

# Unlocking the Potential of Adult Education

Research Area: Educational Research and Lifelong Learning



Keser Aschenberger, Filiz<sup>1</sup>; Geppert, Corinna<sup>2</sup>; Thöne-Geyer, Bettina<sup>3</sup>; Kil, Monika<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University for Continuing Education Research, Center for Transdisciplinary Continuing Education Research

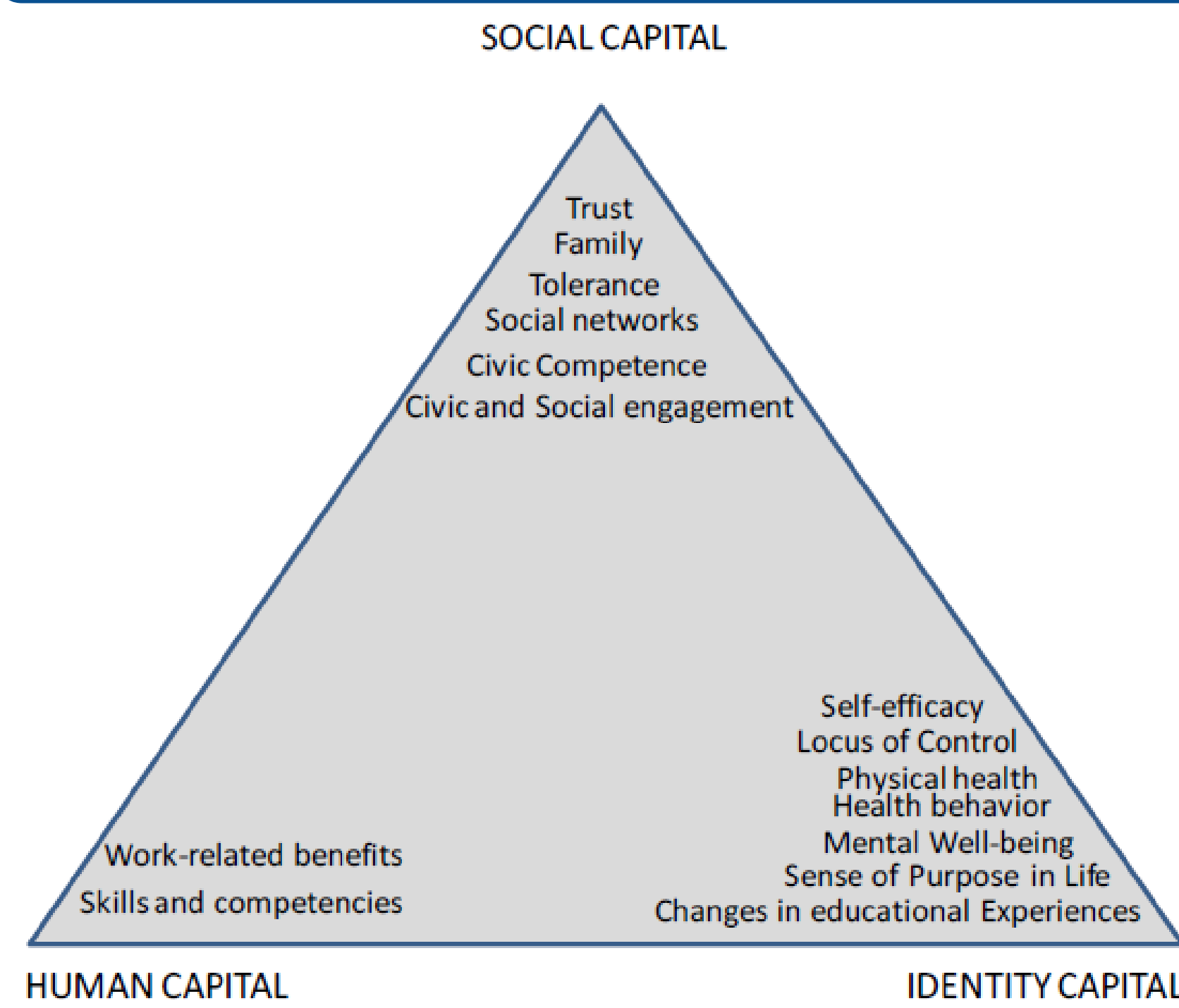
<sup>2</sup>University for Continuing Education Research, Department for Higher Education Research

