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**[Adult Education]**  
**Quality measures in Austria:  
current developments**

the Austrian Federal Institute for  
Adult Education  
[Bundesinstitut für Erwachsenenbildung]  
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**Adult Education in Austria**

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“no explicit law, but a legal frame which offers  
and regulates financial support for  
10 nationwide adult education institutions”

- **1.755 [legally] autonomous institutions provide adult education:**
  - ... for employed persons
  - ... Public Employment Service
  - ... the Austrian Conference of Adult Education Institutions (**KEBÖ= 10 institutions active throughout Austria**)
  - ... interest groups, private providers and enterprises

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**General adult education:**

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Provides...

- ... health and leisure time programmes, courses on personality development and cultural education
- ... foreign language courses and political and intercultural education
- ... literacy courses Adult **education** as a **second** chance [for Austrians and migrants]

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**Vocational adult education:**

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Provides ...

- ... improvement of vocational qualifications, the acquiring of key qualifications, instruction in the use of new technologies and for the promotion of social and communication skills.

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## Access to secondary education...

- ...The second educational pathway provides adults with the opportunity to take school-leaving and other certificates at a later point in their lives (schools for people under employment, Higher Education Entrance Exam, external exams, TVE-Diploma( technical-vocational-diploma)).

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## Life-Long-Learning [LLL] policies

Main fields discussed:  
the Austrian dialogue of LLL - policies

- **NQR**: How does Adult Education fit to the National Qualification Frame Work?
- How to **recognize competences** and informal and non-formal learning?
- Development and Assurance of **Quality**
- **Professionalization and qualification**

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## ... the issue of Quality

actually discussed in different Austrian task forces:

"... to make non-formal and informal learning visible ..."

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## How to define the quality of adult education ?

... we focus on the two important pillars of adult education:

[Quality of:]

- High professionalism – Quality of the **adult educator** (staff)
- High standards – Quality of **adult education** (content, program, offer)

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## Facts and context:

- 100 000 people are working in the field of education
- 18 000 of them are employed in Adult Education Institutions
- 5000 are working in non-profit organisations
- 90 % of them are trainers and teachers, 80 % of them are free lancers

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## Statistic data at a glance ...

Persons – KEBÖ*	in all	employed	second job	voluntary
in all	87 024	4 875	53 852	28 297
in pedagogical affairs	61 296	1 496	47 630	12 170
Administration	9 139	2 319	294	6 529

- KEBÖ = Konferenz der Erwachsenenbildung Österreichs (Conference of Austrian Adult Education Instituts, [[www.adult-education.at](http://www.adult-education.at)])

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## 4 main professions in adult education

- **Educational Managers**
  - programme planning, evaluation of programmes, project-management, marketing and PR, leadership
- **Teachers/Trainers**
  - lead groups and courses, initiate learning opportunities and accompany learning processes
- **Counsellors**
  - advice in what field to get training on, where to get funding for a course
- **Librarians**
  - information management

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## How to assure the Quality of ...

... the **adult educator**

[Austrian] Academy of Continuing Education ([A]ACE):

[Weiterbildungsakademie - wba]  
<http://www.wba.or.at/>



„a new approach to develop and to recognise competences-profiles...“

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### [Austrian] Academy of Continuing Education

- The *Academy of Continuing Education* is a system for the **qualification and recognition** of adult educators.
- **Practical experience** is a prerequisite and **previously acquired qualifications** are acknowledged.
- **Skill deficiencies** can be acquired by means of accredited further education programmes.
- The **diploma** is awarded after passing two examinations.



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### [wba] 7 core competences of an adult educator are required [A]ACE

1. **educational** theory and practical experience in the field
2. **didactical** competences
3. educational **management** competences
4. **counselling and guidance** competences
5. **library and information management**
6. **social** and
7. **personal** competences



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### The [wba/ace] benefits ...

