

fCUS europe

June 2011

Spotlighting European developments and projects



Hattrick

Football - Learning - Integrations

3rd Sector

Setting Standards in Volunteer Management

North Sea Supply Connect

New Business Opportunities for Northeast European SMEs

10 Million People Use Europass



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Enter Europe's network for sharing project results and products. www.enter-network.eu



focus europe

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C-E.N.T.E.R.

Your key to successful promotion of EU projects

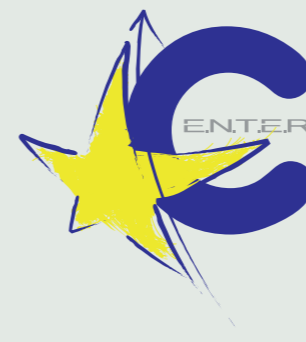
"C-E.N.T.E.R. - Competence, cooperation and communication in the dissemination and exploitation of EU projects" is a 3-year (2010-2013) project dealing with the task of promoting EU projects and distributing their results. Thereby, different instruments such as the Focus Europe magazine will be developed in order to improve the dissemination activities at European level. Beside the implementation of new tools, the project aims to support project consortia in achieving successful and sustainable EU project marketing.

Our next activities will be:

- Pilot test of the C-E.N.T.E.R. workshop
- C-E.N.T.E.R. workshop organised as European course under Grundtvig In-Service Training grants
- Dissemination toolkit
- 4th thematic dissemination conference in Varberg, Sweden on 25th November 2011
- 3rd edition of Focus Europe in January 2012

C-E.N.T.E.R. invites you to participate in the project activities and to use the instruments for your dissemination actions. Please visit us at www.c.enter-network.eu for further information and keep updated through www.enter-network.eu.

Visit us also on facebook (C-E.n.t.e.r. page or Enternetwork).



Focus Europe

A spotlight for ideas and innovation



The question of "Valorise or vaporise?"

Welcome to the second edition of Focus Europe, which includes even more information on European projects and activities than the first edition. Since the start of Focus Europe, the C-E.N.T.E.R. project has received very positive feedback and has had the opportunity to present its first outcomes at a variety of conferences and events. One of the recent activities was the participation in a Grundtvig Dissemination Expert Seminar in Brussels. During this event, experts from different European countries and institutions discussed a diversity of thematic products developed by Grundtvig projects during the period 2002-2007.

Out of the compendium of 100 High Quality Projects, 50 High Quality Projects and Results were selected and assessed according to their potential for exploitation and sustainability. The experts concurred that some products needed updating in order to be used in the future in terms of their content and/or layout or they needed to be translated into other languages, whilst others were not considered suitable or of a high enough quality from today's perspective. All of these products showed direct impact on their thematic sectors (e.g. intergenerational learning, active citizenship, disabilities, literacy and basic skills, intercultural education, access to adult education, recognition of former learning, quality of adult education...) but only a few of them had the potential for sustainable use.

What can we – the project coordinators and partners - actually do in order to produce these kinds of products and results? It is of course a precondition that we produce good quality products that reflect the needs of a specific target group and/or sector. But there are more key factors such as the adaptability of outputs to country and organisation specific circumstances because with transnational cooperation projects we also develop transnational products. In most cases, the implementation of such products at the local, regional or even national levels is not so easy without applying specific modifications. Therefore, the products need to allow this flexibility for adaptations and additional developments (e.g. regular updates) to be made as easily as possible. Furthermore, no product will be sustainable without stakeholders and target groups that are convinced of its usefulness and quality. For this reason, not only stakeholders and target groups/sectors but also the benefits and advantages for users should be clearly defined and promoted in a very transparent way from the beginning of a project.

This brings us to the heart of dissemination and highlights the correlation of dissemination and exploitation: a good dissemination strategy – a strategy that addresses the target group, involves stakeholders and provides a good mix of dissemination instruments to be used at a specific time in the project process - builds the basis for sustainability in the long-term. These are the aspects we have to deal with in our project work. Therefore, let's face the challenge together so we can clearly speak of valorising instead of vaporising our outcomes!

Petra Kampf
Network Coordinator



North Sea Supply Connect

Creating new business opportunities for Northeast European SME's by advancing transparency and accessibility to procurement



Funding programme The Interreg IVB North Sea Region Programme
Duration 01/01/2009 – 30/06/2012
Outcomes New markets for SMEs and OEMs by improving interregional supply and tendering chains in Maritime industries, Energy & Public Infrastructure as well as Health & Food across NE Europe.
 Investing in the future by working together for a sustainable and competitive region.
www.northseasupplyconnect.eu

The project contributes to the EU Strategy for the North Sea Region by facilitating access for SMEs to procurement procedures. The project will create SME Supply Clusters for all the countries surrounding the North Sea as an innovative instrument for effective regional economic development and SME promotion. Small markets in the North Sea Region access barriers to European supply markets are key

problems addressed by the project. They cause competitive disadvantages for Northern SME's and their regions compared to suppliers and regions involved in large regions. If SME's stick to prosperity of traditional regional markets, mayor markets are at risk. This risk is further aggravated by the ongoing global economic crisis which challenges regional economies to join forces with partners at an interregional level in order to regain competitiveness and to master structural change. Northsea Supply addresses them with a Company Register and Training Measures with a SME-orientated partnership. Furthermore, North Sea Supply Connect intends to cooperate closely with the Baltic Sea project in order to secure access to new regional markets and business opportunities in the North Sea and secure European cross boarder competitiveness.



Training Innovation

Created to achieve that INNOVATION is promoted by the LIFELONG LEARNING systems

Funding programme Leonardo Da Vinci Transfer of innovation ES/09/LLP-Ldv/TOI/149050
Duration 24 months
Outcome Training course in which we will teach how to identify, develop and valorize the 5 selected competences identified as key competences for the development of INNOVATION processes.
www.traininginnovation.eu



Is it possible to acquire, develop and apply competences linked to innovation in learning environments?

TRAINING INNOVATION is willing to TRANSFER INNOVATION from a project called TOOLS TRAINING adapting

its working methodology with informal competences, to make the VET professionals become the first agents in development,

mobilization and valorization the competences linked to INNOVATION in their students.

Which are the key competences linked to INNOVATION?

To give an answer, it proceeded to perform an EUROPEAN REPORT about the situation of INNOVATION in the lifelong learning systems. The main conclusions of this report, is a list of key competences, which finally will be worked:

- SOCIO EMOTIONAL COMPETENCES
- SERENDIPITY
- POSITIVISM AND OPEN MIND
- CREATIVITY AND LATERAL THINKING
- INNOVATIVE TEAM WORK

TRAINING INNOVATION pretends to develop training materials to qualify the VET professionals. This will be achieved across the design and development of a "training course" in which it would be teach how to identify, develop and valorize the 5 competences identified. TRAINING INNOVATION has assumed the EQF to create training materials, based in LEARNING OUTCOMES, transferable to the all countries of the EU.

TILLVÄXT HALLAND

A contribution to prosperity and growth in Halland



Business developers and educational co-ordinators

The aim of Tillväxt Halland is to contribute to prosperity. A methodology has been developed within the project to perform advanced analysis and give good advice to companies. In the long run, the activities will encourage a culture of innovation. The project is a

partnership consisting of Region Halland, the municipalities in Halland, Halmstad University and Campus Varberg. The partnership will:

- Increase business innovation and development by increasing the exchange of expertise between businesses.
- Encourage development projects for market, product and process development as well as internationalization.
- Create new growth companies.
- Develop quality assurance systems.
- Stimulate cooperation between teaching and research groups and the business world.

