

MALTA

RANK IN EU-27

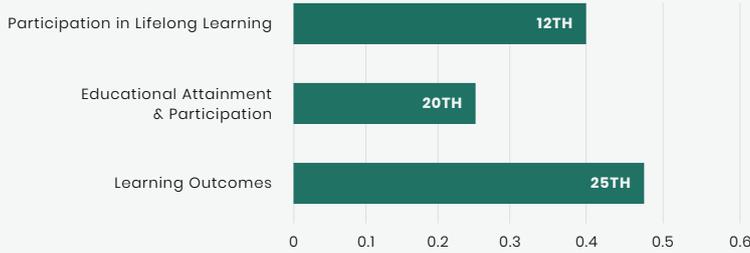
5TH

OVERALL SCORE

0.642

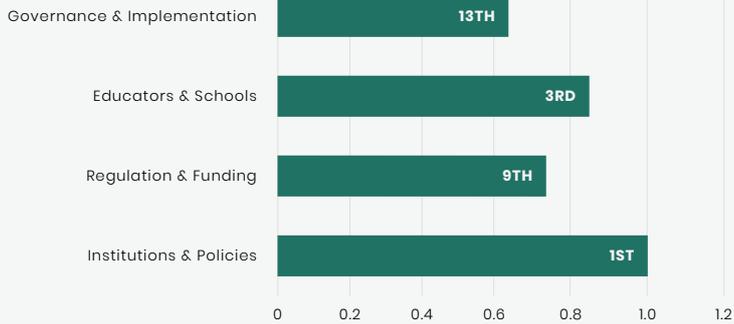
LEARNING PARTICIPATION AND OUTCOMES

RANK
19TH



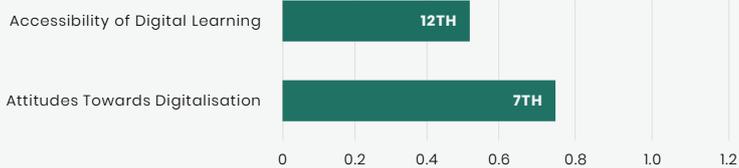
INSTITUTIONS AND POLICIES FOR DIGITAL LEARNING

RANK
5TH



AVAILABILITY OF DIGITAL LEARNING

RANK
12TH



MAIN OBSERVATIONS

- Malta ranks 5th on the overall index for readiness of digital learning. Despite its low score on learning participation and outcomes (19th), it ranks high on institutions and policies for digital learning (5th).
- This is partly due to a long-standing awareness of the importance of ICT in education among policymakers. Digital literacy was set as a policy priority early on. Synergies between government, education and industry are created to sustain a strong digital economy in Malta.

TAKEAWAYS:

WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM THIS COUNTRY?

- Higher education institutions have made substantial investments in digital education. Professors are offered training opportunities to develop blended learning material. Also primary and secondary education teachers' training includes the design of technology-enhanced learning. They have fairly good access to IT equipment and open education resources.
- Malta is the first European country to use blockchain for certification purposes.
- Malta's policies in digital adult learning or digital up-skilling have been noticeably influenced by EU policy documents.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Progress could be made regarding the equal recognition and accreditation of MOOCs or other open education courses both at higher and adult education levels.
- A lack of funding and training for lifelong educators remains a concern. This aspect should be taken into due account by policy to ensure digital lifelong learning opportunities.
- Educational methods in Malta remain rather traditional and digital resources are used mainly to support traditional models of education. A more comprehensive modernisation could be implemented relying on digital technologies.

KEY REFERENCES

- Ministry of Education and Employment (2017b), "Digital Learning Manifesto".
- Ministry for Education and Employment (2014), "Framework for the Education Strategy for Malta 2014-2024".
- Ministry for Education and Employment (2015), "Digital Literacy, 21st Century Competences of our Age".

PHOTOGRAPHY: Micaela Parente on Unsplash.com