





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 The Bahamas

This report is submitted on behalf of the Government of THE BAHAMAS 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	The Ministry of Education, Science and Technology
this report	
Submission date	July 1, 2012

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

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

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
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Which institutions and stakeholders provided input to this report?	Mark all that apply
Government Ministries	
Agriculture	
Defence	
Education	\boxtimes
Foreign Affairs	
Health	
Interior/Home affairs	
Labour	\boxtimes
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.

An officer in the Department of Higher Education in the Ministry of Educationn, Science and Technology completed a study on the State of The Art of Adult Learning and Education in The Bahamas.

Public Authorities involved in the research project were the MinistrIES of Education, I science and Technology, and Health, the Department of Statistics, The College of The Bahamas and The Bahamas Technical and Vocational Institute.

Agencies and departments responded to a questionnaire and then interviews were conducted with the heads of some of the institutions.

1. Definitions and data collection on adult learning and educatio	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:	\boxtimes	
1.2 Has your country adopted or developed an official definition of literacy ? If Yes, please provide it in the space below: Literacy is defined as an individual's ability to read, write, and speak in English, compute and solve problems at levels of proficiency needed to function on the job and in society, to achieve one's goals, and develop one's knowledge and potential.	\boxtimes	
1.2.1 Are other definitions used in practice? If Yes, please provide them in the space below:		\boxtimes
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 (please describe below): By looking at the results on the various Naational examinations.		
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 corder to clarify any potential issues regarding the information in this section.	onsider relev	vant 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 instrume references (add as many lines as needed)	Year		
Lifelong learning Adult education Adult literacy			A department in the Ministry of Education purpose A department in the Ministry of Education for this purpose & a department at The Contract The Bahamas National Literacy Services	2004		
Addit illeracy			National Electacy Scivices			
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		Me Me		?		
Adult literacy Men and women 16 years and older ?						
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		\boxtimes				
2.4 Does your country have a policy on the language of instruction in adult education? Yes No						
					\boxtimes	
If Yes, please provide a brief explanation and references in the space below including when it was put in place: All instruction is done in English						

2.5 Does your country have a policy framed accredit non-formal and informal learning?	work to recogni	se, validate and		Yes	No	
If Yes, please provide a brief explanation and references in the space below, including when this policy framework was put in place: All institutions and agencies offering programmes in The Bahamas must be registered with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology. The Tertiary section of the Ministry is responsible for the quality assurance for the time being. However, the Government has passed legislation approving a quallity assurance agency. This agency has not yet been operationalized.						
2.6 Have action plans been formulated or u (December 2009) at national or sub-national		CONFINTEA VI		Yes	No	
		Adult educa	ation		\boxtimes	
If Yes, please provide a brief explanation a	nd 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 that apply	Timeframe	•	Reference	S	
National Development Plan Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper Education strategy			The E	Education Strate	egic Plan	
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)						
Adult literacy:	Mark all that apply	Timeframe		Reference	S	
National Development Plan Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper Education strategy						

Skills development (in education and Education For All F (EFA FTI) Educ Sustainable dev Other (specify in	d training) stra ast Track Init cation Sector elopment stra	ategy iative Plan ategy			
0.0110		:			
2.8 Have adult learners or plans?	and/or adult I	iteracy learn	iers been involved in dis	cussior	ns about your policy and
	Yes No		Specify policy/plan as many lines as needed	d)	References
Adult education Adult literacy					
If Yes, please elaborate	how they ha	ve been invo	olved.		
2.9 Please provide any a order to clarify any poter					u consider relevant in

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 Is it involved in the implementation of Geographical scope programmes/courses? (add as many lines (mark all that apply) as needed) (mark all that apply) National Sub-national On adult education On adult literacy College of The \boxtimes \boxtimes \boxtimes Bahamas **Bahamas Technical** \boxtimes \boxtimes \boxtimes & Vocational Institute The Ministry of \boxtimes \boxtimes \boxtimes Education, Science & Technology П Non-Governmental: Institution Is it involved in the implementation of Geographical scope (add as many lines programmes/courses? (mark all that apply) as needed) (mark all that apply) National Sub-national On adult education On adult literacy \boxtimes \boxtimes \boxtimes Atlantic College **Bahamas Baptist** \boxtimes \boxtimes Community College Sojourner Douglas \boxtimes \boxtimes \boxtimes College \boxtimes \boxtimes Omega College \boxtimes **Nova Southeastern** \boxtimes \boxtimes \boxtimes College \boxtimes \boxtimes \boxtimes Galilee College 3.2 Is there any entity at national level responsible for ensuring the coordination of Yes No

adult education and/or adult literacy activities?

