



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Executive Board

Two hundred and ninth session

209 EX/18.III

PARIS, 14 February 2020
Original: English

Item 18 of the provisional agenda

IMPLEMENTATION OF STANDARD-SETTING INSTRUMENTS

PART III

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2015 RECOMMENDATION ON ADULT LEARNING AND EDUCATION – PREPARATIONS FOR THE NEXT CONSULTATION

SUMMARY

Pursuant to 40 C/Resolution 86 and in compliance with 177 EX/Decision 35.I and 196 EX/Decision 20 on the specific multi-stage procedure for monitoring the implementation of UNESCO conventions and recommendations for which no specific institutional mechanism is provided, the next consolidated report on the implementation of the 2015 Recommendation on Adult Learning and Education should be submitted to the General Conference at its 42nd session in 2023.

In accordance with stage 3(b) of the above-mentioned specific multi-stage procedure, the Secretariat is to seek the advice of the Committee on the Conventions and Recommendations prior to the collection of information from Member States, National Commissions, research institutions and civil society organizations in order to prepare the next consolidated report of the implementation of the 2015 Recommendation. This document presents draft guidelines developed to guide the reporting on the implementation of the 2015 Recommendation.

The financial and administrative implications related to this document are covered in document 40 C/5.

Decision required: paragraph 6.



Introduction

1. The Recommendation on Adult Learning and Education (the “2015 Recommendation”), adopted by the General Conference at its 38th session in November 2015 (38 C/Resolution 13), is a landmark commitment by UNESCO Member States to promote and strengthen adult learning and education, superseding the Recommendation on the Development of Adult Education. It draws on the concept of lifelong learning, and underlines the overarching aim of adult learning and education – to ensure that all adults participate in society and in the world of work. The Recommendation sets out general principles, goals and guidelines that each Member State should apply according to its socio-economic context, governing structures and available resources, with a view to enhancing the status of adult learning and education at national, regional and international levels.

2. Under Article VIII of UNESCO’s Constitution, Member States are required to submit a report on the legislative and administrative provisions and any other measures they have taken to implement the conventions and recommendations adopted by the Organization. In accordance with the specific multi-stage procedure for the monitoring of the implementation of UNESCO conventions and recommendations for which no specific institutional mechanism is provided, as adopted by the Executive Board at its 177th session (177 EX/Decision 35.I) and amended at its 196th session (196 EX/Decision 20), the frequency for submitting reports is set for an interval of four years.

3. Pursuant to 40 C/Resolution 86, the Director-General will transmit to the General Conference at its 42nd session (2023) the next consolidated report on the measures taken by Member States to implement the 2015 Recommendation. In compliance with Stage 3(b) of the above-mentioned specific multi-stage procedure, the Director-General presents the methodology for the next consultation on the implementation of the 2015 Recommendation. In line with 40 C/Resolution 86, the Global Report on Adult Learning and Education (GRALE) and its consultation mechanisms will be used for monitoring the implementation of the 2015 Recommendation.

Guidelines for the Consultation

4. The GRALE is prepared in part based on responses from Member States to a questionnaire. The most recent and fourth issue of the GRALE, for example, published in 2019, benefited from responses from 157 Member States. In order to avoid the duplication of reporting duties, the consultation on the implementation of the Recommendation will be based on data submitted by Member States for GRALE V, which is to be published in 2022. Thematically, this fifth issue will be devoted to citizenship education with a focus on active and global citizenship and the guidelines will include a specific set of questions on the Recommendation, as found in the annex.

5. Following their adoption by the Executive Board, the guidelines will be sent to Member States as part of the overall questionnaire concerning GRALE. The consultation is foreseen for the period from June to September 2020.

Proposed draft decision

6. In light of the above, the Executive Board may wish to adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Executive Board,

1. Bearing in mind Member States’ obligations under Article VIII of UNESCO’s Constitution and Article 17 of the Rules of Procedure concerning recommendations to Member States and international conventions covered by the terms of Article IV, paragraph 4, of the Constitution,
2. Recalling 177 EX/Decision 35.I and 196 EX/Decision 20 on the specific multi-stage procedure for monitoring of the implementation of UNESCO conventions and recommendations for which no specific institutional mechanism is provided,

3. Also recalling 40 C/Resolution 86,
4. Having examined document 209 EX/18.III and the report of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations (CR) thereon (209 EX/xx),
5. Underlining the importance of the 2015 Recommendation on Adult Learning and Education as a means of supporting the monitoring of the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 4 – Education 2030, particularly targets 4.3 to 4.7,
6. Approves the guidelines for the preparation of reports by Member States on the implementation of the 2015 Recommendation on Adult Learning and Education, as set out in the Annex to document 209 EX/18.III;
7. Requests the Director-General to invite Member States to submit to UNESCO their reports on the implementation of the 2015 Recommendation on Adult Learning and Education, in connection with the preparation of the fifth Global Report on Adult Learning and Education (GRALE V);
8. Also requests the Director-General to submit to it at its 216th session the next consolidated report on the implementation of the 2015 Recommendation on Adult Learning and Education, with a view to transmitting that report, together with the Executive Board's comments thereon, to the General Conference at its 42nd session.