Halland is known for its varied economy and many small businesses. There is a strong entrepreneurial spirit, good profitability and growth. However, there is also a lack of knowledge-intensive companies and

an exchange with colleges and the wider community. Because expertise is a key driver in creating competitiveness, Tillväxt Halland is providing six local business developers to liaise with an equal number of educational co-ordinators at colleges and vocational schools. The business developers approaches companies and performs a needs analysis. This way, more enterprises will come into contact with higher education and research.

Funding programme European Regional Development Fund
Duration September 2008 – August 2011
Outcome A model for business innovation and development

Investing in your future



Ecocrafts

Valorisation of women creativity through recycling waste for crafts

The project is aimed at improving vocational skills to use and recycle waste materials as well as old and natural materials in order to turn them into crafts items and thereby provide employment to local people, especially women. In Estonia, one of the focuses of the project has been using wood, which is a traditional and wide spread resource in the region. Crafts workshops related with traditional architecture, building and renovation with traditional, natural materials, especially recycled/



recyclable, took place within the 2-year project. Topics included: * using clay for plastering works,* different methods of preserving wood, *using old logs and other old wooden items to produce new things and items, *restauring old windows, doors, furniture. In other countries, focus was put on crafts traditional in their regions, eg pottery, embroidering, knitting etc. During the partners' meeting in Võru, Estonia, participants took part in block printing, flower/plant arrangement and Estonian national handicrafts workshops.

Funding programme Leonardo da Vinci Partnership
Duration 24 months (2009-2011)
Partners Czech Republic, WYDA s.r.o. , www.wyda.cz (coordinator); Estonia, Siksali Development Centre, www.siksali.ee Greece, K AIAS S.A., www.kekaias.gr; Poland, Educational Association "Common Knowledge" , www.tewp.org.pl; Spain, Global Interface SL, www.europainterface.net; Turkey, Yozgat Uretici Kadınlar Dayanisma Dernegi
www.proecocrafts.com



Participants at plant arrangement workshop



Learners at renovation training in Siksali

Sundial

Sustainable Development in Adult learning

The partnership includes organisations from Spain (VITA XXI SLP), United Kingdom (Field Studies Council), Sweden (Piteå kommun, Förvaltningen för arbetsmarknad och vuxenutbildning) and Finland (WinNova) as coordinator.

The primary purpose of SUNDIAL is the exchange of good practices and methods concerning education for sustainable development and how to include sustainable development issues in the ordinary training and education.

The project will be carried out through meetings during which to focus on developing a common training module on ESD, which



will include both theoretical and practical components and then train a group of trainers in each country, in order to disseminate general understanding and practice of ESD in several relevant aspects such: education for tackling climate change, linear production vs circular production, green economy, alternative citizenship education, learning out of the classroom, participatory democracy etc.

Promoting and enhancing this ESD network will bring new air to training trainees towards sustainable development and how could be infused on design, implementation and evaluation to enhance existing educational goals for adults.

Programme LLP – GRUNDTVIG Learning Partnerships

Duration August 2009 – July 2011

Contact leena.seppanen@winnova.fi

<http://grundtvigsundial.wordpress.com/>



SUNDIAL project partners meeting in January 2011, Murcia, Spain



that was developed in the DICOMP-S.NET project and transferring it to Spain, Greece, Turkey, Poland and Bulgaria. The tools package consists of a free screen reader, a tutor training programme, a speech synthesizer, and a comprehensive user manual. Access to this free, ready-to-use solution will significantly improve the situation with regard to jobs and labour market policy in these innovation-importing countries.

Based on a detailed specification analysis in the new target countries the existing contents and tools have been adapted to the new localized specifications.

Dissemination campaigns are currently being organized in the partner countries to inform enterprises and VET providers about the results and potentials of the project as well as to inform the visually impaired community in each target country of the free software available to them.

Programme LLP Leonardo da Vinci Transfer of Innovation

Duration October 2009 – September 2011

Outcomes The project promotes access to the labour market for blind and visually impaired citizens by providing a tools package consisting of free screen reader software, a speech synthesizer, a downloadable tutorial guide and a comprehensive user manual. (optional: free screen reader software)



Meeting with Mr. Bulent Tanik, Mayor of Cankaya – Ankara, 3rd DICOMP transfer project meeting in Ankara Feb. 2011

Hattrick

Football-Learning-Integration

The project Hattrick follows a strategy to use the potential which young migrant footballers display on the football pitch for (re-)entering education and vocational training and thus improving their social integration.

Playing football in a team offers various opportunities of social learning and developing transversal competences – independent from cultural background. Many young migrants show enthusiasm in (team) sports, with young men especially keen on football. The football pitch, however, is one social location where integration seems to be successful in many cases.

Hattrick develops an innovative training approach by opening an informal pathway



to education: Football clubs are explored as possible new places of learning. Young migrants or other young disadvantaged men are engaged in lifelong learning activities by meeting them where they already are with enthusiasm: on the football pitch!

The training method in the Hattrick project is based on a two-fold strategy: Football-related workshops for young migrant football players are offered, where social and intercultural skills are developed. In addition to that a training course for football coaches is developed to enhance their social and intercultural competences. 7 football clubs in the 7 Hattrick partner countries (AT, DE, NL, BG, IT, FR, UK) test the training material.



European dissemination: The Hattrick project team (with an information desk) at the "Mediterraneo Antirazzista", Palermo, June 2010

Programme /Action Lifelong Learning Programme/Grundtvig Multilateral Project 502368-LLP-12009-1-AT-GRUNDTVIG-GMP

Duration 12/2009 – 11/2011

Outcomes Training programme and material for young migrant football players, training programme and material for football coaches, Hattrick Good Practice Brochure, International dissemination conference

www.hattrick-project.eu



Hattrick aims at integrating young migrants through football

3rdSector.eu

Setting Standards in Volunteer Management



Volunteer Management Training in Italy

The increasing professionalization of the sector is a common challenge across Europe for voluntary organisations and the management of human resources within the organisations is a key issue to be addressed.

The European 'Third Sector' is made up of voluntary organisations, social enterprises,

charities, cooperatives and NGOs. The work of the third sector across Europe addresses key issues of social cohesion, for example the ageing population, asylum seekers and refugees, people with disabilities or from disadvantaged communities, etc.

However, many third sector organisations experience significant challenges in recruiting and retaining volunteers, and volunteer involvement requires a framework of good practice. Good management processes are needed to attract and enable volunteers to contribute, and to ensure they receive the benefits of volunteering. Frequently the people who manage volunteers do it as an 'extra' to their real job, and so they often cannot prioritise the needs / rights of the volunteers.

The 3rdSector.eu project promotes skills and competence building, using a structured approach which is based on the



UK Management of Volunteers (Institute of Leadership and Management) qualification suite.

The third sector across Europe is large and becoming more influential. In all states the third sector has the potential to support the sustainable renewal of society. Strong management and positive volunteer experiences, such as those supported by this project, will help society to benefit fully from the involvement of volunteers.