,		
Adult education		
If Yes, please provide name and contact details:		
Dr. Leon L. Higgs, Dept. Of Higher Education & Lifelong Learning, Ministry of Education	n, Science	&
Technology, P.O. Box N-3913, Nassau, The Bahamas		
Adult literacy		
Addit increasy	\boxtimes	
If Yes, please provide name and contact details:		
		Science
If Yes, please provide name and contact details:		Science

cooperation among the different stakeholders in adult education? If Yes, please indicate what activities are undertaken and/or which frameworks are in place and provide references: adult literacy? If Yes, please indicate what activities are undertaken and/or which frameworks are in place and provide references:
references: adult literacy?
If Yes, please indicate what activities are undertaken and/or which frameworks are in 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
adult education?
If Yes, please indicate what activities are undertaken and provide references:
adult literacy?
If Yes, please indicate what activities are undertaken and provide references:
The National Literacy Serices department usually offer training and capacity building workshops for all of its tutors.
3.5 Do local communities play a role in the planning, implementation and evaluation of programmes in Yes No
adult education?
adult literacy?
addit iteracy:
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.
, , ,

4. Financ	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 Budget allocation						
4.2 Please indicate the name of the currency used for reporting:						
Bahami	Bahamian dollars (1 Bahamian dollar is equal to 1 US\$					
4.3 Please in	ndicate the monetary unit used	I in the following	tables:			
Units	Hundreds	7	housands	Millions		
4 4 10/1 - 1 -	and a second of Programme Programme		l. (-1		
4.4 What wa 2009 and 20	is the overall public expenditur 110 (in nominal local currency)	e on education a ? ⁴	ind training in the financia	al years ending in		
		Amount (2009)) Amount (2010)	Source		
	Mational agreement	220 007 504	207.024.250	Bahamas Gov.		
	National government	320,987,584	287,034,259	Budget		
	Sub-national governments ⁵					
	Total	320,987,584	287,034,259	Bahamas Gov.		
	Total	320,367,364	267,034,239	Budget		
	valent figures on the financial of	contributions to a	dult education by the foll	owing agents		
available?		4 (000	2) 4 (0040)			
		Amount (2009	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Not available		
	National government	10,726598	7,025,019			
	Sub-national governments ⁵					
	Civil society organisations					
Donor	rs/international aid (not loans)					
	Private companies					
	Learners/households					
4.6 Are equi	valent figures on the financial	contributions to a	idult literacy by the follow	ring agents available?		
		Amount (2009	9) Amount (2010)	Not available		
	National government					
	Sub-national governments ⁵					

Civil society organisations

Donors/international aid (not loans)

M

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.

Private companies				\boxtimes
Learners/households				\boxtimes
4.7 Have new mechanisms or sources of f literacy been introduced since CONFINTE	•		Yes	No
				\boxtimes
If Yes, please provide a brief description:				
[40.5]				
4.8 Please provide any additional informat	•		nsider rele	evant in
order to clarify any potential issues regard	ng the information in	this section.		