ANNEX

DRAFT GUIDELINES FOR THE PREPARATION OF REPORTS BY MEMBER STATES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2015 RECOMMENDATION ON ADULT LEARNING AND EDUCATION THROUGH THE FIFTH ISSUE OF UNESCO'S GLOBAL REPORT ON ADULT LEARNING AND EDUCATION (GRALE V)

I. Introduction

The Global Report on Adult Learning and Education (GRALE) monitors the implementation of the Belém Framework for Action (BFA) adopted by the sixth International Conference on Adult Education (CONFINTEA VI, Belém, Brazil, 2009) and the implementation of the 2015 Recommendation on Adult Learning and Education (the “2015 Recommendation”). For this purpose, Member States are requested to submit national reports every three years. So far, four editions of GRALE have been produced: GRALE I (2009) to provide input to CONFINTEA VI, GRALE II (2013) to review progress on implementation after three years, GRALE III (2016) to monitor progress after six years, and GRALE IV (2019) to monitor progress after nine years, together with progress in implementing the Recommendation. In addition to the monitoring part, a special theme is addressed in more detail: GRALE II had a thematic focus on literacy, GRALE III on the impact of adult learning and education on health and well-being, employment and the labour market as well as social civic and community life, GRALE IV on participation, equity and inclusion. GRALE V will focus on citizenship education for adult learners.

The questionnaire/template for the GRALE V survey will be based on the experiences of the previous surveys and include a series of closed and open questions. These will focus on (a) monitoring progress in the five areas of action defined by the BFA¹ and the three fields of learning defined by the 2015 Recommendation², and (b) on the situation in Member States with regard to citizenship education for adult learners.

As the areas of action in the 2015 Recommendation are the same as those in the BFA, responses to the monitoring part can be applied to show the changes that have occurred in the areas of action defined by the 2015 Recommendation. A set of specific questions will be used to analyze the specific application of the 2015 Recommendation in Member States so far (see below). Future issues of GRALE will apply a similar approach, so that continuous monitoring of the 2015 Recommendation can be provided by GRALE.

II. Specific questions on the 2015 Recommendation on Adult Learning and Education for the GRALE V Survey

1 To what extent have the principles of the Recommendation informed the development of adult learning and education in your country?

(Please respond using the following scale where 0 = not at all and 5 = a great deal)

0	1	2	3	4	5	Do not know
Not at all	Not much	A little	Somewhat	Much	A great deal	

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------

(If “Somewhat”, “Much” or “A great deal” is selected for “To what extent have the principles of the Recommendation informed the development of adult learning and education in your country?”)

¹ policies; governance; participation, inclusion and equity; financing; and quality

² literacy and basic skills; continuing education and vocational skills; and liberal, popular and community education and citizenship skills

1.1 PLEASE INDICATE TO WHAT EXTENT THE DEVELOPMENT HAS TAKEN PLACE IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS. (PLEASE RESPOND USING THE FOLLOWING SCALE WHERE 0 = NOT AT ALL AND 5 = A GREAT DEAL)

	0 Not at all	1 Not much	2 A little	3 Somewhat	4 Much	5 A great deal	Do not know
Policy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Participation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Financing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2 Please provide any additional information on measures taken in your country to give effect to the principles of the Recommendation.

Click or tap here to enter text.

3 Have any actions been taken to inform stakeholders about the Recommendation?

Yes

No

(if “Yes” selected)

3.1 WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO INFORM STAKEHOLDERS ABOUT THE RECOMMENDATION? (PLEASE SELECT ALL OPTIONS THAT APPLY.)

<input type="checkbox"/>	National stakeholder meetings
<input type="checkbox"/>	Meetings with NGOs
<input type="checkbox"/>	National news agencies and media platforms
<input type="checkbox"/>	Documents and news articles regularly posted on the ministry’s and government’s website
<input type="checkbox"/>	Emails or notifications sent directly
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify below)

(if “Other” selected)

3.1.1 Please specify your response (“Other”)

Click or tap here to enter text.

4 Has your country undertaken any actions to develop the capacities of stakeholders to implement the Recommendation?

Yes

No

(if “Yes” selected)

4.1 WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS HAS YOUR COUNTRY UNDERTAKEN TO DEVELOP THE CAPACITIES OF STAKEHOLDERS TO IMPLEMENT THE RECOMMENDATION? (PLEASE SELECT ALL OPTIONS THAT APPLY)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Sharing experiences
<input type="checkbox"/>	Organizing capacity building workshops
<input type="checkbox"/>	Providing training
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify below)

(if “Other” selected)

4.1.1 Please specify your response (“Other”)

Click or tap here to enter text.

5 Has your country undertaken any actions to support the development of capacities of other countries as described in the Recommendation?

- Yes
No

(if “Yes” selected)

5.1 WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF CAPACITIES OF OTHER COUNTRIES? (PLEASE SELECT ALL OPTIONS THAT APPLY)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Sharing experiences
<input type="checkbox"/>	Increasing mutual cooperative assistance
<input type="checkbox"/>	Organizing capacity development workshops
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify below)

(if “Other” selected)

5.1.1 Please specify your response (“Other”)

Click or tap here to enter text.

(if “Yes” selected)

5.2 PLEASE INDICATE WHICH COUNTRY/COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN SUPPORTED

Click or tap here to enter text.

6 Has your country taken any action to improve data collection on the Recommendation’s implementation?

- Yes
No

(if “Yes” selected)

6.1 WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO IMPROVE DATA COLLECTION ON THE RECOMMENDATION’S IMPLEMENTATION? (PLEASE SELECT ALL OPTIONS THAT APPLY)

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Request information from other institutions/organizations/departments |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Include questions on the Recommendation in existing data gathering processes, such as surveys |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Feed existing databases with relevant information |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Create a specific mechanism to monitor the Recommendation’s implementation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (please specify below) |

(if “Other” selected)

6.1.1 Please specify you response (“Other”)

Click or tap here to enter text.