



**Cape Town, South Africa
6th-11th September 2004**



International Adult Learners Week 2004 – Adult Learning and Literacy for Democracy and Citizenship

**Programme
September 8 – 11, 2004**

Introduction

The year 2004 marks the celebration of *Ten Years of Freedom* in South Africa. While the struggle to the right for adult literacy and education was part of the struggle for democracy and while the right to adult basic education is now enshrined in the South African constitution, UNESCO launched *International Adult Learners Week* in September 2000 as a trans-national advocacy framework to promote literacy and lifelong learning for all. Linking thirty-five learning festivals worldwide, the global movement has recently taken on renewed importance in mobilizing for the goals of the United Nations Literacy Decade.

South Africa, having inaugurated its first national Adult Learners Week in 1996 under the theme “Learning to Live, Work and Learn Together”, was among the pioneer countries to develop this mobilization campaign for adult literacy, education and training. Adult learners weeks equally nurture cultures of lifelong learning and reinforce capacity-building and increased participation of citizens as well as more cooperation between the non-governmental sector and governments.

Against this background, the South African Ministry of Education, the UNESCO Institute for Education and the UNESCO Windhoek Cluster Office are co-hosting the 2004 *International Adult Learners Week* Commemoration, together with the national Adult Learning Network and other education stakeholders from civil society, culminating in the conference on “*Adult Learning and Literacy for Democracy and Citizenship*” (September 9 – 11).

The event provides a forum for policy dialogue and advocacy among policy makers, education stakeholders and practitioners from Civil Society on the importance of adult learning, literacy and lifelong learning, in particular with regard to building diverse, inclusive and democratic societies and with a special focus on experiences in the African region. It furthermore aims at strengthening the international movement of learning festivals as effective advocacy instruments for learning, at giving impetus to the United Nations Literacy Decade, and at celebrating and honoring the achievements of adult learners.

The conference on “*Adult Learning and Literacy for Democracy and Citizenship*” will focus on four key themes:

1. *Building Democracy: Learning Citizenship and Cooperative Governance*
2. *Overcoming Barriers: Reaching out to Excluded Learners*
3. *Ensuring Equality in Diversity through Education*
4. *Adult Learners Weeks as Advocacy Strategies for Learning and Democracy*

Each theme is introduced in a plenary session through a keynote address, which provides an overview of the conceptual and theoretical implications of the issue, followed by parallel sessions where concrete experiences and best practice are presented. In each breakaway session, related **policy and programme recommendations** are extracted, which will be discussed and reflected in plenary on the concluding day.

WEDNESDAY, 8 September

9:00 – 12:00 **Registration**
Exhibition
Cultural Events
Cape Town International Conference Center (CTICC)

13:00 **Lunch Briefing Session for Speakers, Presenters, Facilitators and Note Takers**
Breakaway Room (CTICC)

18:00 – 21:00 **International Literacy Day Ceremony**

Cape Town International Conference Center (CTICC)

Welcome: Programme Director: Vuyo Mbuli

Greeting by the Chairperson of the UNESCO General Conference,
Michael Omolewa, Ambassador of Nigeria to UNESCO

Speech: Simon Litherland: MD Brandhouse

Audio Visual Presentation: Brandhouse

Conference Welcome: Minister of Education of South Africa,
Naledi Pandor

Dinner and Citations: Presentation of Awards to Outstanding Adult Learning
Projects
(sponsored by Brandhouse, South Africa)

Vote of Thanks: Tshidi Seane: Director External Affairs: Brandhouse
Cultural Programme

THURSDAY, 9 September

Cape Town International Conference Center (CTICC)

9:00 – 10:45 Plenary Session

9:00 Opening

Programme Director:

Welcome

The Deputy Director-General of the Department of Education of South Africa,
Cassius Lubisi

The Director of the UNESCO Windhoek Cluster Office,
Claudia Harvey

The Director of the UNESCO Institute for Education,
Adama Ouane

9:30 “Adult Learning and Literacy for Democracy and Citizenship: What Kind of Democracy do we Want”

Key Note Address by the Chairperson of the Association for the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA),
Ahlin Jean-Marie Byll-Cataria

10:00 Cultural Item

10:15 First Theme: Citizenship

“Building Democracy: Learning Citizenship and Cooperative Governance”
Introduction by the Acting Deputy Chair of the Tertiary Education Commission of New Zealand,
Shona Butterfield

10:45 Coffee/Tea Break

11:15 - 13:15 Parallel Breakaway Sessions on First Theme

Practices of Citizenship at Different Levels: Global, Regional, National and Local:

“The World Social Forum/UN Conferences”
Fatima Pandy, University of the Western Cape, South Africa
Marta Benavides, International Institute for Cooperation Amongst Peoples,
El Salvador

“Social Cohesion and Active Citizenship in the European Union”
Else Husa, Ministry of Education, Norway
Beata Fiszer, Feminist Center, Poland