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	Adults over 16 years old	
Vocational (technical, income-generation-related)	\boxtimes	Adults over 16 years old	
Life skills and/or health issues	\boxtimes	High school and younger	
Use of information and communication			
technologies			
Official/local languages			
Foreign languages	\boxtimes		
Human rights/civic education			
Liberal education/personal growth (i.e. artistic, cultural)			
Other	<u> </u>		
(please provide a brief description below:)			
Private companies	Mark all		Use of
	that apply	Target group(s)	ICT
Literacy (reading, writing, numeracy)	\boxtimes		\boxtimes
Vocational (technical, income-generation-related)	\boxtimes		\boxtimes
Life skills and/or health issues			
Use of information and communication			
technologies			
Official/local languages			
Foreign languages			\boxtimes
Human rights/civic education			
Liberal education/personal growth (i.e. artistic, cultural)	\square		
Other			
(please provide a brief description below:)			
Civil society or non-governmental	Mark all		Use of
organisations	that apply	Target group(s)	ICT
Literacy (reading, writing, numeracy)			
Vocational (technical, income-generation-related)	\boxtimes		
Life skills and/or health issues			
Use of information and communication]		
technologies	\boxtimes		
Official/local languages			
Foreign languages			
Human rights/civic education			

Liberal education/personal growth (i.e. a	rtistic							
, ,	ultural)							
	Other							
(please provide a brief description b	elow:)	Ш						
5.2 Are there surveys on provision and dem	and?							
			Provision	De	mand			
_		ducation	\square					
		t literacy						
Please provide references or attach reports that may have been produced with the information generated								
by these surveys (if any).	•	ded	The Believe					
A report on the state of the art of Adult Lea	rning an	id Educatio	n in The Bahama	as				
5.3 Please list which languages are used for	r the pro	vision of lite	eracy programm	es Indicate if le	earning			
materials are available in the respective lang		1101011 01 1110	oracy programmi	oo. malaata ii k	zarriirig			
(add as many lines as neede			Mark if langu	age of learning	materials			
		English		\boxtimes				
5.4 List and describe briefly any key challenges related to implementing literacy classes in languages								
other than the official/dominant language(s).								
Because of size of population, language is not an issue								
5.5 Have the languages in which literacy pro	ogramme	es are offer	ed changed	Yes	No			
since the UNLD mid-term review in 2006?	J		9		_			
					\boxtimes			
If Yes, please provide a brief description and	d reterer	nces:						
5.6 At what administrative levels are literacy	learning	g materials	developed and v	who is involved	in the			
process?								
Mark all that Are local com								
Matteralle	aj	oply	Yes		No			
National level								
Sub-national level								
Please provide references or attach documents on local community participation:								
Please provide references of attach docume	erits ori i	ocai commi	инку ранистрано	п.				

5.7 Please provide any additional information, explar order to clarify any potential issues regarding the info innovative practices and services for marginalised gr	rmation in 5.					
5.8 Does the government collect information on the f	ollowing item	s?				all that pply
Enrolment in adult education programme	s (other than	literac	y program	mes)		<u> </u>
Attendance in adult education programme	,			,		\leq
Completion of adult education programme	•				_	\leq
	Enrolment in					\boxtimes
	Attendance in Completion of					$oxed{ imes}$
If this information is available please attach the corre						
references:	openiagg	00 0		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	o. p. o.	
5.9 Does the government measure the learning outco (mark all that apply)	omes of the f					_
	Only by		dardised sts for	Standa	ardised	
	teachers/		tistical		cation	Other
	facilitators	pur	poses	purp	oses	
Adult education programmes (other than literacy) Adult literacy programmes						\boxtimes
If this information is available please attach the corre references:	sponding figu	ıres ar	nd docume	entation,	or prov	ride the
5.10 Are there differences between men and women	in towns of th	! -	Α	Nowle all	that ann	
participation in adult education and/or adult literacy p		ieir		<i>llark all t</i> es	пат арр	No
			,	,		
	Adult educ Adult lite			<u> </u>		
If a sea AMI se		0	Adult ed	ducation	Adul	t literacy
ir yes: who	participates n W	nore? omen		₹		
		Men		Ì		Ш
If there are differences: Have measures have b			Y	es		No
address these differences in adult educ	ation/adult lit program	-				
	Adult educ					\boxtimes
Adult literacy						\boxtimes
If measures have been undertaken please provide a	brief descrip	tion an	d referend	es:		

