


Improving adult literacy

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

STRATEGY/ACTION PLAN

 NETHERLANDS

Timeline

2016 Implementation **2017 Implementation** **2018 Implementation**

2019 Completed

ID number 28454

Background

Since 2015, policy developments have focused on supporting parents with low literacy levels and adults lacking numeracy and digital skills.

Description

The Count on language action plan 2016-19 (*Tel Mee met Taal*, EUR 18 million annual budget) introduced a joint action programme of several ministries to improve social and labour market participation, primarily of adults with insufficient literacy skills. In 2016/17, innovative projects supporting adults lacking literacy, numeracy and digital skills were started and research projects on literacy and the promotion of reading were launched. This initiative also supported parents in providing better educational guidance for their children, including VET learners. Language training was provided to around 10 000 parents with low literacy levels, with support and coaching to help them with the educational support of their children.

2016 Implementation

2017 Implementation

2018 Implementation

2019 Completed

The Count on language action plan was extended for one year until the end of 2019. The follow-up approach started in 2020 with a new subsidy scheme focusing on basic skills.

Bodies responsible

- Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment
- Ministry of Education, Culture and Science
- Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport

Target group

Learners

Adult learners

Older workers and employees (55 - 64 years old)

Unemployed and jobseekers

Persons in employment, including those at risk of unemployment

Low-skilled/qualified persons

Learners from other groups at risk of exclusion (minorities, people with fewer opportunities due to geographical location or social-economic disadvantaged position)

Thematic categories

Modernising VET offer and delivery

Acquiring key competences

Subsystem

CVET

Further reading

[Count on language](#)

Related policy developments

2025 Completed

Promoting literacy, mathematics and digital competences for adults

The Count on Skills (*Tel mee met Taa*) action plans for 2016–2019 and 2020–2024 both aimed to combat low literacy in the Netherlands.

 NETHERLANDS

Type of development

Strategy/Action
plan

Subsystem

CVET

2025 Implementation

Basic skills of VET students

The Masterplan basic skills from 2022 focuses on enhancing education through five key pillars:

 NETHERLANDS

Type of development

Strategy/Action
plan

Subsystem

IVET

“ … ” Cite as

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<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/tools/timeline-vet-policies-europe/search/28454>