Programme: Leonardo da Vinci Transfer of Innovation

Duration: 2010-2012

Outcome: Training for Volunteer managers

www.3rdsector.eu

FLY off

Feel your own business

The project aims at providing qualified mobility opportunities to help entrepreneurs to effectively develop their ideas and activities across Europe and “fly off” with their business.

New Entrepreneurs (NE) interested in a successful start-up and development of their SME business ideas, will have the possibility to work for up to 3 months together with an experienced Host Entrepreneur (HE) in

his/her SME in another EU country: the NE will acquire the relevant skills for managing a SME; the HE will get fresh perspectives and international cooperation opportunities; both will have the possibility of enriching and sharing experiences, enhancing market access, identifying potential partners and/or establishing businesses in other EU countries.

Through a 3 partners Consortium (IT, UK, HU) that will act as Intermediary Organization (IO), the project will carry out 35 successful relationships involving 70 entrepreneurs across Europe.



L1-256 - Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs

Duration February 2011 – October 2012

Outcomes Info days, Matching 35 relationships, Dissemination material and project website, on-going and financial management, reports

www.erasmus-entrepreneurs.eu or www.tkformazione.it



During the project, we will create new mentoring sessions in our countries, so we will achieve immediate benefits and high impact. We will open InterGen Groups in each country, to include older people, support workers, childcare services and training organisations. The Groups will ensure that the material is relevant to the needs of the users.

Programme LLP – Leonardo Transfer of Innovation

Duration October 2010 – September 2012

Contact intergen@pointeuropa.org

www.intergen-project.org

Programme Leonardo da Vinci, Transfer of Innovation

Duration 2009-2011

Outcome ISO17024:2003-based approach for competence certification of a qualified metal worker including all necessary materials

www.isoquam.eu



the lower levels of EQF (EQF 1 and 2). The project ISO QUAM provides an approach for a competence certification for a qualified metal worker (EQF levels 1 and 2) through a transfer of an existing model for competence certification schemes on the basis of the norm ISO 17024:2003. This project will transfer this norm, which is already successfully used in other sectors, into the metal sector providing the first reliable and internationally recognized competence certification approach for low skilled or unskilled workers. A European-wide



recognized approach for certification of their competences would provide them with an ISO 17024:2003 competence assessment certificate, valid in all European countries (and beyond), which will significantly improve their job chances and their possibilities for job mobility.

Intergen

New training resources to support Intergenerational Mentoring

InterGen is a two-year project, funded by the Leonardo da Vinci “Transfer of Innovation” programme, with partners in Austria, Germany, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden and the UK. We will create new training resources for Intergenerational Mentoring: one-to-one sessions where older people can spend time with children who need support.

Intergenerational mentoring offers benefits for everyone:

- Older people find useful activity and interest by actively supporting others
- Children find a new role model and support from an adult outside their family
- Families obtain the support of a non-judgemental person
- Educators, social workers and schools welcome the additional resources

The project is based around two successful Lifelong Learning projects: Nightingale, based in Sweden, and SAGE, based in Austria.



ISOQUAM

Certification of personal skills and competences in the metal sector on the basis of the worldwide recognized approach of the norm

The background for the ISO QUAM project (ISO 17024:2003 certification for qualified metal worker) is the current and probable future situation in the metal sector in Europe, which due to the economic crisis produces a high risk of low-skilled or unskilled workers. Currently there is no possibility to certify the competences of this target group, which have been acquired mainly through non-formal or informal ways. The European Qualification Framework (EQF) currently provides no clear strategy on how to certify and recognize competences lower than the regular skilled worker (apprenticeship level), which leads to a strong need for a certification approach for

ATHOSK

Innovative vocational cable crane training in forestry

The EU ATHOSK project has seen five partner countries, Austria, Germany, Italy, Romania and Slovenia, join forces for the period November 2010 to October 2012 with the aim of developing an innovative vocational training concept for people working with cable cranes. The core strengths of the partners lie in the areas of logging, wood processing, professional vocational education in forestry and other aspects of working with wood as well as in EU project management.

The forestry industry is a diverse and dynamic economic sector in Europe. One of the most increasingly applied pieces of technology in recent years in logging has been the cable crane. Cable cranes are complex machines, which can be effectively utilised particularly in extreme weather conditions and on difficult terrains, however if they are not handled correctly then terrible accidents can result.

In Europe to date there does not exist a comprehensive training concept for the operation of cable cranes. The aim is therefore the production of a modularised training programme for the professional and efficient use of cable cranes, which will contribute towards the prevention of accidents. The high level of turnover of workers and the multinational composition of the workforce in many forestry and wood processing companies means that an intercultural approach towards training is imperative.



Programme/Action LDV/multilateral projects/innovation development

Duration 11/2010 to 10/2012

Results Vocational training concept, learning materials, teaching materials

www.athosk.eu

The long-term aim of ATHOSK is the development of a transnational and legally recognised educational model including appropriate learning and teaching materials, which together will develop transnationally binding quality standards and procedures as well their continued sustainable application.



Deployment of a cable crane on a steep mountainside in Austria.

PRODEV

Pilot training test and evaluation of new training course for community development workers (CDWs)



The PRODEV project promoter IFAID Aquitaine

(FR) and the partner organisations tested the vocational training module for CDWs during a pilot between February and April 2011.

The pilot training was conducted by partners in Italy, Portugal, the Czech Republic, the Netherlands, France and Switzerland. Between six and eleven participants attended each of the pilot courses in project management. The trainees came from a diverse range of backgrounds and settings (local authorities, non-profit organisations, rural areas and urban areas) to test and evaluate the content and structure. The courses contained theoretical but also practical elements. Some participants were asked to develop a project idea to be presented at the end of the course. For others individual coaching was organised separately throughout the pilot course.



The outcomes of these pilots will improve the innovative vocational training curriculum for CDWs at the European level and will help to develop a tailor made project management concept for CDWs. The final version of the PRODEV training course is expected to be published in June 2011; it will be available in Czech, English, French, Italian and Portuguese. For further information please visit www.prodev-project.eu.

EOF European Outplacement Framework

A bridge to new employment!

In 2009 SZF submitted a proposal for an EU project under the title of „EOF - European Outplacement Framework“. It proceeds from the fact that training institutions are testing



Second project meeting in Larisa, Greece

models, which give support to trainees in order to find a new job. These services have been running as “outplacement” services. This means that, help is offered to the job seekers to analyse their previous vocational biographies, to compile a competency profile and to develop an individual application strategy. At the same time there is a constant dialogue with companies which define their future demand for labour together with the counselors. Consequently, the best-suited applicants/trainees can be provided with adequate job offers.

The pedagogues counsel in all aspects related to their career-oriented life plans, so that they can deliberately make decisions for their careers. In their trainings also special attention is given to the fine-tuning of key competencies. They complete the trainee’s qualification, which target enhancement of trainees to act

professionally. They learn to develop suitable application strategies, to write and compile personal application documents, to prepare themselves for application and to reflect upon these situations. This pedagogic and psychological mentoring is newly developed and has become an integral part of the training course.

