

Follow-up of CONFINTEA VI:

Reporting template for National progress reports in preparation of the Global Report on Adult Learning and Education (GRALE) and the end of the United Nations Literacy Decade (UNLD)

National progress report submitted by the Government of Syria

This report is submitted on behalf of the Government of Syria in accordance with the commitments made at the Sixth International Conference on Adult Education (CONFINTEA VI)¹ as laid down in the *Belém Framework for Action*², specifically with regard to monitoring its follow-up.

This report is organised in different sections according to the key areas of CONFINTEA VI. Accompanying this are the explanatory notes³, which are meant to provide further clarification.

Institution responsible for submitting this report	Ministry of Culture
Submission date	13 February 2012

¹ For more information about CONFINTEA VI see: <u>http://www.unesco.org/en/confinteavi/</u>

² Available in nine languages at <u>http://www.unesco.org/en/confinteavi/belem-framework-for-action/</u>

³ The explanatory notes are intended to be a reference material to clarify the scope and background of the reporting template and explain some basic terms.

Report elaboration process

Which institutions and stakeholders provided input to this report?	Mark all that apply
Government Ministries Agriculture Defence Education Foreign Affairs Health Interior/Home affairs Labour Others (please mark and specify below)	
Civil society organisations National non-governmental organisations International non-governmental organisations Educational or research institutions/Universities Private sector companies United Nations agencies Non-UN bilateral or multilateral organisations Others (please mark and specify below)	

Briefly provide any additional information on the process by which this report has been produced, including information on: 1) which types of public authorities were consulted or contributed to its preparation; 2) how the stakeholders were consulted and how the outcomes of this consultation were taken into account; and 3) the types of references used as a basis for reporting.

The report has been prepared with the aid of the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Education. The data were taken from some of the popular institutions.

1. Definitions and data collection on adult learning and education	n	
	Yes	No
1.1 Does your country have an official definition of adult education ? If Yes, please provide it in the space below:		
1.1.1 Are other definitions used in practice? If Yes, please provide them in the space below:		
1.2 Has your country adopted or developed an official definition of literacy ? If Yes, please provide it in the space below:		
1.2.1 Are other definitions used in practice? If Yes, please provide them in the space below:		
1.3 How is literacy data obtained in your country?		
Please select the option(s) below National census School administrative data (years of schooling completed/primary certificate) Direct testing (e.g. Literacy Assessment and Monitoring Programme, LAMP) Household surveys Other methodology (<i>please describe below</i>):		
1.4 Has your country changed literacy data collection methods since the UNLD mid-term review in 2006?		
If Yes, please select the option(s) below that best describe the change(s) New conceptual definition on literacy in place (for policy) New conceptual definition on literacy in place (for data collection only) New assessment of youth and/or adults' literacy skills Increase in the periodicity without significant conceptual changes Other changes (please provide details below):		
1.5 Has your country faced challenges in collecting literacy data?		
If Yes, please describe them briefly in the space below:		
1.6 Please provide any additional information, explanations or comments that you c order to clarify any potential issues regarding the information in this section.	onsider relev	/ant in

2. Policy: political commitment to adult education and adult literacy

2.1 Does your country have laws, legal regulations or other public policy measures/initiatives with a primary focus of supporting lifelong learning, adult education and adult literacy? Please name them, giving the year in which they were enacted and adding documentation/evidence, if possible.

	Yes	No	If Yes: name of legal/policy instrument and references (add as many lines as needed)	Year
Lifelong learning	\boxtimes			
Adult education	\boxtimes			
Adult literacy	\boxtimes			

2.2 Which target groups of learners do current national adult education and/or adult literacy policies address? Examples could include women, youth, indigenous peoples, minority linguistic/ethnic groups, migrants, individuals with disabilities, rural residents, prisoners and others (please specify). Which age groups are targeted? What is the size of the target group?

	Specific target groups, including age range (add as many lines as needed)	Total number of individuals in the group
Adult education		
Adult literacy		

2.3 Has your country set any goals and deadlines that national policy/ies in adult education and/or adult literacy are expected to reach? If yes, please specify the goal and, if applicable, relevant timeframe.					
	Yes	No	Specify goal	Specify timeframe	
Adult education					
Adult literacy					

2.4 Does your country have a policy on the language of instruction in adult education?	Yes	No
If Yes, please provide a brief explanation and references in the space below inc. place:	luding when it v	was put in

2.5 Does your country have a policy framework to recognise, validate and accredit non-formal and informal learning?	Yes	No
	\boxtimes	
		. ,.

