

# young adultllt



## POLICY MAPPING AND REVIEW

### Apprenticeship Courses – *Cursos de Aprendizagem*

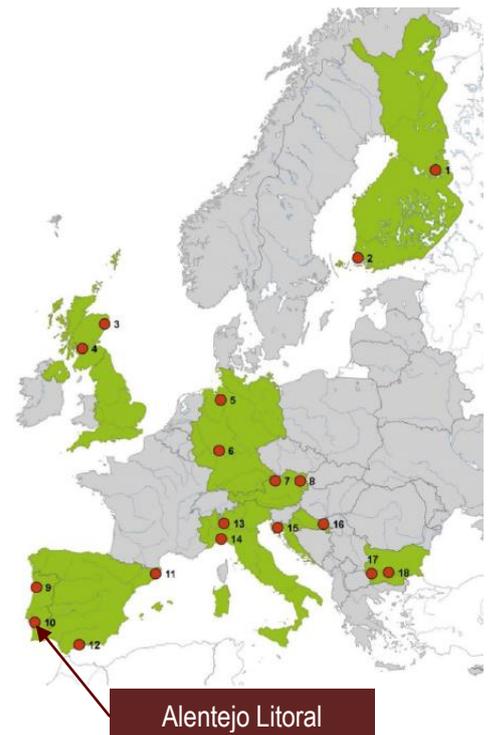
PT-AL-1

The project **YOUNG\_ADULLLT (YA)** focuses on lifelong learning (LLL) policies for young adults that address young people, in particular those in situations of near social exclusion. YA enquires into the specific embeddedness of these policies in different regions across the European Union. The point of departure is the assumption that it is by looking into the specific regional and local contexts that policies are best understood and assessed. The project aims both at providing a systematic overview over the highly heterogeneous policies across the participating countries *and* at yielding new knowledge about the specific local/regional forms of embedding LLL policies in the regional economy, the labour market, the education/training systems and the individual life projects of young adults.

On the basis of these conceptual considerations, the project partners selected two regions per country, which were identified as ‘contrasting cases’ with regard to socioeconomic indicators and/or labour markets and/or infrastructure. The adjacent map shows the selected 18 regions in the nine participating countries of the research project, in which the project partners mapped LLL policies in the education, labour and youth & social policy sectors.

The Apprenticeship courses combine an academic and vocational education in an “alternance” regime between classes and in job training, which is set in companies. They provide initial training in order to increase employability according to the needs of the local labour market and enable progressions in the education and in the career.

While this **policy brief** provides descriptive key data on the policy, the research project YA critically examines the embeddedness and functioning of the policy in its local/regional context and analyses its impact and implications on the life courses of young adults.



## ‘Apprenticeship Courses’ – What is it about?

### The challenge on site

The rates of Early School Leavers (ESL), school failures, and youth unemployment are higher than the EU average. Additionally, Portugal2020 established the generalization of the secondary education as the lower qualification level of the population of 50% by 2020, and the benchmark of 60% by 2023 of the adult population having completed some kind of training (level 4 professional or school certification).

### Who is the addressee of this policy?

Early school leavers and youngsters at risk of dropout from regular education in or after 9<sup>th</sup> grade or upper secondary schooling without having completed the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. In addition, they need to be younger than 25 years.

## What is the policy aiming at?

- The LLL policy Apprenticeship courses is focusing on the following goals:
- **to qualify early school leavers, those at risk of dropping out, and unemployed people** to register at job centres;
- **to raise youth employment**, being one of the most important measures of active employment policy;
- **to raise the qualification of half of the population** with the secondary education;
- **to answer to local labour market needs** with skills fit to qualify the future workforce; and
- **to offer an answer to young people who are not in employment, education, or training (NEETs)**, who look for an alternative to regular schooling with a strong practical dimension.