“Learning Democratic Values and Attitudes”
Sushan Acharya, Tribhuvan University, Nepal
Shalini Joshi, Nirantar, India

13:15 – 15:00 Lunch

15:00 – 15:30 Plenary Session

Second Theme: Inclusion

“Overcoming Barriers: Reaching out to Excluded Learners”

Introduction by the Director of the Centre for African Studies, South Africa,
Kwesi Prah

15:30 Coffee/Tea Break

16:00 – 18:00 Parallel Breakaway Sessions on Second Theme

Accessible Facilities, Open Methodologies and Partnerships:

“The Global Adult Learning Documentation and Information Network
(ALADIN)”

Lisa Krolak, UNESCO Institute for Education, Germany

Elaine MacLean, Coady International Institute, Canada

“Community Learning Centers as Resources Centers for the Excluded”

Maria Diarra, Institute for Popular Education, Mali

Nebo Legoabe, Government Communication and Information System, South
Africa

“Reaching out to Marginalized Communities with Communication
Technologies”

Gordon Naidoo, Open Learning System Education Trust (OLSET), South Africa

William Grace Maiso, Reflect/ICT Project, Uganda

“NGOs as Partners in Capacity Building and Education”

Ahmed Bayya, State Secretariat, Morocco

Vítor Barbosa, Angolan Association for Adult Education, Angola

Free Evening for Participants

FRIDAY, 10 September

Cape Town International Conference Center (CTICC)

10:00 – 10:30 Plenary Session

Third Theme: Equality

“Ensuring Equality in Diversity through Learning”

Introduction by Eliane dos Santos Cavalleiro,
Secretariat of Continuing Education, Literacy and Diversity, Ministry of
Education, Brazil

10:30 Coffee/Tea Break

11:00 - 13:00 Parallel Breakaway Sessions on Third Theme

Learning Opportunities for Different Populations:

“Educating Migrants and Culturally Diverse Communities”

Stella Dadzie, Consultant, UK
Ilham Sawaya, Ecumenical Popular Education Programme, Lebanon

“Indigenous Populations: Knowledge as Resource”

Luis Enrique Lopez-Hurtado, Universidad Mayor de San Simón, Bolivia
David Naude, Teemacane Trust, Botswana
Bronwyn Yates, New Zealand

“Learning in Multi-Lingual Contexts”

Etienne Sadembouco, Association Nationale des Comités des Langues,
Cameroun
Maxime da Cruz, Centre National de Linguistique Appliqué, Benin

“Study Circles as a Form of Learning Democracy”

Sturla Bjerkaker, Norwegian Association for Adult Education, Norway

13:00 – 14:30 Lunch

14:30 – 15:00 Plenary Session

Fourth Theme: Participation

“Adult Learners Weeks as Advocacy Strategies for Learning and Democracy”

Introduction by the Director of the National Institute for Adult and Continuing
Education, UK,
Alan Tuckett,
and by Katarina Popovic, Society for Adult Education, Institute for International
Cooperation of the German Adult Education Association, Serbia & Montenegro

15:00 Coffee/Tea Break

15:30 – 17:30 Parallel Breakaway Sessions on Fourth Theme

Networking, Organizing and Mobilization:

“Trans-Border Approaches”

Maya Avramovska, Institute for International Cooperation, Macedonia
Jerald Joseph, Asian South-Pacific Bureau of Adult Education, Malaysia

“Learning Festivals as Part of Learning Regions”

Shirley Walters and Sedick Jappie, the Learning Cape Festival, South Africa
Olga Agapova, the Learning Festival of Siberia, Russian Federation

“The Emergence of Learners Forums”

Magdalene Motsi, Kenya Adult Learners Association, Kenya
Ismail Kasiita, Literacy and Adult Learners Association, Uganda
Susan Nielsen, Toronto Adult Student Association, Canada

“Mobilizing Learners through Literacy as Part of Learning Festivals”

Nouhoum Diakité, National Resource Center for Non-Formal Education, Mali
Gloria Salmon, Jamaican Council for Adult Education, Jamaica

**19:00 Awards Banquet Dinner hosted by South Africa’s National Business Initiative
Adult Learning Network (ALN) Awards to Learners**

SATURDAY, 11 September

Cape Town International Conference Center (CTICC)

10:00 – 13:30 Plenary Session

Presentation and Discussion of Recommendations

The Under-Secretary, Department of Culture and Lifelong Learning of Namibia,
Justin Ellis

11:00 Coffee/Tea Break

11:30 Round Table: Reaction to the Recommendations - How Realistic are They?

With education stakeholders (representatives of multi-lateral and bi-lateral organizations, governments, NGOs and academe)

13.00 Closure

The Superintendent-General, Education,
Western Cape Education Department, South Africa
Ronnie Swartz

13:30 – 15:00 Lunch