If Yes, please provide a brief explanation and references in the space below, including when this policy framework was put in place:

2.6 Have action plans been formulated or updated since CC (December 2009) at national or sub-national level?	Yes	No	
	Adult education	\boxtimes	
If Yes, please provide a brief explanation and references:			
	Adult literacy		
If Yes, please provide a brief explanation and references:			

2.7 Have adult education and adult literacy been included in other national plans/strategies?					
Adult education:	Mark all	Timeframe	References		
	that apply				
National Development Plan	\boxtimes				
Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper	\boxtimes				
Education strategy	\boxtimes				
Skills development (including vocational education and training) strategy	\boxtimes				
Education For All Fast Track Initiative (EFA FTI) Education Sector Plan					
Sustainable development strategy Other (specify in the space below)					
		T '			
Adult literacy:	Mark all that apply	Timeframe	References		
National Development Plan	\boxtimes				
Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper	\boxtimes				
Education strategy	\boxtimes				
Skills development (including vocational education and training) strategy	\boxtimes				
Education For All Fast Track Initiative (EFA FTI) Education Sector Plan	\boxtimes				

Sustainable development strategy *Other (specify in the space below)*

 \boxtimes

2.8 Have adult learners and/or adult literacy learners been involved in discussions about your policy and or plans?					
	Yes	No	Specify policy/plan (add as many lines as needed)	References	
Adult education	\boxtimes				
Adult literacy	\square				
If Yes, please elaborate	how th	ney ha	ve been involved.		

2.9 Please provide any additional information, explanations or comments that you consider relevant in order to clarify any potential issues regarding the information in this section.

Obligatory learning: Syria has the law of obligatory learning which obliges all children to learn and go to schools from the age of six and many procedures are taken against those children who don't start learning at this age or against their parents such as paying fines or sending to prison.

The target area: The adult learning directorate in Syria used the plan of dividing the big cities into areas and choose a targeted area to illiterate it completely. This plan makes the learning process easier and helps in computing the literate people and identify their places.

Linking between formal and non formal learning: The certificates that are given to the illiterate people help them to come back to formal learning especially those people who are above 10 years old. Those people can have the certificate of each stage exceeding the needed period which was defined by the Ministry Education between them. This exception aims to bring the dropped out students to formal learning and shorten the learning time.

The Goals:

The main goal is to reduce the illiteracy percentatge to be __%. At the end of ___ as mentioned in Dakar goals. The Syrian government had exceeded this percentage since different areas had illiterated completely and we have now __ cities out of __ which are completely illiterated.

3. Governance: governance and cooperation in adult education and adult literacy

3.1 Please list the names of organisations, institutions or agencies that are involved in planning, implementing and evaluating policies for adult education and adult literacy. Please mark/tick the level(s) at which they operate (national, sub-national).

Governmental:						
Institution	Coograp	higal scope		nvolved in the implementation of		
(add as many lines		hical scope that apply)	programmes/courses?			
as needed)	(IIIdIK dil	ιπαι αρριγ)	(mark all th			
	National	Sub-national	On adult education	On adult literacy		
			\square			
			\boxtimes			
			\boxtimes			
Non-Governmental	1:					
Institution	Geograp	hical scope	Is it involved in the	implementation of		
(add as many lines		that apply)	programmes/courses?			
as needed)			(mark all that apply)			
	National	Sub-national	On adult education	On adult literacy		
	\boxtimes					
	\boxtimes					
	\boxtimes					
3.2 Is there any entit adult education and/			ring the coordination of	Yes No		
		111053				

adult education and/or adult literacy activities?		Yes	No
	Adult education	\boxtimes	
If Yes, please provide name and contact details:	-		
	Adult literacy	\boxtimes	
If Yes, please provide name and contact details:	-		

3.3 Does the national government conduct specific actions intended to facilitate cooperation among the different stakeholders in	Yes	No
adult education?	\boxtimes	
If Yes, please indicate what activities are undertaken and/or which frameworks are in references:	place and	provide
adult literacy?	\boxtimes	
If Yes, please indicate what activities are undertaken and/or which frameworks are in references:	place and	provide

3.4 Does the national government provide capacity-building to ensure that the different stakeholders are able to participate in policy and programme development, implementation and evaluation in	Yes	No
adult education?	\boxtimes	
If Yes, please indicate what activities are undertaken and provide references:		
adult literacy?	\boxtimes	
If Yes, please indicate what activities are undertaken and provide references:		

3.5 Do local communities play a role in the planning, implementation and evaluation of programmes in	Yes	No
adult education?	\square	
adult literacy?	\boxtimes	

3.6 Please provide any additional information, explanations or comments that you consider relevant in order to clarify any potential issues regarding the information in this section.