Main product Seminar programme for tutors and mentors

Programme Leonardo da Vinci “Transfer of Innovation”

Duration 01.10.2009 – 30.09.2011

www.eu-eof.net

Yes We Can

Yes we can... calculate!
Mathematics for people with Down Syndrome

For decades, international literature has claimed that persons with Down Syndrome will forever be mathematically illiterate. One of the Yes We Can project’s major goals is to abolish such prejudices.

With Austria as project leader five partner countries Germany, Romania, The Czech Republic, Italy and Denmark are working to develop an effective didactical concept, which based on neuro-pedagogical principles, will enable people with Down Syndrome to master simple arithmetical calculations. Specific



stimulation of both brain hemispheres – through the utilization of both hands – will facilitate the

acquisition of mathematical skills and promote their ideal storage in long-term memory. The development of teaching materials (video (incl. tutorial), handbook, mathematical tool-box) in order to secure innovative and validated methodology for teaching mathematics is one of the major milestones within this project.

This innovative method, based on the simple notion of employing our ten fingers, has the unique advantage that our ‘calculating tools’ will always be immediately at hand. Ultimately, throughout Europe, more than 600 persons with Down Syndrome should be able to learn to manage money and to read a clock as the

first steps towards developing self-reliance and independence.

The two-year EU-project “Yes we can!” will profile the person with Down Syndrome, highlighting his needs and potential for development. Persons with this individuating chromosome structure have been underestimated and, as a result, improperly challenged. Thanks to the Grundtvig Programme, they will be provided the opportunity for mathematical training.



Photograph by Conny Wenk

Funding Grundtvig Multilateral

Duration January 2010 – December 2011

Outcomes Innovative methodology based on modern brain research results for the training of mathematical competences for persons with Down Syndrome
Pilot trainings in all partner countries
During the project about 200 professionals, parents will be trained in the methodology and it is expected that about 600 people with Down Syndrome will learn basic mathematical literacy

<http://www.downsyndrom-yeswecan.eu/>

EXACT 4EU

Excellence academy for trainers

EXACT is a European project that is based on background of project partners’ longstanding involvement in Second Chance Education and builds on existing projects, methodologies and tools.

The project aims at closing the gap between a number of potentially useful, but often “semi-finished” educational tools and approaches which have been developed by EU projects in education and training on the one hand, and the unmet need to test them in different environments, adapt and further develop them so that they can be made widely available to professionals who work with difficult groups of learners.



Programme / Action Lifelong Learning Programme/KA4 Multilateral Project 505609 - LLP-1-2009-NL-KA4-KA4MP

Duration 12/2009 – 11/2011

Outcomes The project activities of EXACT culminate in an emerging Centre of Excellence offering a range of products and services, such as: Online Platform, Teachers’ Handbook, Mobile Local Expert Teams

Website www.exact4.eu

EXACT establishes a Centre of Excellence which systematically exploits results of former European projects. The activities during the project will be to analyse, develop and disseminate the tangible and intangible results of a number of EU projects falling into one of two clusters:



1. Learning for Life: Innovative approaches at learning and teaching social competences
2. Learning for the job: Methods and tools which foster employability of disadvantaged groups

The identified and finalized good practice examples will be displayed on an internet platform. Full exploitation of these good practice examples are enhanced by a range of accompanying support products and dissemination events at local and European level.

exact4eu
Excellence academy for trainers

Business Transfer Programme II (BTP II)

Contribution to upgrading the skills of business successors/buyers to successfully handle the transfer process.



Business transfer is of major concern in the European Union today. Almost one third of the SMEs in the European Union, approximately 690.000 with about 2.8 million employees will be faced with the succession/transfer process within the next 10 years.

An experienced team of training and consulting companies and researchers from seven European countries (Austria, Finland, Italy, Netherland, Poland, Portugal, and Sweden) is working together on a common project funded by the Leonardo da Vinci programme to develop and implement further measures to facilitate business succession/transfer in Europe.

The Business Transfer Programme II is based on the former BTP pilot project, where a tailor-made training, in combination with a specific Screening Tool for business successors/buyers was designed, including the following modules: Finance, Legal Aspects, Business Analysis, Marketing, Soft Skills, Human Resource Management.

The existing BTP curriculum and the Screening Tool will be updated to the needs



of further European countries and piloted in three European countries - Finland, Poland and Portugal – between November 2011 and April 2012.

The target groups are SMEs with the main focus on: Family members; employees, who are taking over a company (MBOs) and external persons, who want to take over an existing company (MBIs).

Funding Leonardo da Vinci – Transfer of Innovation

Duration Nov 2010 – Oct 2012

Outcome A blended learning training for business successors/buyers and an online Screening Tool to carry out a first enterprise check.

Contact Ms. Martina Mühlanger; martina.muehlanger@bit.at

<http://www.btp2.at>



September 2011

CESSIT European Seminar

14-16 September 2011

Time 3 days

Location Riga, Latvia

Organisational body Latvian Adult Education Association
Participation Fee: 650 Euros (incl. accommodation, meals, material). Funding is available at National Agencies under Grundtvig action "Visit and Exchange".

Theme/Topic Exchange of experience and good practice between trainers and training managers from all over Europe on how to improve creativity skills and entrepreneurial spirit in adult learners, in general, and in Early School Leavers, in particular.

Further information www.spi.pt/cessit

Ms Sarmite Pilate: sarmite.pilate@inbox.lv



CARE FOR WORK Health Care Seminar

7th September 2011

Location Perugia, Italy

Organising body ASL3: Azienda Sanitaria Locale n. 3 dell'Umbria (Italy)

Participation fees FREE

Further information The seminar will be coordinated by ASL3 and will count with other experts from Bulgarian, Latvia, Italy and UK. <http://www.careforwork.eu/> or j.santos@inveslan.com

3rd sector.eu Final

9th September 2011

Time 1 day

Location Perugia, Italy

Organisation Legambiente Umbria

Theme/Topic Quality training to managers of volunteers within 3rd sector organisations

Further information www.3rdsector.eu



Final conference FREE Fostering Return to Employment through Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Creativity

23 September, 2011

Time 9:00-16:00

Location Öt Evszak Ltd, Building A 20-22 Egry Jozsef u.H/1111 Budapest, Hungary

Organising body European Distance and E-Learning Network (EDEN)

Participation fee FREE

Theme Entrepreneurship, employment, e-learning, innovation and creativity, interactive tool to provide counsellors, tutors and trainers with relevant skills and competences.

Further information www.spi.pt/free

www.facebook.com/freeproject



Internationalization Consulting II Final Conference

23 September 2011

Location Conference Hall, Edificio CREA, Zaragoza, Spain

Organising body: Consortium of the INCO II project

Fees Free

Topic Expanding to European countries is getting more and more a goal of consultants and SMEs. Important questions and how to avoid mistakes concerning this challenge is taught in a vocational training "Internationalization consulting". This conference will give a short overview about the training and also present key-note speakers who are professionals in international business.

Further information www.inco2.at



Disability Awareness Conference

Date: 20th September 2011 (9.00-17.00)

Location Auditorium Maximum, Krupnicza 35, Krakow

Organising body Jagiellonian University, Disability Support Service

Participation fees Free

Theme/ topic disability awareness, assistive technologies, support for disabled students, inclusive education, diversity.

