

SMALEI Final Conference: Empowering Adult Learning and Education for a Sustainable Future

26 February 2025
09.00 - 13.00H (Brussels time)
Rue des Deux Églises, 27 - 1000 Bruxelles
Register [here](https://smalei.eu/)



CONFERENCE | SMALEI: SUSTAINABILITY MATRIX FOR
ADULT EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

EMPOWERING ADULT LEARNING AND EDUCATION FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

 26 February 2025
 09:00 to 13:00 CET
 Rue des Deux Églises, 27 (Brussels, Belgium)
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REGISTER NOW >

The **Sustainable Management and Leadership in Adult Education Institutions (SMALEI)** project invites you to its final conference, a pivotal event focusing on the crucial role of sustainability in the future of **adult learning and education (ALE)** in Europe. Taking place on **26 February**, this conference marks the culmination of a comprehensive EU-funded initiative dedicated to promoting sustainable management practices and strengthening leadership within ALE organisations.

Adult Education: Embracing sustainability for the future

The adult education sector plays a vital role in fostering lifelong learning and empowering individuals to adapt to societal changes. SMALEI recognises the **increasing need for ALE institutions** to embrace sustainability, not only in their operational practices but also in the learning content they deliver. This necessitates a shift in leadership approaches, management strategies, and organisational culture.

Throughout the project's lifespan, SMALEI has developed a range of **valuable resources** to support this transition, including the **SMALEI Matrix, Workbook, MOOC, and Digital Academy**. These tools provide practical guidance and frameworks for ALE institutions to integrate sustainable practices into their core functions.

A platform for collaboration and dialogue on policy

This final conference serves as a platform to:

- **Engage with policymakers**, engage in discussions with decision makers on how to create supportive frameworks that enable ALE institutions to contribute to Europe's sustainability goals.
- **Showcase SMALEI's achievements**, discover how the project's resources can empower ALE institutions to become drivers of sustainable development.
- **Share best practices**, learn from leading ALE organisations that have successfully implemented sustainable management and leadership models.

By bringing together **ALE organisations, practitioners, policymakers, civil society representatives, and lifelong learning experts**, this conference aims to inspire action and foster a collaborative approach to building a sustainable, inclusive, and resilient adult education sector across Europe.

AGENDA

09.00	Participant's arrival & registration
09.30	Welcome & Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inge Gorostiaga Luzárraga, Director General for Digital Transformation and Advanced Learning, VET Vice-Ministry, Ministry of Education, Basque Government
09.45	Building Sustainability Competences: Insights on GreenComp, Upskilling & Lifelong Learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ulrike Pisiotis. Education Expert Learning for Sustainability, Policy officer at the EU Commission's Directorate General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture
10.00	Bridging Adult Education and Green Policies: Advancing the EU's Sustainability Goals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tatjana Babrauskienė. EESC member, Head of International Relations, Lithuanian Education and Science Trade Union
10.15	"SMALEI for You": Resources to Improve Sustainability in Adult Education Institutions. An in-depth session introducing the SMALEI Matrix, Workbook, MOOC, and Digital Academy. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrea Bernert-Bürkle, Adult Education Association Baden-Württemberg, August Nilsson Glokala Folk high school, and Erdem Vardar, YUVA
11.10	Coffee break
11.25	Workshop: Develop your network and become a peer-mentor for sustainability. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charlotte Ede, European Association for the Education of Adults (EAEA)
12.25	SMALEI Policy Recommendations: "Bridging the Gap between Politics and Adult Education" - Followed by a Q&A <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leire Oreja, TKNIKA
12.40	Lessons Learnt: Reflections on the project outcomes, challenges, and future steps to further support sustainable practices in ALE. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charlotte Ede, European Association for the Education of Adults (EAEA) • Karolina Pisz, Trainer at NGO Trainers' Association (STOP)
12.55	Closing words followed by a networking lunch