

LIFELONG LEARNING IN THE EUROPEAN HIGHER EDUCATION AREA

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#EUATrends #EUALearnTeach

POLITICAL MOMENTUM

- The acceptance of Lifelong Learning (LLL) in higher education has been growing in the past decades
- The Bologna Process
- The period from 2007 to 2009 – the height of political emphasis on LLL in Europe (e.g. EU Qualifications Framework for LLL, the Lifelong Learning Programme)
- EUA, 2008: European Universities' Charter on Lifelong Learning
- 2020 targets:
 - 40% higher education participation
 - 15% of adults (25-64) participating in LLL

(European Commission, 2009)

THE WIDER SOCIO- ECONOMIC CONTEXT

- European knowledge societies
- The changing labour market, changing skills
- European economic crisis, stagnation, decreased public investment in most European countries
- Aging populations
- The need to widen participation
- Digitally enhanced learning

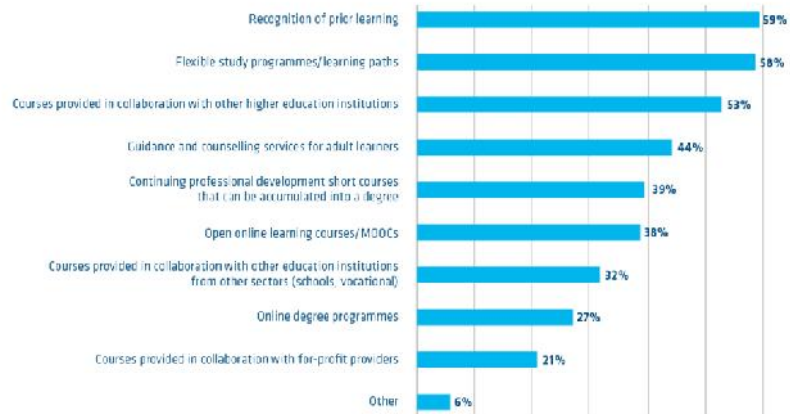
Trends 2018



- How do European universities see the development of L&T?
- Trends 2018: published in October 2018
- Follow-up on Trends 2015 – longitudinal data
- Institutional developments in learning and teaching
- 303 responses – 43 European higher education systems
- Institutional leadership

Fig. 23 Measures offered for lifelong learners

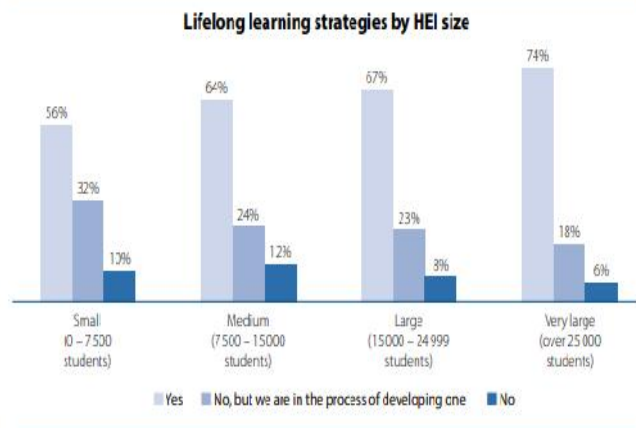
Which of the following measures does your institution offer for lifelong learners? (Q. 30; N = 288)



Source: Trends 2018

- Overall, very small HEIs were found to have a below average offer of measures for lifelong learners
- In the Trends 2018 sample, open universities, which target lifelong learners as part of their mission, are also by far the most likely to offer LLL measures
- For 72% of HEIs in Trends 2018, LLL provision is- at least in parts- financed differently than other learning provisions
- In only 35% of HEIs covered by Trends 2018, LLL provision is quality assured in the same way as conventional provision

Figure 16: Lifelong learning strategies (Q23) by institutional size (Q6)



Source: Trends 2015