Further information www.dareproject.eu

October 2011

CEV Symposium – European Voluntary Centre

19-21 October 2011

Location Berlin, Germany

Organising body CEV – Centre Européen du Volontariat

Topic/theme Volunteering and Active Citizenship – two sides of the same coin?

Further information www.cev.be

November 2011

4th Thematic Dissemination Conference

25 November 2011

Location Campus Varberg, Varberg, Sweden

Organising body The Alexanderson Institute

Participation fee Free

Further information www.c.enter-network.eu



GRUNDTVIG COURSES

Promoting Equality and Managing Diversity

05-09 September 2011

10-14 October 2011

07-11 November 2011

Location Radisson Blu Resort St. Julian's, Malta

Organising body Weave Consulting

Fees 650 Euros

Further information The five day course aims at providing participants with sensitivity about all the various facets of diversity and awareness regarding the relevant legal and administrative implications pertaining to equality on the basis of sex, age, religion, race, sexual orientation and disability. The course offers concrete tools which can be implemented within the own organisation in order to manage diversity in a positive and pro-active manner.

www.weaveconsulting.eu

Preventing and Addressing Harassment

19-23 September 2011

24 – 27 October 2011

21-25 November 2011

Location Radisson Blu Resort St. Julian's, Malta

Organising body Weave Consulting

Fees 650 Euros

Further information The five day course provides the tools required to understand, implement and execute successful programmes to reduce incidents of harassment in all its forms and create a friendlier, more productive working environment, whilst complying with EU Directives.

www.weaveconsulting.eu

Intergenerational Learning and Volunteering Conference

9 -12 November 2011

Location Rome, Italy

December 2011

Second GINCO conference - Grundtvig International Network of Course Organisers

Enhancing opportunities for professional development of adult education staff

07-11 December 2011

Location Thessaloniki, Greece

Theme Validation and recognition of the learning outcomes of the adult educators attending Grundtvig in-service training courses. The conference targets actual Grundtvig in-service training course organisers, all adult education organizations willing/planning to organise such courses and all stakeholders in the field: LLP National Agencies, adult education policy makers, programme developers etc.

Further information www.ginconet.eu

ENGLISH@WORK (25 h)

12-16 September 2011 (10.00 a.m. – 4.00 p.m.)

Location Didactic Classrooms, Via Buonvicini 56, Firenze, IT

Organising body Tk Formazione Srl

Participation fee 720,00 €

Course Reference Number IT-2011-702-001

Empowering migrants

19 – 23 September 2011

Location Piraeus, Greece

Organising body IDEC Fees 750 Euros

Further information The training course addresses trainers and mediators of migrants. Topic of the training is the assessment of key skills of migrants, through SAOS software. After the training the participants will get the SAOS software for free.

Participants can get a grant by Grundtvig in-service training.

<http://webgate.ec.europa.eu/llp/istcoursedatabase/>

COMET – Communication for European Training Managers

19 – 23 September 2011 (9.00 a.m. – 5.00 p.m.)

Location Didactic Classrooms, Via Buonvicini 56, Firenze, IT

Organising body Tk Formazione Srl

Participation fee 720,00 €

Course Reference Number IT-2011-683-001

Further information www.tkformazione.it (section "Grundtvig Individual Mobility") Ms. Michela Calabrese m.calabrese@tkformazione.it or Ms. Caterina Boschi c.boschi@tkformazione.it; Grundtvig database (enter reference number)

<http://ec.europa.eu/education/trainingdatabase/search.cfm>

<http://www.spi.pt/comet/>

Grundtvig courses continued on the following page...

...Grundtvig courses continued from previous page

Evaluation and Quality Assurance in Adult Learning

10 – 14 October 2011

Location Piraeus, Greece

Organising body IDEC

Fees 750 Euros

Further information The training course addresses managers, administrative staff and trainers of training institutes. It is a five day workshop plus e-learning preparation and follow up. Participants can get a grant by Grundtvig in-service training. <http://webgate.ec.europa.eu/llp/istcoursedatabase/>

International Development Officer

21 – 25 November 2011

Location Piraeus, Greece

Organising body IDEC

Fees 750 Euros

Further information The workshop addresses international development officers, European project managers, training managers. During the workshop the participants will have the chance to practice the learnt skills, by actually compiling a funding proposal. Participants can get a grant by Grundtvig in-service training. <http://webgate.ec.europa.eu/llp/istcoursedatabase/>

Stress prevention activities

28 November – 02 December 2011

Location Piraeus, Greece

Organising body IDEC

Fees 750 Euros

Further information The training course addresses managers, administrative staff and trainers of training institutes. It is a five day interactive workshop including case studies and role play games. Participants can get a grant by Grundtvig in-service training.

<http://webgate.ec.europa.eu/llp/istcoursedatabase/>



**Euroguidance:
Lifelong guidance and
international mobility**

Concetta Fonzo Euroguidance Italy – ISFOL, Italy

The awareness of the increasing need for lifelong guidance and the pivotal role played by career guidance in a period of economic crisis and social changes is evident. At European level, two Resolutions of the Education Council (2004,2008) have highlighted the need for strong guidance services and systems throughout the lifespan and the European Commission supports guidance initiatives at national level throughout two networks: ELGPN and Euroguidance. The later was established by the European Commission in order to support the exchange of information and knowledge on education, training and guidance systems and learning opportunities within the EU, with the perspective of international mobility. The Network is composed by National Centres of EU Member States, the European Economic Space, pre-accession countries and Switzerland.

In Italy, the Euroguidance Centre is located in Isfol. The Centre is promoted by the European Commission – DG EAC– and by the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies. The purpose of the network is to enable EU nationals to take up educational and employment opportunities in other European countries. Euroguidance Italy carries out its mission through three main activities:

- Production of information materials dealing with education, training and career opportunities at national and international level.
- Dissemination of information on education, training and guidance systems in Europe.
- Organization and participation to public events dealing with guidance and international mobility.

The dissemination of information takes place through: the website www.euroguidance.it, on which the reference material produced to date is available; free distribution of publications to relevant institutions and during exhibitions or related events; the e-mail account info@euroguidance.it aimed at answering users' enquires about education and training opportunities. In order to guarantee a widespread dissemination of information at national level, Euroguidance Italy coordinates the National Diffusion Network, involving bodies and experts working in the field of guidance and mobility. The NDN was established as a platform to allow further development and sharing. It provides the opportunity to exchange ideas and good practices, to find new project partners, to support existing initiatives with specific activities.

Euroguidance Italy, cooperates with the European Commission in updating the Ploteus portal. Ploteus provides information on learning and training opportunities as well as on exchange programs and grants, European education and training systems, and on everything that one needs to know before moving. Its main aim is the implementation of the freedom of movement for European citizens, providing them with the necessary information (<http://ec.europa.eu/ploteus>).



**Financing adult
education in the world
and in Europe**

Anna Bernhardt, UIL InfoNet

Adult education has always suffered from inadequate financing. Already during the Fifth International Conference on Adult Education (CONFINTEA V) in Hamburg in 1997, organized by UNESCO, participants committed themselves to improving the financing of adult education, 'seeking to invest at least 6 per cent of Member States' gross national product (GNP) in education and by allocating an equitable share of the education budget to adult education.' An "equitable share" was calculated to be 3 per cent of the total education budget.

