



High Quality adult education

METHODS AND GOOD PRACTISES IN THE FIELD OF
THE EFFECTIVE WAYS OF MOTIVATING ADULTS FOR
LEARNING PROCESS, PROMOTION OF LIFELONG
LEARNING AMONG ADULTS



Erasmus+

Project: High quality of adult education – European exchange of experiences
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Introduction

Within the project entitled „**High quality od adult education – European exchange of experiences**” under Erasmus+ Programme we have created the partnership between European organizations working in the field of adult education and on exchanging and sharing experiences in the sphere of lifelong learning. This partnership has brought together Learners, Educators and Adult Education Organizations from various geographical and cultural areas of Europe.

Members of the partnership:

1. Folkuniversitetet, Stiftelsen vid Lunds universitet, Lund, Sweden
2. Galileo.it S.r.l., Rome, Italy
3. Kėdainių suaugusiųjų ir jaunimo mokykla, Kedainiai, Lithuania
4. Senioren-Lernen-Online UG (haftungsbeschränkt), Kiel, Germany
5. Stowarzyszenie “EBI Association”, Jastrzębie-Zdrój, Poland [Applicant]

The idea which has accompanied us firstly while writing the project application and secondly during its later implementation was that our common cooperation will give some contribution for solving, on our local levels, **problems** such as:

- a) lack of motivation of adults to learn all their lives and weak motivation of adults for continuous participation in classes
- b) low number of attractive training topics/subjects for adults / low adjustment of directions and curricula of further education and training to the educational needs of adults
- c) lack of tools to open innovative faculties of further education and training for adults
- d) lack of information about lifelong learning possibilities
- e) very low use of ICT in teaching and learning process of adults
- f) low activity of adults in the membership in an European society

Having in mind above-mentioned issues, the project tasks and activities were organised in order to enable the transfer of knowledge, exchange of experience and good practices between partner institutions.

Additionally, the agendas of the transnational project meetings were expanded by the discussion about non-vocational adult education of seniors, immigrants and refugees, disabled persons and persons at risk of social exclusion and with limited access to educational offer.

Short description of the project Partners

Folkuniversitetet, Stiftelsen vid Lunds universitet, Sweden

Folkuniversitetet is an adult educational association that offers a wide range of adult education all over Sweden. It is an association of five foundations: the university extensions attached to the Universities of Stockholm, Uppsala, Göteborg, Lund and Umeå. They have a broad open educational program in a variety of subjects; the association also runs upper secondary schools, schools in higher vocational education, courses for seniors and trainings, labour market education and further education and trainings for working life. Folkuniversitetet is independent of all political, religious and commercial interests.

International cooperation, pedagogic development, democracy and focus on the individual are central values for the organisation. They have given important contributions to development of Swedish education and training, for example evening gymnasiums, language centres, Swedish for immigrants, college and ICT-based education. Visions and ideas for better learning methods are developed and tested in project groups, often in international cooperation. Coaching, mentorship, validation, entrepreneurship, learning in working life, empowerment and active guidance based on individual needs are examples of areas the association is developing, and implementing to their own organisation.

Galileo.it S.r.l., Italy

Galileo.it S.r.l. is specialised in realising training modules for SMEs and big companies by using ICT. It co-operates with several ICT and vocational training expert bodies in order to arrange and spread the FTS (Flexible Training System protocols). FTS are distance training protocols realised with the integration of traditional paper tools, Internet services and hypertextual multimedia tools. Flexible Training System defines parameters in order to realise long distance training courses of high quality.

Language Solution is a Division of Galileo.it dedicated to language trainings and the creation of blended tools for language adult trainings. In 2005 the Italian Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Labour and the European Commission (Education and Culture) gave to Consorzio Lavoro e Ambiente the European Label for innovative projects in language teaching and learning for the project and product PANGLOS made in collaboration with Language Solution – Division of Galileo.it.

Galileo was partner of many EC Projects funded by Leonardo da Vinci, Grundtvig and other EC initiatives and partner of many projects funded by Italian Regions and Italian Government.

KĖDAINIŲ SUAUGUSIŲJŲ IR JAUNIMO MOKYKLA, Lithuania

Kedainiai Adult and Youth Education Centre (AYEC) is a non-profit organization established in 2001. The main purpose is to provide primary, basic, secondary and non-formal education, to unite students' demands to advance their skills and to stimulate the diffusion of their approach to pedagogical and andragogical innovations. In order to expand students' skills AYEC offers various courses. The Centre also gives courses for seniors and established The Third Age University. The Centre is quite well technically equipped and is a suitable and inspiring place for learning and expressing students' creativity.