<sup>3</sup>DIE-German Institute for Adult Education Leibniz Centre for Lifelong Learning, Guest Prof. at Center for Transdisciplinary Continuing Education Research

## BeLL EU in a Nutshell

- EU Project (LLP-2011-2014)
- conducted in 10 countries (Germany, Finland, Italy, UK, Spain, Slovenia, Czech Republic, Switzerland, Romania, Serbia)
- The purpose was to investigate the individual and social benefits perceived by adult learners who had participated in liberal adult education courses
- Mixed methods
  - 8646 survey participants
  - 82 interviews

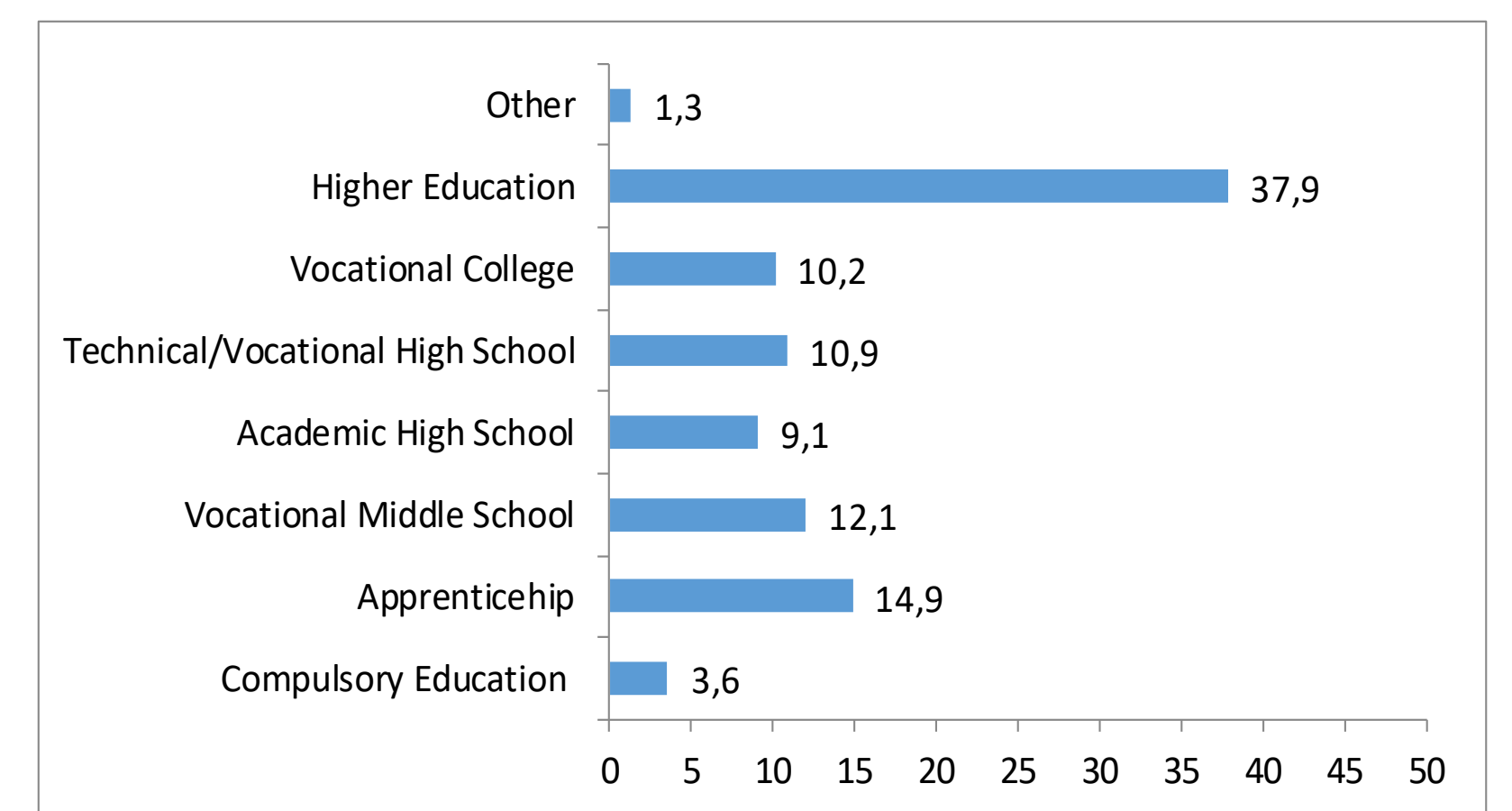
## Theoretical Background



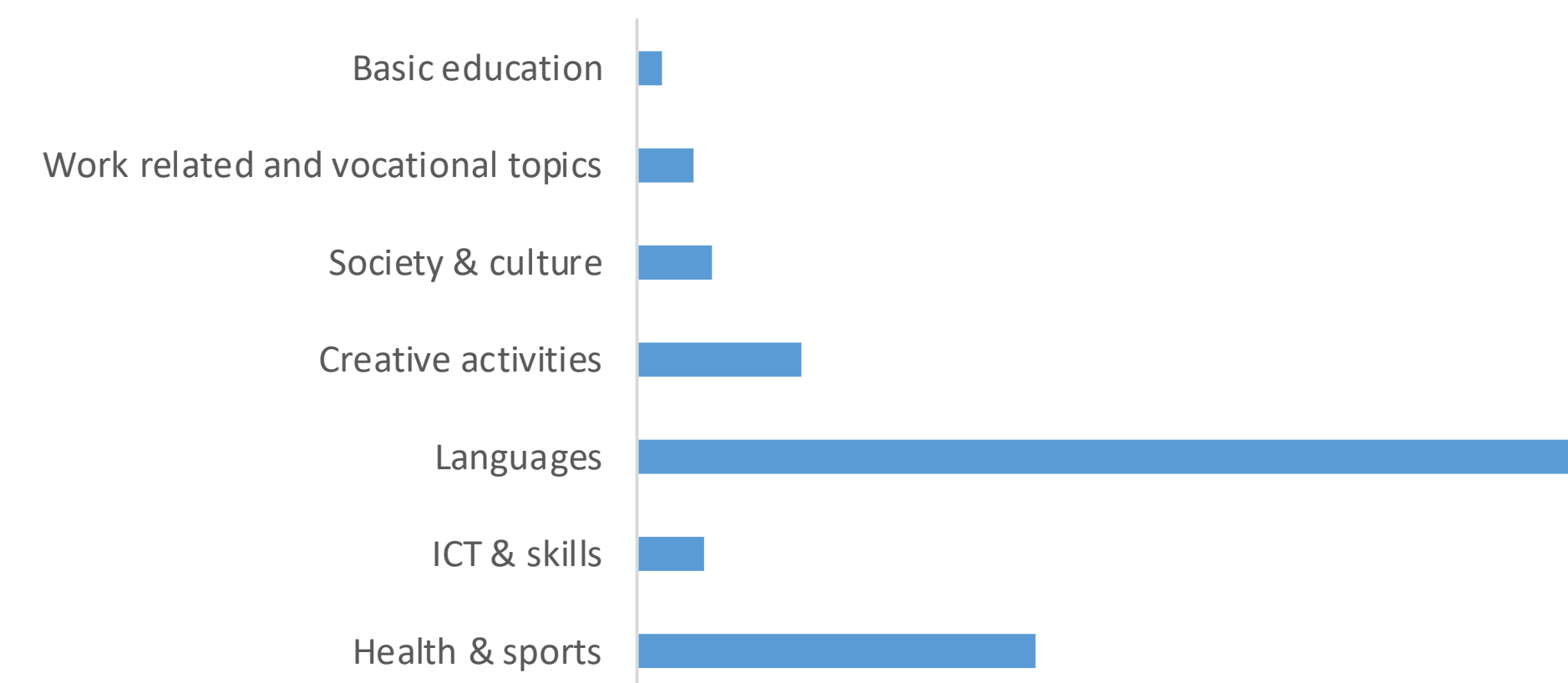
Conceptualization of the wider benefits of learning (from Schuller et al., 2004, p. 13; Manninen, 2010)