Twelve years later the 6% recommendation has been reaffirmed at CONFINTEA VI, in the Belém Framework for Action. The findings of the National Reports, the Regional Synthesis Reports and Regional Preparatory Conferences for CONFINTEA VI indicate that the level of investment in adult education continues to be falling short worldwide. Out of 154 National Reports that were submitted in preparation of

CONFINTEA VI, only 57 countries (37%) provide information on budget allocations to adult education. A closer analysis of these figures compiled by the UNESCO-Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL, Hamburg) reveals that the provided data are often uncomparable: either countries refer to their adult education expenditures as a percentage of GNP or GDP, to the share of the state budget or to the share of the education budget devoted to adult education. On top of this the components of adult education vary from literacy and/or non-formal education to vocational education and/or post-compulsory education. Very few countries report that they meet the allocation of 6 per cent of GNP for all levels of education or the equitable 3 per cent that were recommended in 1997.

Highest amounts within the field of 'second-chance' provision

With regard to the European context, it seems as if many countries are struggling to reach a harmonization of who pays, why, for what and for whom in adult learning and education. Public commitment to, and investment in, adult learning and education varies from country to country, subject to different ideologies, governance structures and resources.

Generally governments in the region seem to spend the highest amounts within the field of 'second-chance' provision, which includes literacy learning and skills development for the unemployed. The National Reports also reveal that there has been growing public funding in demand-led schemes to motivate individuals to invest in their own learning, mainly for vocational training. The investments in non-formal adult education are weakly documented, but multi-source funding from a wide range of sources seems to be the norm. Levels of financial support vary considerably and participation tends to be based on self-financing except in the case of socially and economically disadvantaged individuals.

**Eurydice publishes
new report: "Adults
in Formal Education:
Policies and Practice in
Europe"**

Ricarda Motschilnig InfoNet

Eurydice has published a new report focusing on formal education and training opportunities for under-qualified adults and also covers policies and measures for enhancing the participation of adults in higher education in Europe. Convinced of the importance of adult education, EU Ministers for Education agreed that at least 15 % of adults should participate in some form of education and training by 2020.

The report reflects on five key issues faced by European countries and concludes that the completion of a formal qualification should now be seen as a step on the lifelong learning ladder rather than an end in itself:

- European countries face very different challenges in raising the educational attainment of the adult population

- Less qualified adults are less likely to take part in formal lifelong learning

- Flexibility of provision increases opportunities for adults to achieve formal qualifications

- Higher education systems vary significantly in their receptiveness towards adult returners

The results indicate that clear policy objectives regarding the participation of mature students in higher education have so far been defined in only a few European countries. Nevertheless, many countries have put in place various measures that are well suited to the needs of including adult returners.



http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/education/eurydice/documents/thematic_reports/128EN.pdf

The Austrian Open Access Journal for Adult Education: Now with English abstracts!

The Austrian scholarly journal on adult education research, practice and discourse is now more easily accessible for English-speaking readers.

Wilfried Hackl, EDUCON, Austria

Online journal with issues on selected topics

The Austrian Open Access Journal for Adult Education (Magazin erwachsenenbildung.at in German) is an Austrian scholarly journal for adult education and continuing education which is published online and in print three times a year. It focuses on adult education in the context of lifelong learning, addressing issues such as education offers, demand and needs, professionalization, and educational policy in learning.

Scholarship and practice in discourse

The editors publish contributions by authors with an academic, practical and educational background. Texts are directed at readers who work in the areas of adult education, continuing education and lifelong learning.

Experts in adult education, education research and education journalism review all texts that are submitted, and only selected contributions are published.

New: English abstracts

In order to make our journal more accessible to readers outside of the German-speaking world, the abstracts are now available in English, too. The abstracts and information on the authors can be retrieved online and provide a quick overview of the articles.

Current issue

Issue no. 12 is entitled "Qualität ist kein Zufall. Zwischen Rhetorik und Realität von Qualitätsmanagement" (Quality is no coincidence. Between rhetoric and reality of quality assurance). It discusses different systems available for quality assurance and certification in adult education. For the first time, a nationally accepted recognition procedure for existing efforts in quality assurance taken by continuing education institutions is introduced: the quality framework for adult education in Austria (Qualitätsrahmen für die Erwachsenenbildung in Österreich – Ö-Cert in German)

Free thanks to funding

All issues and articles can be downloaded free of charge at <http://www.erwachsenenbildung.at/magazin>. The Austrian Open Access Journal for Adult Education is not dependent on any institution. It is funded by the ESF (European Social Fund) and the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Art and Culture. The project is administered by the Austrian Federal Institute of Adult Education (bifeb), and the online editorial staff operates out of the EDUCON Institute.

<http://www.erwachsenenbildung.at/magazin>



clear definition of the concept, and the definition so far developed in the project is as follows: IGL is a learning partnership based on reciprocity and mutuality involving people of different ages where the generations work together to gain skills, values and knowledge.

IGL should be regarded as a crucial strategy for motivating and reengaging adults to learn along with younger generations. It can provide a great tool for elderly to act actively within the local society, prevent social exclusion, promote volunteering, become a first step to start learning by those who use to think that learning is irrelevant.

One of the main areas of intense actions of ENIL will be advocating on different levels for the IGL concept, showing its indispensability in full implementation of lifelong learning approach and providing infrastructures for sharing European models of good practice, exchanging expertise, resources or information. European Network for Intergenerational Learning will organize two thematic conferences and an advocacy conference. ENIL will also fund Peer-Learning Activities among organisations at grass-root level throughout Europe and publish an Intergenerational Learning Magazine in eZine format and in print. www.enilnet.eu



ENIL: European Network for Intergenerational Learning

Keeping generations together – fostering and improving intergenerational activities.

Agnieszka Mielczarek,
University of Humanities and Economics in Lodz, Poland

Intergenerational Learning remains to be one of the main priorities of LLP but – as the partners of the ENIL project indicate – remains to be a min or part of national policy. Despite the enormous advantages of the intergenerational learning concept, it still proves to be often underestimated or even overlooked. IGL. Since there is no common knowledge and common understanding of IGL, there is a need for developing terminology, that would be shared at European level. In particular, there is need for



It's always a good time to learn - Final conference of the Adult Learning Action Plan

From the periphery to the centre: what will come of the adult education action plan?

Michael Sommer, Infonet Adult Education, Germany

In Budapest around 250 experts met in the middle of March to discuss the future of the European adult education strategy. The result: initial training has, for a long time, not been enough to meet the requirements of a modern society. The financial crisis, the demographic shift and the new EU Strategy 2020 are bringing continuing education increasingly to the fore. But money, in particular, as well as a political will and scientific evidence of the effectiveness of adult education, are lacking.

Within the EU Commission, there are two departments that explicitly deal with adult education: one is responsible for the "Grundtvig" support programme, the other for strategic questions. The latter has developed the "Action Plan on Adult Learning 2007-2010". The "It's always a good time to learn" plan lists five priorities in particular that should be implemented by the member states and through EU policies. An expert group with participants from all member states accompanied this process. Within the structure of the action plan, studies are prepared, workshops

run, priorities at a European and national level were discussed and some smaller countries such as Slovenia took on the suggestions for their national strategy, confirmed Hélène Clark, Director for Lifelong Learning / Policies and Programmes in the European Commission: "People have become much more aware of adult education".

