Republic

Adult education in the Czech Republic has not got a systemic character. People in larger cities, and people who are more oriented to work, put greater importance to education than people in smaller towns and those who are more oriented to traditional family values.

Ambitious people who want to succeed in their professional lives have got the strongest intrinsic motivation to learn new things.

The prevailing part of adult education in Czech Republic is the vocational training and re-qualification courses. Majority of people in Czech Republic attend, however, courses of general / liberal / leisure education or training, too.

The most important barriers for adult education in the Czech Republic is the necessity to pay such courses by participants themselves without any financial contribution of the state. There are many various courses for adults in the Czech Republic in manifold areas of interest or expertise. The most important areas of general adult education in the Czech Republic are as follows:

Social and Political Education

Universities of the Third Age

Universities of the Third Age are frequently attended and popular. The aim of their courses is to provide seniors in retirement with the option to learn topic of their interest at the university level and to get the latest knowledge in the field of science, politics, culture, etc. Attending courses of Universities of the Third Age has got a very positive effect on the psyche and mentality seniors, because in these courses meet not only their peers but people of all ages, too. They are not isolated in home and can keep and develop their social contacts.

Courses of Social skills

These courses seek people who want to improve such as verbal and non-verbal communication, assertiveness, or in the presentation and business skills. Such courses are useful for both private and professional life of participants. Example: mothers after maternity leave can support their self-confidence, and it may be easier to get involved in the work after several years of separation from the labour market. Thus, such courses are demanded by people working in leadership positions? They provide valuable experience in communicating with employees and business partners. Teaching these courses takes place mostly in the cultural centres, leading by experts in the field.

Language and Humanities

The most visited courses in the Czech Republic are foreign language courses. These courses are attended by adults of all ages. Young people who graduated in the schools want to improve their foreign language primarily for obtaining a better job both in the Czech Republic and abroad. Older people want to supplement their professional education mostly just teaching a foreign language. It often happens that the employer specifically requires the employees to increase their skills just in

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foreign language teaching. The Czech Republic is a big offer of these courses. The most popular courses are English or German language, but the popularity of the some other languages increases. These courses are organized mainly by school, private adult education providers, local centres of culture.

The adult education in humanities is splitted into various providers.

Music and dance courses

There is a large offer on music courses at music schools preparing primarily pupils but having extended their offer for adults, too. Playing to many music instruments is on list of the offer. Adults can learn music theory, too.

Dance courses got very popular because there are some competitions in TV and moreover, people take such courses like an excellent relaxation.

ICT

The computer courses are very demanded and frequent. There are various levels of such courses organised by various types of organisations, mainly by schools, private organisations.

Because of the ever-increasing growth of computer technology, it is necessary to use this skill in the fields of computers that originally did not need help. There is therefore a permanent offer of many kinds of computer courses.

Health and Sports

Sport, Car schools and First Aid courses

Special sport clubs and schools offer various types of sport courses, very often seasonally.

First aid courses are prevailingly visited by teachers of primary and nursery schools, family and staff of maternity centers, but also people who just want to learn the basics of first aid, if necessary, to be able to help. First aid courses lead experts of medical care or professionally trained persons.

There are many of private schools which offer training to gain the driving license and they are very well attended.

Basic Skills and Competencies

Course of Czech language for foreigners

Foreigners who chose to live in the Czech Republic have to visit compulsory this one-year-course. For the course is open to beginners in the Czech language, but there are also courses for participants who already have the basic knowledge of the Czech language and want to improve it to be able to work in the Czech Republic. These courses are organized by language schools dedicated to the teaching of other languages. This course is paid by the state.

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The BeLL sample in Czech Republic consists of various kinds of organisations active in adult education and training, For there are not any umbrella organisations, the activities are and the existing Association of Adult Education Providers has not got the capacity to cooperate, some other channels for the distribution of questionnaires had to be defined.

Type of organization
Adult education provider
Secondary and higher schools
Universities
Sport and dance clubs
Driving License schools
Libraries, museums
Civic associations
Employers

Representatives of organisation from the regional network of adult education providers will be informed about the project and the survey. Moreover, some above listed types of organisations providing various kinds of liberal adult education will be contacted with the recommendation to forward the questionnaire and the hyperlink to its online version to other organisations.

ATHENA and other organisations from the regional network will distribute the questionnaire in their training courses and in various events which they organise.

It is not possible to foreseen the future percentage of online and paper version of questionnaires.