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			
Area	Mark when quality criteria are in place	Indicate year when quality criteria were introduced	Specify quality criteria in place
Curricula			Each institution has its own monitoring process. Each one of them is also monitorred by the Quality Assurance section in The Ministry of Education, Science and Technology
Learning materials	\boxtimes		
Facilitators' training	\boxtimes		
Teaching/ learning methods	\boxtimes		
Assessment of learning outcomes	\boxtimes		

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

6.2 Are there pre-service and in-service trainin and adult literacy? Please mark all that apply,							
Adult education							
	Pre-s	In-service					
Provider	Mark if yes duration (months)		n <i>Mark if</i> y	yes	Typical duration (months)		
Governmental institution	\boxtimes	varies	\square		varies		
University	varies				varies		
Private company	\boxtimes	varies					
Non-governmental organisation							
Adult literacy		•					
	Pre-s	ervice		In-se	ervice		
Provider		Typica			Typical		
	Mark if yes	duration (months	,	/es	duration (months)		
Governmental institution	<u> </u>	varies	P)		varies		
University	\boxtimes	varies			varies		
Private company		varies			varies		
Non-governmental organisation		varies			varies		
6.3 What is the average monthly remuneration facilitator in the following programmes? (acade) for a full-time	edu	cator/		
Programme	Monthly average remuneration if Remarks/source available				source		
Adult education (excluding litera programme	s)						
Adult literac	су						
6.4 Have any initiatives been undertaken by th educators/facilitators/volunteers? Please mark		concerning					
		_	Mark a	all the	at apply		
	ducation t literacy						
6.5 Have the national or sub-national governm (If yes, mark all that apply)	nents implemen	ted monito	ring and evalua	ation	mechanisms?		
1 y = 2,			Monitoring		Evaluation		
Adult education Adult literacy							
Please provide a brief description and reference	ces:	- 1					

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 comment	•
order to clarify any potential issues regarding the information in this sec	tion.

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 <i>Belém Framework for Action</i> .						
	Mark if taken place					
Advocacy events (conference, forum, etc.) 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 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)						
7.2 Is there any innovative experience in adult education and/or adult literacy that has your country since 2009 (CONFINTEA VI) that could be instructive for other countries brief description and references.						
A basic literacy programme using the electronic media (television) was developed a	nd implemented.					
7.3 Please provide any additional information, explanations or comments that you colorder to clarify any potential issues regarding the information in this section.	nsider relevant in					

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 Res			sults			
	very frequent					modest	no results	
Advocacy events (conference, forum, etc.)		\boxtimes		П				
Media campaigns								
Publications (booklets, leaflets, posters, etc.)								
Other (please specify below)	_				_			
8.2 Have there been specific initiatives/ activi	ties in su	pport of	·?					
							Yes	No
				WO	men an	d girls?		
If yes, please provide a brief description and references: An annual conference is held. Workshops and other activities are held each year.								
other excluded/ under-represented/underprivileged groups? If yes, please provide a brief description and reference:								
8.3 How would you rate the impact of the UN Literacy Decade in helping to boost your advocacy efforts for literacy?								
It has been extremely helpful	lot	It has	s helped	d a little		It has r	not help	ed
If your answer is different from "it has not hell of advocacy efforts, commenting on their deg			vide bel	ow a bri	ef expla	anation a	and exa	mples
							,	
8.4 Have literacy policies changed in your country in the last five years? Ye						Yes	No	
If yes, please specify how they have changed	d helow s	and prov	iide evic	Hence				
in you, please specify flow they have changed	a DOIOW G	πα ρισν	IGO GVIC	onou.				

8.5 Have your literacy targets changed over the last five years?	Yes	No
If yes, please provide below a brief explanation:		
Q.C.W/bet are the country's current conscitu building needs in literacy and what are the chots	oloo ond	
8.6 What are the country's current capacity-building needs in literacy and what are the obstachallenges in meeting them?	sies and	
8.7 What are the major challenges for your literacy programme/s regarding planning and impadministration, monitoring and evaluation?	lementat	tion,
The programmes are fragmented. Literacy needs to take a more integrative approach.		
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 do government plan to take in this regard?	es your	
government plan to take in this regard?		
The government is now demanding all school children are reading at the appropriate grade being promoted to the next level.	level bef	fore
being promoted to the next level.		