In 2004 the school established a Study Group for traditional arts and crafts in order to expand students' horizons as well as explore other ways of alternative educational methods. The school provides services which correspond to the vision of lifelong learning society for individual members and community. The students of the school are basically those disadvantaged ones from geographical and social backgrounds, learners with special needs, children with misbehaviour problems and multicultural society. The Centre also offers courses for seniors and established The Third Age University, where students are offered with health, psychology, music etc. courses.

Senioren-Lernen-Online UG (haftungsbeschränkt), Germany

SLO (UG haftungsbeschränkt) is a small educational organisation of senior experts for senior citizens. All its activities are web-based. It is committed to helping elderly persons by informing about and teaching them the use of lifelong-learning tools – especially on the Internet and with the use of various special synchronous and asynchronous platforms. This means that senior citizens can participate from any location (home, for example) using the Internet and a headset. In SLO trainer can be learner and learner can be trainer, because every senior citizen is an expert in his or her own field, where she or he worked before retiring. In this way senior citizens can also try new ways in peer to peer teaching and learning with the help of the Internet (Experiences in Videoconferencing, writing eBooks, online workshops, using regular tables -virtual -via Skype, webblogs).

In 2002 SLO developed and since then it has conducted online-based courses, workshops and continuous online meetings for senior citizens - focusing on topics with the use of the Internet, the new Web 2.0 and mobile devices, tools for e-citizenship, e-banking, real-time communication, creative purposes and working conjointly and held available online-based assistance in questions and problems of the Internet and computers.

SLO has also participated in several European projects dealing with computers, mobile devices and e-learning.

Stowarzyszenie “EBI Association”, Poland

EBI Association is a non-profit organization functioning from 2016. It works for the development of Education, Business and Innovation. Knowing how important it is to combine these three pillars in the creation of a modern knowledge-based society, the institution tries to implement projects, which, on the synergy principles, focus on a development of science, entrepreneurship and allow implementation of interesting innovations in the region.

The members of the Association, as activists and social workers, would like to create conditions for both personal and professional development of residents of the region, indirectly contributing to the increase of the activity of the association beneficiaries in European society.

In addition, most of the members have experience in the implementation of projects financed from external sources, both national and transnational (Operational Programmes, Leonardo da Vinci – PLM, IVT, VETPRO, Grundtvig, Swiss Contribution and Erasmus+ Programme).

The Association builds its own cooperation network i.e. through contacts with local, regional, and international institutions and organizations.

How to promote lifelong learning among adults?

During common workshops of the representatives of Partner institutions, there were pointed some ways of promotion of lifelong learning among adults such as:

- open days/open workshops in adults education organisations
- websites
- social media (e.g. Facebook, Twitter)
- YouTube (e.g. move about line dances).
- articles in local press, newspapers
- posters, leaflets in libraries, health centres, kindergartens, etc.
- information in churches
- information during the events for local society, during the festivals for seniors
- games / plays (with challenges, competitions)
- whisper marketing
- asking adults-students/learners for informing their neighbourhood about lifelong learning opportunities

What can motivate adults to take part in further education?

During common workshops of the representatives of Partner institutions, there were indicated effective ways of motivating adults for continuing education such as:

- emphasizing the possibility of being a part of a group
- underlining social integration of students
- rising adults' self-esteem
- providing educator – student partnership
- showing care to the students, encouraging them to active participation
- having fun during the trainings
- sharing knowledge
- spending time in common
- issuing certificates of attendance (certifications)
- preparing the reward system for students (i.e. stickers, badges)
- meeting students' needs of self-development
- providing good examples, connected with daily life (our life forces us to educate ourselves, e.g. Internet security, using antivirus programs)
- finding solutions for students' problems (the group can share their own solutions to a specific problem)

- highlighting the possibility of participating and learning more about something that interest adults
- setting targets
- showing the possible future with ex-students invited
- eliminating barriers
- trying to organise learning process in mixed groups (taking into account e.g. age, disabilities)

How to improve the attractiveness of adult education and training?

Additionally during these common meetings, there were highlighted ways of improving the attractiveness of adult education and training such as:

- using various methods, materials and devices during teaching
- caring about good communication between educators and students, giving feedback by both sides of learning process
- some part of the lesson/lectures should be dedicated to solve real life problems
- highlighting the possibility of seeing/knowing the results
- broadening the scope of activities, broadening the scope of courses/trainings
- improving the skills of educators
- taking part by staff active in adults education in conferences, projects, seminars as a possibility to exchange the knowledge and good practises
- involving students/learners in the process of organising adult education
- involving students/learners in the process of preparing the directions and curricula.

Coordinator

EBiassociation

www.ebi.org.pl

Partners



www.folkunivesitetet.se



www.galileo.it



www.senioren-lernen-online.de



www.smc.kedainiai.lm.lt

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