## Results

- Gender: 77.6% female, 22.4%
- Average Age: 53



Course Types

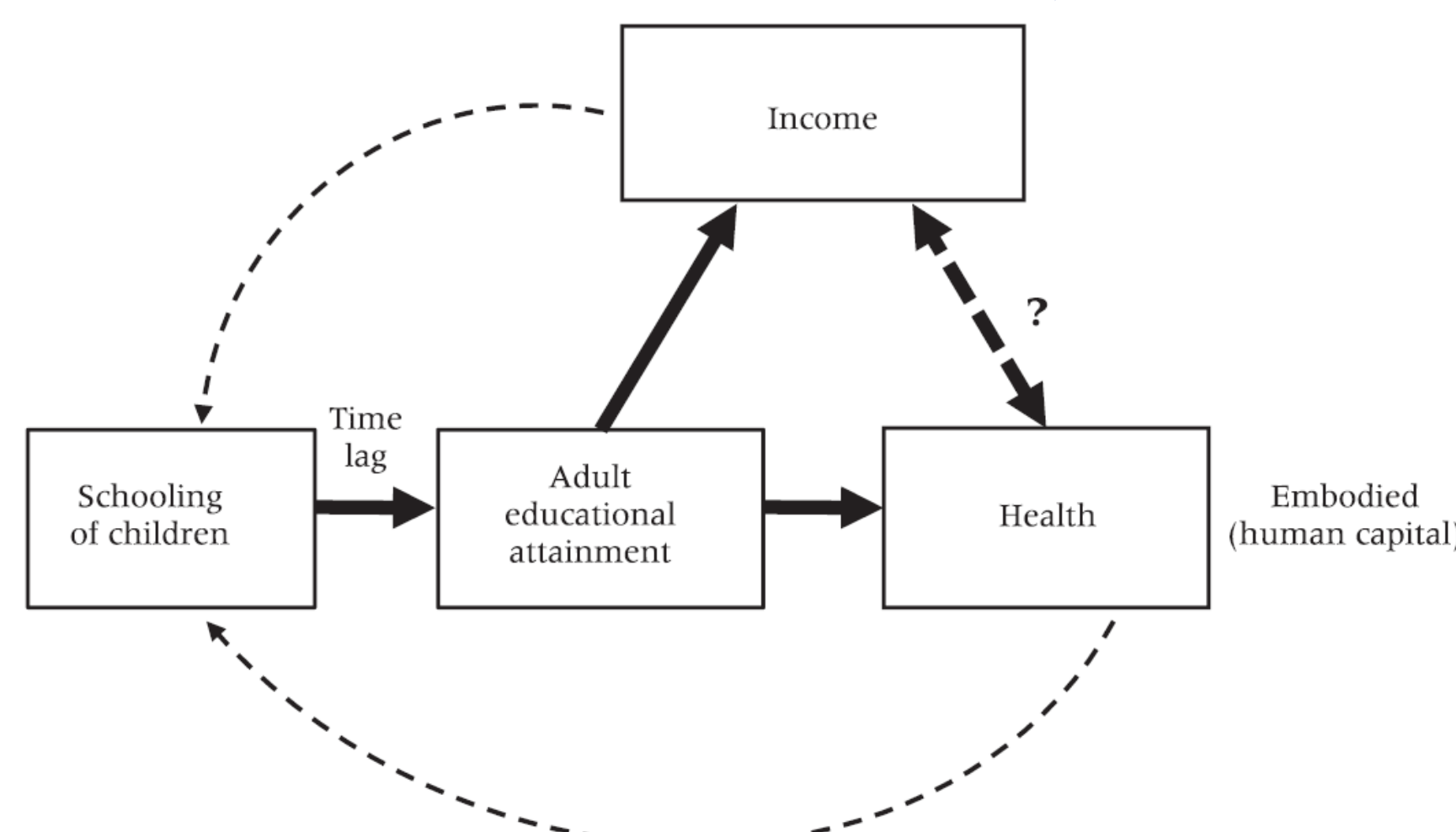
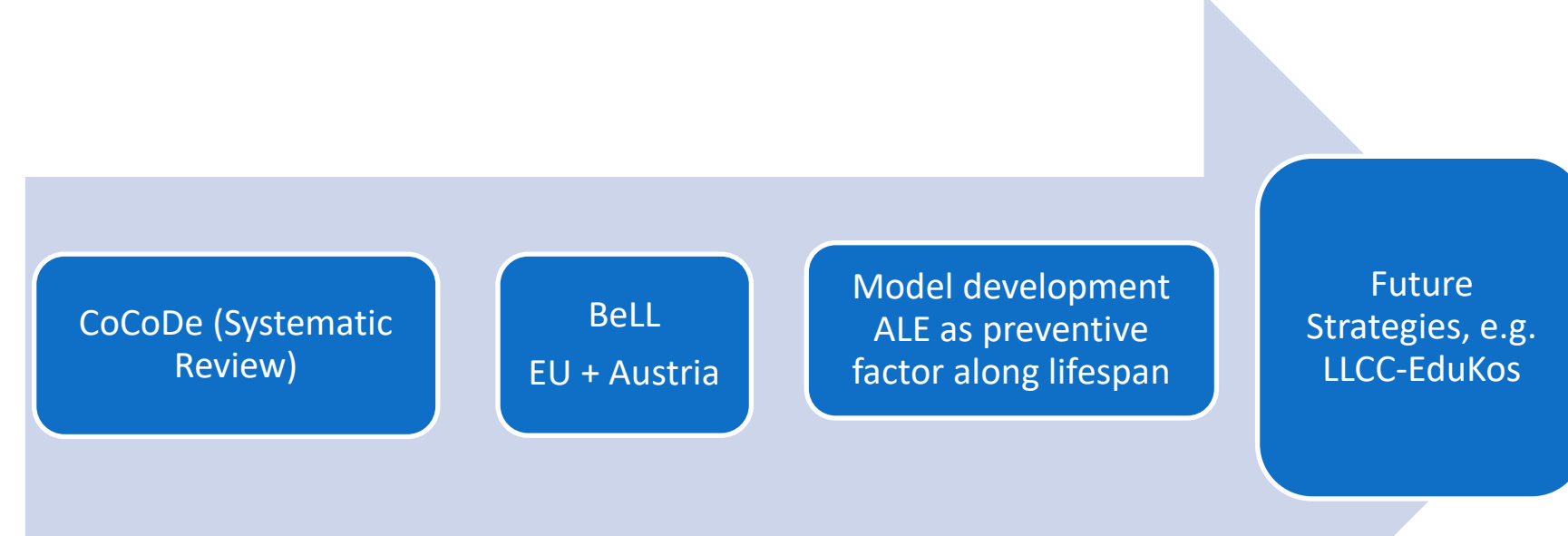


## BeLL AT in a Nutshell

- BeLL questionnaire and interview schedule were adopted to Austrian context (levels of education, institutions, etc.) in CoCoDe project
- Data Collection
  - Cooperation with The Association of Austrian Adult Education Centers (Verband Österreichischer Volkshochschulen, VÖV, 256 VHS in Austria)
  - 1450 questionnaires were sent to all states of Austria
  - February 2019-August 2019
  - 610 questionnaires from VHSs in 9 states
  - 8 interviews were conducted



## Work in Progress



Source: Lutz & Kebede, 2018, p. 350

- Preventive and empowering role of adult education for social exclusion in addition to sustain by developing models of benefits of learning
- Development of evidence-based learning and teaching models and their impact on individuals
- Role of learning environment on benefits