- The *Academy of Continuing Education* [wba] develops and ensures **quality standards**.
- It constitutes an important step toward the **professionalization** in adult education.
- At the end of their studies, adult educators in Austria are for the first time able to obtain a widely recognised diploma within the profession.
  - **wba-certificate: certified adult educator**
  - **wba-diploma: graduate adult educator**  
(rated at 60 ECTS)



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### ...the network concept of wba/ace

- [wba/ace] is closely related to practical experience, within a **trans-institutional network of adult education centres**.
- Well-known representatives from significant adult education institutions and projects, from the **Austrian Federal Institute for Adult Education** and the **German Institute for Adult Education** as well as from universities and teacher training colleges are involved in this project.
- Under the general management of the **Association of Austrian Adult Education Centres** [KEBÖ] the Academy of Continuing Education is developing into an exemplary model within Europe.



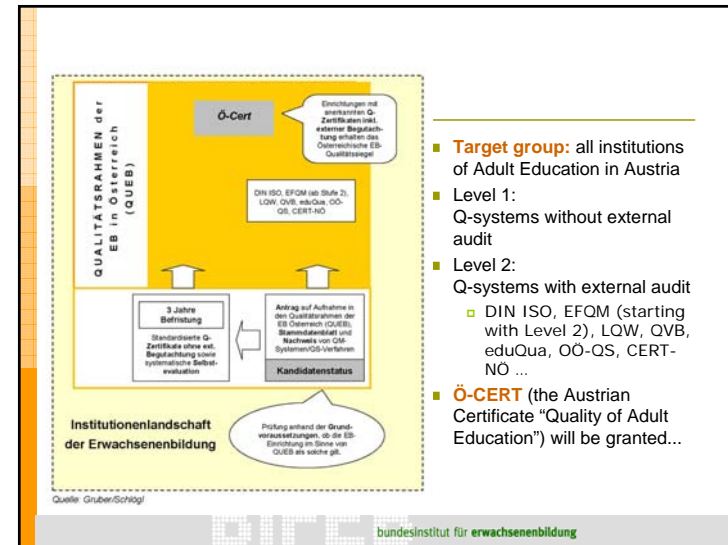
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## “QUEB AUSTRIA”

### Model „Quality of Adult Education in Austria“ is actually discussed

- **Ö-CERT [AT-CERT]:** An Austrian framework to recognise the QUALITY OF ADULT EDUCATION is elaborated by a task force at the **Austrian Federal Ministry for Education, Arts and Culture**, and leading Austrian experts (Univ. Prof. Dr. Elke Gruber, University Klagenfurt and Mag. Peter Schögl, Institut für Berufsbildungsforschung).
- The target of this framework is a mutual recognition of Quality (“Qualitätssiegel”) by the “Länder” (federal states) and the Federal Republic of Austria.

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- **Target group:** all institutions of Adult Education in Austria
- Level 1: Q-systems without external audit
- Level 2: Q-systems with external audit
  - DIN ISO, EFQM (starting with Level 2), LQW, QWB, eduQua, OO-QS, CERT-NÖ ...
- **Ö-CERT** (the Austrian Certificate “Quality of Adult Education”) will be granted...

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## Who is? ...”Federal Institute for Adult Education”

- provides further education and training opportunities.
- is partner of Austrian and international institutions and non-governmental organisations,
- is dedicated to the principles of Lifelong Learning
- is part of the organization chart of the Austrian **Federal Ministry for Education, the Arts and Culture** and coordinates its initiatives and program with the Department for Adult Education.

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[Logo | acronym] **bifeb)**

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## bifeb)'s target groups

... in the field of continuing education specially aims to

- Teachers, Trainers
- Counsellors
- Education Managers
- Communication Managers and Librarians

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- ... workshops and university level courses
- ... Austrian as well as international experts
- ... new learning modes are introduced
- ... 1000 participants every year

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## Auf Wiedersehen ...

& thank you for your attention


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