

# 2017 conference in Serbia

## LIFELONG LEARNING IN HIGHER EDUCATION

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european university  
continuing education network

## University Lifelong Learning in Europe: An overview

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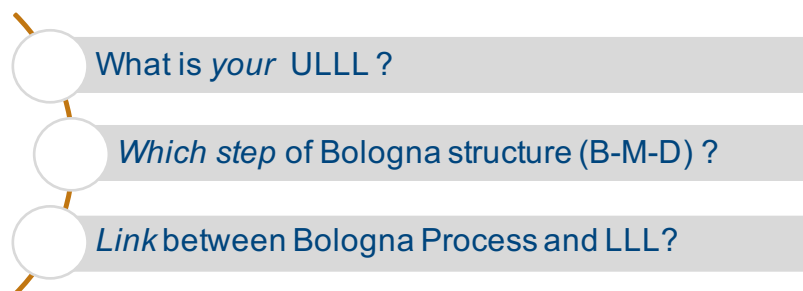
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## Eucen approach for University LLL implementation

- Embrace ... the diversity of ULLL
- Key questions addressed to universities



## University LLL diversity [*Beflex, Beflex+ projects, 2003-2007*]

- Various names: Adult education, Permanent education, University Lifelong Learning (ULLL), Continuing Education (UCE)
- Large diversity of programs:
  - Non-degree programs: short or long courses
  - Masters : all or some dedicated to specific audience
  - Distance learning – e-learning

### But also:

- Part-time studies, BMD modules, Courses for alumni, Bachelors
- Validation of Non-formal or Informal Learning (VNIL/APL/RPL), Counselling, Mentoring
- Regional Collaborations, outreach activities

## Common Understanding

*ULLL is the provision by higher education institutions of **learning opportunities, services and research** for:*

- *the **personal and professional development** of a wide range of individuals - **lifelong and lifewide***
- *and the **social, cultural and economic development of communities and the region***

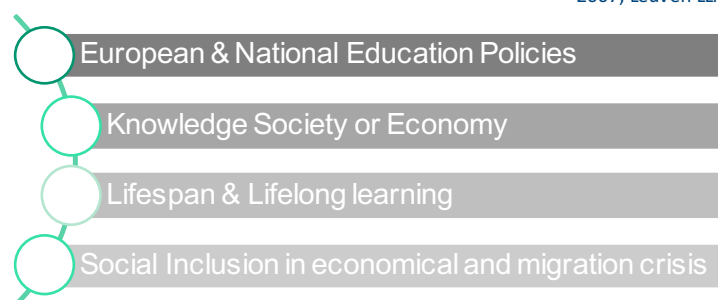
*It is at university level and **research-based**; it focuses primarily on the **needs of the learners**; and it is often developed and/or provided in **collaboration with stakeholders and external actors**.*

... a definition embracing 25 years of practices  
*Beflex and Beflex+ projects*

## When Universities are strategizing ...

- Higher Education Institutions : pressures to change

[European Council, 2000; 2010]  
[HE Ministers, London, May 2007; Leuven-LLN, 2009]



- Organizational and identity changes  
'Doing strategy' : recent activity

Elwood and Leyden, 2000; Kadir, 2012;  
Whittington, 2003]

## In 2003-2010: Strategy ?

### → Existence of ULLL strategy

- Trends 2003 (EUA): 35% of universities developed a LLL strategy
- Trends 2010 (EUA): 39% (n= 821)
  - The most advanced : SE, DK, FI, FR, IE, UK, CZ, LT
- BeFlex Plus 2007 (**eu cen**) (150 universities):
  - 46% have a LLL strategy
  - 18% do not have
  - 37% in preparation

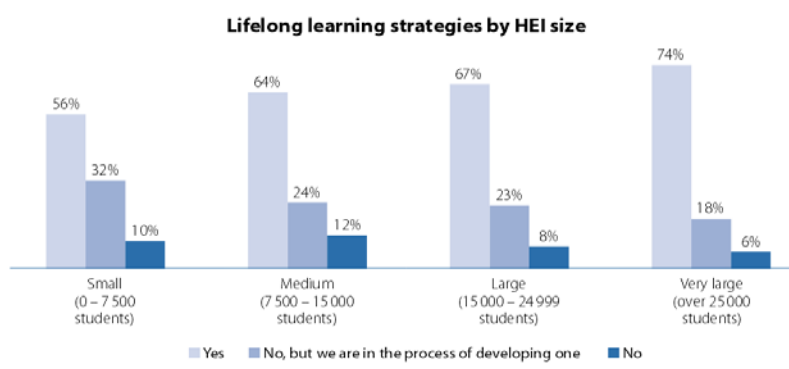
### → Importance of LLL in the university strategy (BeFlex Plus, 2007)

- 13% the top priority
- 55% important with other priorities
- 31% not yet a priority