## How does it work?

- **It combines an academic and a vocational dimension**, offering courses with a modular curriculum structure that integrates school subjects with a practical approach and a significant part of work-based learning.
- **Each course lasts for 3700 hours, equivalent to about two and a half years of training.** Curriculum plans are organized in a set of Short-term Training Modules according to four training components: Sociocultural, Scientific, Technological, and Practice in work context.
- **Apprenticeship courses are exclusively provided by public training centres**, including all training services of the National Institute of Employment and Professional Training (IEFP), all sectoral training centres operate autonomously from the IEFP, and the private ones integrate the Training Pool of the IEFP.
- **They deliver an academic certification and a professional qualification**, enabling young people to continue studying. They hold a 12<sup>th</sup> year certificate or can enter the labour market immediately after 1000 hours of in-job training experience.

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### IMPRESSUM

- For more information on the LLL policy Cursos de Aprendizagem, please consult: <https://www.iefp.pt/formacao-para-jovens>
- For further information and reading on the LLL policies mapped and analysed in the Young\_AdultIt project, please consult the YA project website under: [www.young-adultit.eu](http://www.young-adultit.eu)
- This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 693167 (YOUNG\_ADULLLT)
- PROJECT NAME: Policies Supporting Young People in their Life Course. A Comparative Perspective of Lifelong Learning and Inclusion in Education and Work in Europe (YOUNG\_ADULLLT)
- COORDINATOR: Prof. Dr. Marcelo Parreira do Amaral · [parreira@uni-muenster.de](mailto:parreira@uni-muenster.de) · University of Münster (WWU) · Münster, Germany



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## POLICY MAPPING AND REVIEW Adult VET Courses – *Cursos EFA*

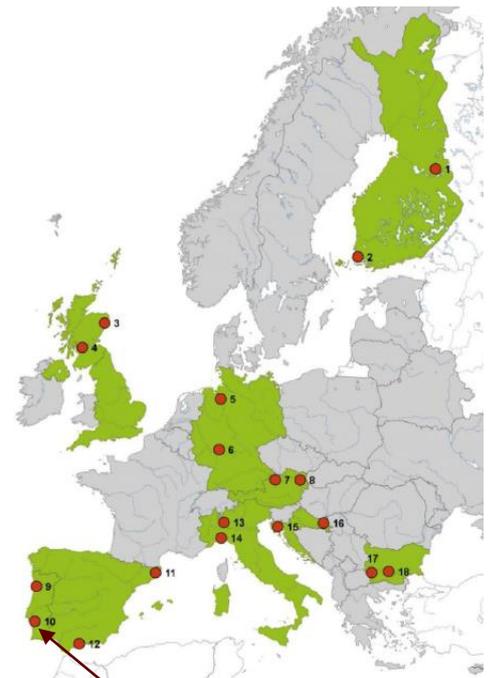
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The Adult Vocational Education and Training Courses (*Cursos EFA*) delivering a double certification are one of the LLL policies mapped and analysed in Alentejo Litoral.

While this **policy brief** provides descriptive key data on the policy, the research project YA critically examines the embeddedness and functioning of the policy in its local/regional context and analyses its impact and implications on the life courses of young adults.



Alentejo Litoral

## 'Adult VET Courses' – What is it about?

### The challenge on site

Considering the significant number of low-qualified adults, the high rate of youth unemployment and the above EU average performance of ESL (Early School Leavers) in Portugal, the Adult VET Courses are a second chance provision aiming at the delivery of an academic and a professional certification. They intend to decrease adults' qualification deficits, considered the main reason for unemployment, as well as to stimulate a more active citizenship and to improve employability.

### Who is the addressee of this policy?

Adult VET courses are a significant form of provision for people over 18 years old who have not achieved compulsory education following a regular path in due time and who are in need of a fast labour market insertion. It also offers the possibility of a fast-professional reconfiguration. The main target group is the unemployed youth and other specific groups at risk of social exclusion. The attendance of these courses can be compulsory for people living on social benefits.

## What is the policy aiming at?

- Within this LLL policy, following goals are being pursued:
- **to increase educational and/or professional qualifications** and to attain the generalization of upper secondary education as the lower academic level for the Portuguese population by offering double certification courses (this measure is both an education and labour market sector policy, as VET is part of the educational system and these courses are part of an active employment policy);
- **to reduce unemployment** as well as to reintegrate unemployed adults in the labour market or to support adults' professional progresses;
- **to reduce the high levels of Early School Leavers (ESL)** and school failures; and
- **to promote equal life opportunities**, specifically for under-qualified people over 18 years old no longer eligible for school attendance.

