



Citizens of public life in digital learning

Preliminary Research Cyprus

Project Citizens of public life in digital learning
2019-1-UK01-KA204-061372
Erasmus Plus program - Key Action 2
Strategic partnerships for adult education – exchanges of practice



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ANALYZED BY RIVENSCO CONSULTING LTD

English

Country:	CYPRUS
Category:	VOCATIONAL & EDUCATIONAL CENTER
Title of Best Practise:	SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC SITUATION IN CYPRUS
Organization name:	ORGANIZATION FOR PROMOTION OF EUROPEAN ISSUES
Brief summary/description of the best practise (maximum 100 words)	<p><i>Cyprus is back on a growth track and has been ranked as one of the fastest growing EU economies. The country exceeded international expectations by turning its economy around in just three years following a devastating financial crisis in 2013.</i></p> <p><i>Cyprus has shown remarkable resilience following the financial crisis of 2013 and has implemented tough austerity measures to restructure and diversify its economy. Despite a challenging period for one of the smallest EU member states, the economic adjustment remained on track and progress has been made in all key objectives set out by the country's international lenders, allowing Cyprus to reclaim its status as a self-determining and thriving economy.</i></p> <p><i>The economy is based in the services sector and the GDP composition by sector in 2018 are as follows:</i></p> <p><i>Agriculture: 2.3%</i></p> <p><i>Industry: 11%</i></p> <p><i>Services: 86.8%</i></p> <p>GDP Growth</p> <p><i>The GDP growth over the last 10 years is shown below:</i></p>  <p><i>We can conclude that the economy is back on growth rates and the trend is positive.</i></p>



Employment policy

The unemployment in Cyprus is decreasing. The Unemployment Rate decreased to 9.10 percent in March from 9.50 percent in February of 2018.

Unemployment Rate in Cyprus averaged 7.86 percent from 2000 until 2018, reaching an all-time high of 16.70 percent in September of 2013 and a record low of 3 percent in March of 2002.

The government of Cyprus and the Ministry of Labour and Social Insurance are making efforts to minimise the effects of the economic recession and the high unemployment rates in Cyprus, the actions taken are policy measures on job creation, the prevention or restriction of redundancies and layoffs and the facilitation of the unemployed integration in the labour market giving particular emphasis on the most vulnerable groups including youth.



Integration

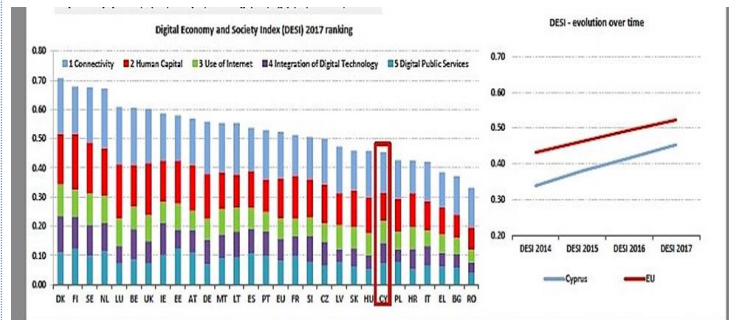
Although Cyprus has been receiving migration flows for the last at least two decades, the concept of integration has been a matter for debate only in the last few years. This is closely linked with the fact that Cyprus has never actually drafted a comprehensive immigration policy with a long-term vision, much less a political scheme of integration of immigrants and refugees. Migrants are seen, up to now, as people who come and go with the exclusive goal of working and returning to their home countries. Therefore, the notion of integration is quite new for the Cypriot society and the authorities and is mainly formed by EU Directives in a range of aspects of EU competence.

Digital literacy

In Cyprus digital literacy is improving according to government statistics, but it is still behind EU average. More specifically Cyprus ranks 22nd in Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI) 2017.



Compared to last year, Cyprus showed significant progress in connectivity. The delivery of online public services is close to EU average. Even though internet users engage in a wide variety of online activities, low levels of digital skills risk acting as a brake to the further development of its digital economy and society.



The groups that have the lower digital literacy are

- Low education
- Long term unemployment
- Lower Income
- Geographical restrictions rural areas

The government is announcing measures and promoting free training programs to fight digital illiteracy in Cyprus. Most of the programs are fully subsidized and available to everybody but better coordination is needed to reach everybody