Illiteracy works and adults learning plan is an important part and within the plan of the government which lasted for five years.

With an agreement between the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Culture (Directorate of Adults Learning), the last one has the responsibility of teaching, making exams and issuing the certificates of primary learning for those people who were dropped out of formal learning to help them come back. There is a law that defines the work of the tow ministries.

National expeditions:

Syria had many national expeditions in the field of illiteracy in the past where all parts of the government like trade unions, civil society and ministries work together in the targeted area to illuminate its literacy completely.

4. Financing: investment in adult education and adult literacy

4.1 Data on public expenditure provided in this questionnaire should refer to actual expenditure. If actual expenditure is not available, please provide budget allocation. Please indicate which data are reported:

Actual expenditure	
\square	

Budget allocation

4.2 Please indicate the name of the currency used for reporting:

105 S.P

4.3 Please indicate the monetary unit used in the following tables:			
Units	Hundreds	Thousands	Millions

4.4 What was the overall public expenditure on education and training in the financial years ending in 2009 and 2010 (in nominal local currency)? ⁴					
Amount (2009) Amount (2010) Source					
National government	105	105			
Sub-national governments ⁵					
Total					

4.5 Are equivalent figures on the financial of available?	contributions to adul	t education by the follo	wing agents
	Amount (2009)	Amount (2010)	Not available
National government			
Sub-national governments ⁵			
Civil society organisations			
Donors/international aid (not loans)		Non	
Private companies			
Learners/households			

4.6 Are equivalent figures on the financial contributions to adult literacy by the following agents available?			
	Amount (2009)	Amount (2010)	Not available
National government			
Sub-national governments ⁵			
Civil society organisations		Non	
Donors/international aid (not loans)			
Private companies			
Learners/households			

⁴ Include both current and capital expenditure on education and training directly allocated to educational institutions as well as transfers and payments to students (scholarships, grants or loans for tuition fees and/or living expenses) and the private sector. Exclude expenditure other than for educational institutions (e.g. general administration at ministry level). If the information is not available, please provide the best possible estimates. In any case, attach a detailed explanation on how this amount was computed and possible anomalies (elements not covered, etc.). ⁵ Control for the potential double-counting effect of transfers across different government levels.

4.7 Have new mechanisms or sources of funding for adult education and adult literacy been introduced since CONFINTEA VI (December 2009)?	Yes	No
If Yes, please provide a brief description:		

4.8 Please provide any additional information, explanations or comments that you consider relevant in order to clarify any potential issues regarding the information in this section.

The fudging and supporting resources:

The Syrian government is main funding resource of the learning process in addition to the support and assistant of other charity and international organization.

5. Participation: youth and adults' access to, and participation in, education and literacy programmes

5.1 Please indicate the areas of learning that are addressed by different organisations. Identify target groups (for example women, youth, indigenous peoples, minority linguistic/ethnic groups, migrants, individuals with disabilities, rural residents, prisoners and others) and if information and communication technologies (ICTs) are used.

Public sector organisations	Mark all that apply	Target group(s)	Use of ICT
Literacy (reading, writing, numeracy)	\boxtimes		\boxtimes
Vocational (technical, income-generation-related)	\boxtimes		\boxtimes
Life skills and/or health issues	\boxtimes		\boxtimes
Use of information and communication technologies			
Official/local languages	\boxtimes		\boxtimes
Foreign languages	\boxtimes		
Human rights/civic education			
Liberal education/personal growth (i.e. artistic, cultural)	\boxtimes		
Other (please provide a brief description below:)			

Private companies	Mark all that apply	Target group(s)	Use of ICT
Literacy (reading, writing, numeracy)	\boxtimes		
Vocational (technical, income-generation-related)	\boxtimes		
Life skills and/or health issues	\boxtimes		\square
Use of information and communication technologies	\boxtimes		
Official/local languages	\boxtimes		
Foreign languages	\boxtimes		
Human rights/civic education			
Liberal education/personal growth (i.e. artistic, cultural)	\boxtimes		
Other (please provide a brief description below:)			