Serious challenges

And now, following the end of the action plan? The challenges are massive. 50 million people in Europe do not take part in adult education. There are 76 million under-qualified people, and the demographic development demands that qualifications continually need to be gained, including among the older generation. Sue Waddington, President of the European Association for the Education of Adults (EAEA), thus demands that "adult education must move from the periphery to the centre!"

Innovative financing measures must be found, says Hélène Clark. More and better information and scientific data, better access to education and improved quality are required. This, however, cannot be achieved using a Christmas tree approach, where everyone can receive nice presents. Instead, a selection is necessary. She also emphasised the necessity of increasing the ties between the future action plan, which will be developed this summer, and the 2020 Strategy of the European Union. Within this, three of the flagship initiatives are, however, already directly connected with continuing education. In connection with this, it was suggested from various parties that something is done to combat the fragmentation of adult education that has existed so far or at least to achieved better coordination within the various commissions (work, education, communication) and within EU agencies.

Not just employability!

But the aim of adult education is not just employability. This was made more than clear in Budapest. Sue Waddington advocated the integration of migrants and active citizenship as the most important topics of the new action plan. Others named ethics, solidarity, environmental protection, advice, the incorporation of universities, offers for older generations outside of work, a strengthening of regional learning centres and the improved training of educators.

During the two-day conference, the head of department in the EU Commission for many years, Marta Ferreira, who made a significant contribution to the action plan, took her leave. Her temporary successor will be Alan Smith, the former coordinator of the Grundtvig programme.

Europass was introduced in 2005 as an important tool in the "Youth on the Move" initiative, which encourages study and work abroad. It is available in 22 official EU languages as well as in Turkish, Croatian, Norwegian and Icelandic.

Easier to find employment EUROPASS has proved popular with businesses and employment agencies. As well as using Europass to seek posts abroad, the number of people using the CV to apply for jobs in their own country is also increasing according to the European Commission figures.

Towards developing the new European Skills Passport The Europass CV is a first step towards developing the new "European Skills Passport": it will allow people to better record skills acquired through experiences such as traineeships or volunteering (at home or abroad). Like the Europass CV, the skills passport will help job-seekers to present their abilities and experience more clearly. <http://www.europass.cedefop.europa.eu/europass/home/vernnav/Europass+Documents/Europass+CV.csp>

10 million people use Europass

InfoNet

According to latest figures compiled by the European Commission, more than 10 million people are using a 'EUROPASS' online CV to help them find a job. By offering a standardised CV template, available in 26 languages, Europass helps job-seekers to market their knowledge and skills in a user-friendly way to employers all over Europe and beyond. Almost half of Europass users are under the age of 25.

Voluntary service overseas – for adults too

Michael Sommer, Infonet Adult Education, Germany

It is not just young people who can travel abroad as volunteers; adults can do it too. The new "Senior Volunteering Programme" enables older volunteers to share their experiences in other European countries. And adults can go even further, for example volunteering in the Israeli army or helping out on an organic farm.

"Things are going very well," confirms Gunther Ring, managing director of the GEB (Gesellschaft für Europabildung – Society for European Education) in Berlin. Along with roughly 160 other institutions, the society is taking part in the "Senior Volunteering Programme", a new project within the Grundtvig initiative (part of the European Commission's Lifelong Learning Programme). Altogether, the Berlin society is sending six retired volunteers to a project partner in Slovenia, while six Slovenes are coming to Berlin. Over six weeks, the volunteers will be helping out at various educational institutions depending on their interests and background, supporting children and young people in difficult social circumstances. Beforehand, there will be a crash course in the language. "In our experience, older people are very happy with the programme on offer. It gives them something worthwhile to do; they can apply their experience and get to know another country at the same time," Gunther Ring comments. Furthermore, he explains, they meet with a great deal of respect, as shown by the example of a 74-year-old who played a very active role despite her age. The only aspect which has proved problematic, according to Ring, is the long stay he planned for volunteers: many older people do not want to leave their homes for such a long time.

Senior European Volunteers Exchange Network

On this programme, two calls for proposals in 2009 and 2010 have already allowed 450 older volunteers to take part in an exchange. In this process, two institutions in different European countries cooperate and, over a two-year period, can send 2 to 6 volunteers aged over 50 away for between three and eight weeks to work in an appropriate field, from environmental protection to helping the homeless. Their travel expenses, accommodation and a small administrative fee are paid through the programme. Organisations on this programme can join the Grundtvig-funded "Senior European Volunteers Exchange Network" (SEVEN, www.seven-network.eu). The GEB is also coordinating a new pilot project as

part of the EU's Citizenship programme: "Circle of European Integration", which is about introducing elements of mobility into the EU's Citizenship programme. The aim is to give people involved in civic life the chance to visit other initiatives and projects in this field and share their experiences with people from other countries. At the same time, a European database is to be created for outstanding projects involving active citizenship. This database is to give associations, initiatives and interested individuals in Europe a way to find out about examples of good practice in other countries.

Minding Shetland ponies and cleaning army tanks

One good time to go volunteering abroad (across Europe) is when at school, studying or in training. The EU promotes these kinds of activity, in particular through the European voluntary service (Youth for Europe funding programme). In addition, there are a large number of other volunteering organisations, such as the German "Aktion Sühnezeichen" (Action Reconciliation) where young people play a part in maintaining memorials commemorating National Socialist terror. These initiatives are generally restricted to teenagers and young adults, and often take the form of work camps in exotic locations abroad. Volunteering on an organic farm is open to everyone and can take place at any time: the WWOOF association puts volunteers aged 18 or over in contact with organic farms, where they can help out for at least two days or more in return for food and lodging. Anyone who wants to can thus spend their holidays on the Swedish Ramshyttan Horse Farm tending Shetland ponies, or cultivate organic wine in the Piedmont region. Things look very different at what is probably the most unusual service of all – Israel's military forces are probably the only army in the world to run a volunteering programme. Every year, 4,000 volunteers from around the world can don a uniform, live in barracks and help the army out with minor tasks: cleaning tanks, painting camouflage on steel helmets, sorting screws, stacking car tyres on shelves and emptying bins. That's how varied voluntary service can be.



Europe Direct Steiermark is part of a network of ten centres in Austria, 500 across Europe which aim to act as an interface between the EU and its citizens at regional level.

We can help with general questions on various aspects of Europe and can put you in touch with relevant specialist services if required. We have leaflets, brochures and materials to take away about the European Union's activities and policies. We also organise events and activities to make the public aware of the EU.

=> www.europe-direct.steiermark.at
=> europe-direct@steiermark.at



→ Europa und Außenbeziehungen

STITCH - Sustainable and Nature based Tourism IT Course and Handbook



An innovative project for qualified human resources in sustainable tourism

To realize the aims determined for the STITCH project, a sustainable and nature based learning understanding including a mixed learning understanding covering the most important parts of sustainable and nature based tourism and a curriculum of European standards will be created. Moreover, a new- user-friendly distant learning platform will be developed and be tested by pilot practices at the common activities points of the project partners. Finally, the policy strategy document will be prepared and the decision-makers in the tourism sector will be advised on how to improve the information

technologies-based learning and training studies related with the sector.

