



# Support the Ways to Literacy

Autumn 2003

[www.support-the-ways-to-literacy.org](http://www.support-the-ways-to-literacy.org)

All over Europe, there is widespread need to detect and react properly to basic skills deficiencies shown by clients during early stages of social, vocational or educational counselling.

Since practically all people who are affected by reading and writing problems hide their deficits due to a feeling of shame and embarrassment, advisers working in these fields need to

be trained to employ strategies and methods to carefully unveil these facts without offending the social and cultural integrity of their clients.

The project "Support the Ways to Literacy" develops "Guidelines for Counselling Disadvantaged Adults" that will sensitize and inform advisers working in several areas about different aspects and phenomena of illiteracy or borderline basic

skills and, above all, the sociological and cultural background of people affected by it. In this way their knowledge about and awareness of different aspects of "functional illiteracy" shall be increased.

The project also develops a Curriculum for Training Seminars for Social and Vocational Counsellors, working with disadvantaged persons.



Education and Culture



## 25 years working against functional illiteracy

Between **November 5th and 11th**, more than 150 basic skills experts, mainly from Germany, will meet in Bernburg (in the German province Sachsen-Anhalt) to participate at the conference **"Mit Erfahrung neue Wege gehen - 25 Jahre Alphabetisierungsarbeit in Deutschland"** organised by the Bundesverband Alphabetisierung in collaboration with the German Adult Education Association, the UNESCO Commission and the UNESCO Institute for Pedagogy. They will discuss prevention possibilities, basic skills education for adults and international trends. The presentation of best practice examples and the accompanying exhibition will also include our project "Support the Ways to Literacy". More information: [www.alphabetisierung.de](http://www.alphabetisierung.de)