## In 2015: strategy ?

65% universities (n=714) have a ULLL strategy

Figure 16: Lifelong learning strategies (Q23) by institutional size (Q6)

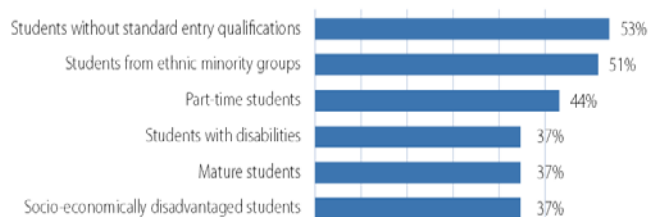


[EUA TRENDS, 2015]

## In 2015: which target ?

Figure 15: Does your institution have targeted strategies to attract the following student groups? ("No strategies") (Q22)

### Institutions with no strategy for recruiting specific groups of students



[EUA TRENDS 2015]

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## Design strategies ... in collaboration

Helping universities, in a concrete and practical way, to elaborate a vision, mission and action plan **to become a LLLU**

Strategy as **something done** within an organisation

- **Tools based on self-analysis**
  - on ways to develop a LLL strategy: why, who, how
  - on content: mission, vision, goals
  - Benchmark against EUA charter on LLL
- Peer-to-peer guidance: visits and expertise sharing

*Allume project*

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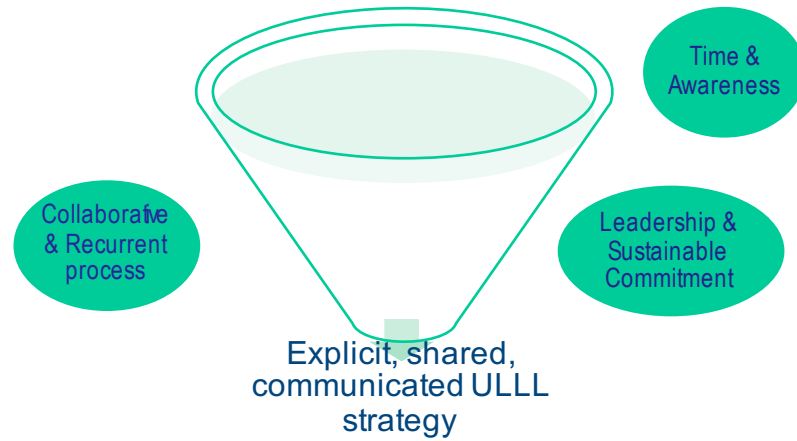
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## Design ... in collaboration

ULLL : a major cultural & organisational change  
in loosely coupled systems



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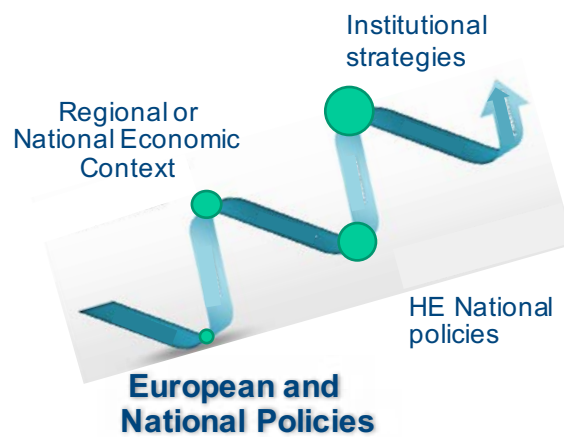
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## Design ... in collaboration

*KEY FACTORS INFLUENCING LLL STRATEGIES IN UNIVERSITIES*



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## In a nutshell, eucen proposes

### ▪ Methodologies

- To understand and tackle diversity of LLL
- To collect data on ULLL
- To lead research on/in/for ULLL
- To develop comparative studies and status of the art
- To develop tools as support to universities

### ▪ Expertise to guide universities

- in defining their understanding of ULLL
- In starting a ULLL strategy process
- In implementating their action plan

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*Projects*  
*Conferences*  
*Seminars*  
*Networking*  
*Resources*  
*Publications*

**Thank you for your attention**

**Questions and Answers round**



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## Reference...

**BeFlex** *Benchmarking in the Bologna reforms*  
Project 2006-0073/001-001 SO2 81AWB  
<http://www.eucen.eu/BeFlex/index.html>

**BeFlex Plus** *Progress on Flexibility in the Bologna reform*  
Project 134538-LLP-1-2007-1-BE-ERASMUS-EMHE  
<http://www.eucen.eu/BeFlexPlus/index.html>

**ALLUME** *A Lifelong Learning University Model*  
Project 504635-LLP-1-2009-1-BE-ERASMUS-EMHE  
2009-2011 <http://allume.eucen.eu>

**COMMIT** *Committing to the social dimension of universities*  
Project 539519-LLP-1-2013-BE-ERASMUS-ESIN  
2013-2016 <http://commit.eucen.eu>