Civil society or non-governmental organisations	Mark all that apply	Target group(s)	Use of ICT
Literacy (reading, writing, numeracy)	\boxtimes		
Vocational (technical, income-generation-related)	\boxtimes		
Life skills and/or health issues	\boxtimes		
Use of information and communication technologies			
Official/local languages	\boxtimes		
Foreign languages			
Human rights/civic education	\boxtimes		

Liberal education/personal growth (i.e. artistic, cultural)	\boxtimes	
Other (please provide a brief description below:)		

5.2 Are there surveys on provision and demand?			
	Provision	Demand	
On adult education On adult literacy			
Please provide references or attach reports that may have been produced with the information generated			
riease provide references of allacit reports that may have been produced with the information generated			

Please provide references or attach reports that may have been produced with the information generated by these surveys (if any).

5.3 Please list which languages are used for the provision of literacy programmes. Indicate if learning materials are available in the respective language.			
(add as many lines as needed) Mark if language of learning materials			
	\square		
	\square		

5.4 List and describe briefly any key challenges related to implementing literacy classes in languages	
other than the official/dominant language(s).	

5.5 Have the languages in which literacy programmes are offered changed	Τ
since the UNLD mid-term review in 2006?	

No ⊠

Yes

If Yes, please provide a brief description and references:

5.6 At what administrative levels are literacy learning materials developed and who is involved in the process?

	Mark all that	Are local communities involved?	
	apply	Yes	No
National level	\square	\square	
Sub-national level	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	

Please provide references or attach documents on local community participation:

5.7 Please provide any additional information, explanations or comments that you consider relevant in order to clarify any potential issues regarding the information in 5.1 to 5.6. Pay particular attention to innovative practices and services for marginalised groups.

5.8 Does the government collect information on the following items?	Mark all that
	apply
Enrolment in adult education programmes (other than literacy programmes)	\square
Attendance in adult education programmes (other than literacy programmes)	\boxtimes
Completion of adult education programmes (other than literacy programmes)	\boxtimes
Enrolment in literacy programmes	\square
Attendance in literacy programmes	\boxtimes
Completion of literacy programmes	\boxtimes
If this information is available please attach the corresponding figures and documentation	n, or provide the

If this information is available please attach the corresponding figures and documentation, or provide the references:

5.9 Does the government measure the learning outcomes of the following programmes? (mark all that apply)				
	Only by teachers/ facilitators	Standardised tests for statistical purposes	Standardised tests for certification purposes	Other
Adult education programmes (other than literacy) Adult literacy programmes		\boxtimes		
If this information is available please attach the corre references:	sponding figu	ures and docum	entation, or prov	ide the

5.10 Are there differences between men and women in terms of their	Mark all that apply			
participation in adult education and/or adult literacy programmes?	Yes	No		
Adult education Adult literacy				
If yes: Who participates more?	Adult education	Adult literacy		
Women Men				
If there are differences: Have measures have been undertaken to address these differences in adult education/adult literacy programmes?	Yes	No		
Adult education Adult literacy				
If measures have been undertaken please provide a brief description and references:				

5.11 Please provide any additional information, explanations or comments that you consider relevant in order to clarify any potential issues regarding the information in 5.8 to 5.10. Pay particular attention to equity-related issues regarding access, participation and outcomes.

6. Quality: quality assurance

6.1 Do quality criteria for adult education and adult literacy exist in the following areas: curriculum, learning materials, facilitators' training, teaching/learning methodology and assessment of learning outcomes? If yes, please specify. Since when have they been in place?

Adult education

Mark when quality criteria are in place	Indicate year when quality criteria were introduced	Specify quality criteria in place
\boxtimes		
	quality criteria are in place ⊠ ⊠	qualitywhen qualitycriteria are incriteria wereplaceintroducedImage: State of the state of

Adult literacy			
Area	Mark when quality criteria are in place	Indicate year when quality criteria were introduced	Specify quality criteria in place
Curricula			
Learning materials			
Facilitators' training			
Teaching/ learning methods			
Assessment of learning outcomes			

6.2 Are there pre-service and in-service training programmes for educators/facilitators for adult education and adult literacy? Please mark all that apply, considering provider and type of training programme.