## How does it work?

- **They offer a training model focused on differentiated flexible paths, whereby** considering the individual contexts and experiences of trainees. The pedagogical approach of these courses is practice-oriented and based on the national qualifications framework.
- **They preview various economic support**, like meals, transport expenses, and children's care expenses on top of a grant.
- **They offer a more humanist curriculum**, based on the Referential of Key-Skills for Life. According to the type of course, the curricula is composed of two and four training areas. There is a mediator responsible, among other tasks, to ensure the personal guidance of the trainees.
- **They provide relevant course offers according to regional labour market needs**, with the inclusion of the in-job training as part of the curriculum; this element facilitates the labour market insertion after the course's conclusion.

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### IMPRESSUM

- For more information on the LLL policy Cursos EFA, please consult: <https://www.qualifica.gov.pt/#/modalidades>
- For further information and reading on the LLL policies mapped and analysed in the Young\_Adult project, please consult the YA project website under: [www.young-adult.eu](http://www.young-adult.eu)
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## POLICY MAPPING AND REVIEW

### Modular Training – *Formações Modulares*

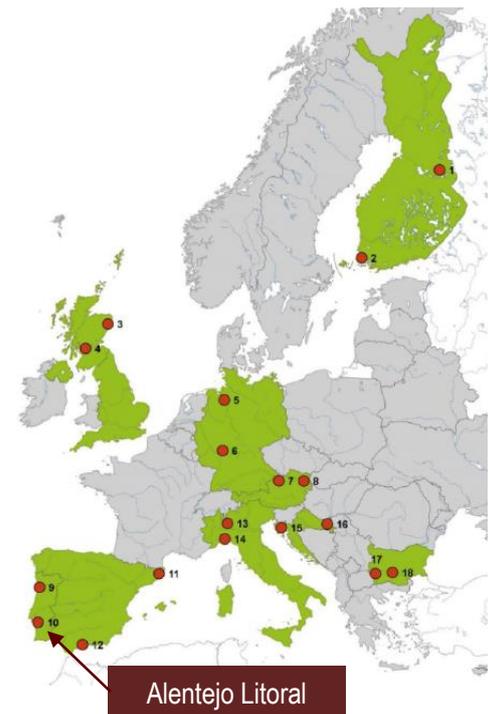
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Modular training units are short-term training units of qualifications registered in the National Catalogue of Qualifications. This provision enables the creation of flexible paths of different lengths that adopt different forms of training, including various target groups, methodologies, training contexts, and types of evaluation

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## Modular Training – What is it about?

### The challenge on site

Modular training units are considered a dynamic response to the skill needs of employed people and their companies, which have difficulties sending their employees to training courses for extended periods. During an employment crisis, Modular Training is a measure used for a fast requalification of the unemployed people.

### Who is the addressee of this policy?

It targets people over 18 years with low qualifications, especially those with less than basic or secondary education. In periods of a high unemployment rate, Modular Training targets the registered unemployed people. It is a long-term measure run by the state, put in action by schools, higher education institutions, training, municipalities, unions, companies, local or regional associations, as long as they are certified by the National System of Qualifications.

## What is the policy aiming at?

- This life-long learning policy seeks to:
- **raise the educational and professional skills** of the low qualified;
- **(re-)integrate and progress the employed people** in the labour market with renewed skills;
- **to offer a flexible training path to meet specific needs** of individuals or companies; and finally
- **to fight unemployment** by raising the unemployed population's qualification.

## How does it work?

- **The duration of a Modular Training course can vary** between 25 and 600 hours.
- **It is materialized in short training units** that the trainees choose according to their qualification's needs.
- **Modular Training courses can be capitalized** to obtain one or more qualification from the National Qualifications Catalog and allow the creation of flexible courses of varying length.
- **Adults can pursue further studies** when completing Modular Training that allows them to obtain a qualification from the National Qualifications Framework.
- **Modular Training may be promoted by entities of a public, private or cooperative nature**, such as establishments of education, vocational training centres of the IEFP or other accredited training entities.

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