Adult education					
	Pre-se	ervice	In-se	ervice	
Provider	Mark if yes	Typical duration (months)	Mark if yes	Typical duration (months)	
Governmental institution			\square		
University					
Private company					
Non-governmental organisation					
Adult literacy					
	Pre-service		In-se	ervice	
Provider		Typical		Typical	
	Mark if yes	duration	Mark if yes	duration	
		(months)		(months)	
Governmental institution					
University		-		-	
Private company					
Non-governmental organisation					

6.3 What is the average monthly remuneration (in nominal local currency) for a full-time educator/ facilitator in the following programmes? (academic year ending in 2010)					
Programme	Monthly average remuneration if available	Remarks/source			
Adult education (excluding literacy programmes)		5000 S.P			
Adult literacy					

6.4 Have any initiatives been undertaken by the government concerning the working conditions of adult educators/facilitators/volunteers? Please mark if yes.

	Mark all that apply
Adult education	
Adult literacy	

6.5 Have the national or sub-national governments implemented monitoring and evaluation mechanisms?				
(If yes, mark all that apply)				
		Monitoring	Evaluation	
Adult educat	tion	\boxtimes	\square	
Adult litera	acy	\boxtimes	\square	
Please provide a brief description and references:				

6.6 Have the national or sub-national governments commissioned studies in order to inform policy and programme design and implementation since 2009?

	Mark all that apply
Lifelong learning	
Adult education	
Adult literacy	
If one or more of the boxes is marked, please provide a brief description	and references:

6.7 Please provide any additional information, explanations or comments that you consider relevant in order to clarify any potential issues regarding the information in this section.

7. CONFINTEA VI follow-up: additional activities

7.1 Please indicate which activities have been implemented as a follow-up to CONFINTEA VI and the implementation of the *Belém Framework for Action*.

	Mark if taken place
Advocacy events (conference, forum, etc.)	\square
Media campaigns	
Publications (booklets, leaflets, posters, etc.)	
Creation of committees to streamline adult education and adult literacy	
Adult Learners Week/Learning festivals	
Creation of learners' networks and/or fora	
Translation of the Belém Framework for Action into the national language	\square
Presenting the Belém Framework for Action to parliament	
Elaboration of a funding plan	
Development of a national roadmap for the implementation of the Belém	
Framework for Action	
Other (please specify below)	\square

7.2 Is there any innovative experience in adult education and/or adult literacy that has been developed in your country since 2009 (CONFINTEA VI) that could be instructive for other countries? If yes, provide a brief description and references.

7.3 Please provide any additional information, explanations or comments that you consider relevant in order to clarify any potential issues regarding the information in this section.

8. The United Nations Literacy Decade (2003-2012): specific activities under the framework of the UNLD after the mid-term review in 2006

8.1 Which specific advocacy initiatives/ activities for youth and adult literacy have been undertaken in your country in the last five years? Please rank the frequency/intensity and results or impact of such advocacy work.

	Frequency				Results			
	very frequent	often	hardly	never	excellent	good	modest	no results
Advocacy events (conference, forum, etc.)	\square	\boxtimes			\boxtimes			
Media campaigns			\boxtimes					
Publications (booklets, leaflets, posters, etc.)			\boxtimes		\boxtimes			
Other (please specify below)								

8.2 Have there been specific initiatives/ activities in support of?		
	Yes	No
women and girls?		\boxtimes
If yes, please provide a brief description and references:		
other excluded/ under-represented/underprivileged groups?		\boxtimes
If yes, please provide a brief description and reference:		

8.3 How would you rate th for literacy?	ne impact of the UN Literac	y Decade in helping to boos	st your advocacy efforts
It has been extremely helpful ⊠	It has helped a lot	It has helped a little	It has not helped
	from "it has not helped", ple nenting on their degree of s	ease provide below a brief e success:	explanation and examples

8.4 Have literacy policies changed in your country in the last five years?	Yes	No
If yes, please specify how they have changed below and provide evidence.		

8.5 Have your literacy targets changed over the last five years?	Yes	No
If yes, please provide below a brief explanation:		

8.6 What are the country's current capacity-building needs in literacy and what are the obstacles and challenges in meeting them?

8.7 What are the major challenges for your literacy programme/s regarding planning and implementation, administration, monitoring and evaluation?

8.8 Are there other obstacles or major challenges in increasing efforts in literacy? Which of these areas, or other areas, requires further research?

8.9 What are the prospects for sustaining efforts in literacy beyond 2013, and which steps does your government plan to take in this regard?

Non