Information technologies based course books and hand books will be among the most important outcomes of the project and they will be used in traditional programs and advanced level trainings as a complementary learning tool for the existing training programs. The course will offer students remarkable opportunities such as vocational training, bachelor's and graduate degree complementary training, and it will work on 6 different thematic areas. Within 2012, the pilot

application of the course will be started in 8 European countries.

Programme European Commission's Lifelong Learning Programme Main Event 3/ICT

Duration 36 months (January 01, 2010 – December 31, 2013)

Main Outcome Sustainable and Nature based Tourism IT Course and Handbook

www.stitch-project.eu

iEducate



eLearning Tools for Vocational Trainers.

Programme LLP – Leonardo da Vinci Transfer of Innovation

Duration October 2009 – September 2011

Outcome Accredited elearning course

The aim of this EU funded project is to provide vocational trainers with a range of eLearning methods, associated technology skills and competences to prepare them for a rapidly changing workplace and to better connect them with a new generation of learners. Within this context the project website as well as the Second

Life iEducate Island function as platforms for the exchange of knowledge on eLearning methods and contents for vocational teachers throughout Europe. The project offers free live training courses and workshops on eLearning methodology and tools. Four thematic working groups provide resources for vocational trainers which can be downloaded from the project website. The vocational trainers are encouraged to adapt these resources to their needs and share their knowledge with colleagues throughout Europe to improve the vocational training and education in a common effort and with mutual benefits. Vocational trainers are welcome to



iEducate workshop on ICT tools for visually impaired people.

use the Second Life iEducate Island for virtual seminars and presentations. An accredited course on elearning will be available soon and provide vocational teachers with a recognized qualification.

An information event will take place in Brussels on the 12th of July 2011. For further information please refer to www.ieducate.eu.

D-ACTIVE

Disability and Active Citizenship



The project idea stems from a confrontation between the partners that pointed out two relevant problems

concerning the people with disability:

Difficulty in implementing activities aimed at developing key and specialistic competences

Difficulty in providing European methods in order to foster the concrete development of essential competencies for becoming active citizenship and find better jobs

The D-ACTIVE Project main aim is to foster active citizenship and learning among particular adult target at high risk of emargination : persons with intellectual disability.

This objective will be achieved through a handbook and a model course to train



D-ACTIVE kick off meeting 12th and 13th November 2010

educationalists to implement actions aimed at developing active citizenship in people with intellectual disability, and through a second handbook and model course to be used by trained educationalists when dealing with people with intellectual disability.

The project coordinator is Co&So Firenze(IT) and the partners are Municipality of Florence(IT), Veneto Region(IT), Conseil Général du Val de Mame(FR), INIT Dev.(DE), University of Pitesti(RO), IVADIS(ES), JAW(AT) and TEDKNA(GR).

Devoted

DEvelopment Of Teachers in Education



Programme /Action Lifelong Learning Programme/Grundtvig Multilateral Project

Duration 12/2009 – 11/2011

Outcomes Online platform as a digital dissemination and collaboration tool, Inventory of Good Practice with standardized tools, methods and curricula; Booklet for Teachers

www.devoted-project.eu



The Devoted team introduces the project to Romanian teachers

keeping them in the education system. Many of these tools and methodologies have never found their way to the users they were designed for: the disadvantaged learners and the professionals working in formal and non-formal education.

The project DEVOTED aims at making materials available in the educational community and taking them to a European area of lifelong learning. Measures of standardization and quality assurance are put in place to guarantee direct usable and transparent tools for professionals working with disadvantaged groups.

In the past numerous projects have been implemented which produced valuable didactic and methodological approaches and practical tools for teachers who work with disadvantaged groups. They all aim at preventing disadvantaged youngsters from dropping out, at

ProECEU

Promoting women's enterprising competences in Europe in the healthcare sector

Europe's ageing society increasingly demands for carers. It is a reality that ProECEU's eight project partners from

Programme Leonardo da Vinci- Transfer of Innovation

Duration October 2009 - September 2011

Outcomes Transnational report on the structures of the healthcare sector in the participating countries and a European model for the identification and validation of enterprising and professional competences for the healthcare sector

www.proeceu.net

Spain, Italy, Austria and Germany are facing. After having

collaborated in the prior project "ECEU" in which tools for enterprising competences for women were developed, the consortium is transferring those products into a new setting: the healthcare sector.

The main objective of the project is to advice and guide women, particularly women who have difficulties in gaining access to the labour market (immigrants and women who want to return to work after a long absence) and to encourage them to become self-employed. The project has identified and compared the structures, employment options and training potentials of the healthcare sector in the participating countries and developed a European "map" of occupations and professional competences for the sector. In January 2011 the piloting phase has started with 100 participating women who are being advised on recognizing their enterprising competences and professional skills in the



healthcare sector and are guided with acquiring further necessary knowledge. The piloting phase will be documented in a transnational report that includes best practise examples to promote professionalisation and business creation in the healthcare sector.

In the long run, the results may cause an increase of women's self-employment rate. This will contain the black market as well as contribute to the professionalisation



Wisar – a transnational Project aims at developing strategies for lifelong learning (LLL) which reflects the specific requirements of a region and its economy. Strategy documents for economy-

oriented lifelong learning for each region, as well as 3 methods to perform analysis of educational requirements in the region have been developed. For more detailed information on WiSaR project please visit us at: <http://www.wisar.eu>

Munivet

Vocational training in and for Municipalities



Programme Leonardo da Vinci, Partnership

Duration 2010-2012

Outcome Criteria catalogue for the identification of good practice examples and on researching the skills and competences required in the working environment of the municipalities

www.munivet.eu

The organisation and implementation of vocational training programmes organised by the municipalities for their members of staff significantly varies from country to country. This reality is closely linked to the divergent tasks and responsibilities of the European municipalities as well as to the future challenges arising for the municipalities and their employees (e.g. mayors, city councillors, public servants), which need to be fulfilled in accordance with the legal framework. As Europe is growing together, working in a municipal environment requires a new set of expertises and competences; the functions and task of European municipalities have become increasingly complex and intricate. However, the current vocational training programmes do not adequately reflect the latest developments; the vocational programmes available, unfortunately, do not address the actual practice of activities as needed on a daily

basis. The necessity of VET tailored to the target group becomes even more apparent when looking at the interaction of municipalities on European level: targeted information on EU specific issues needs to be made accessible and participation of mayors and municipal staff in European activities needs to be promoted. Furthermore, the project will foster



Project partners at Newcastle meeting in April 2011

the networking of European municipalities, cities and their representative organisations, as well as of training institutions involved in VET. A final public conference will be organised in order to present the project results and the examples of good practice in regard to VET in (and for) municipalities.

KASK Inkubator

Accelerating growth in Scandinavia



Anna Linton and Anders Hultén, project managers at the Alexanderson Institute and CRED, discussing tools and variables applicable for the coaches and entrepreneurs in the Business Coach program.

KASK Inkubator is an accelerator project for growth in Scandinavian incubators. The project aims to take stock of the regional innovation system and the role of incubators. A further objective is to develop offers through the incubators; Training for business coaches has been set up. Start-ups will be offered an accelerator programme to help them achieve their goals. KASK Inkubator will also establish shared collaboration platforms including platforms between

participating businesses and incubators. The project includes partners from Sweden, Norway and Denmark.

- Key objectives are to;
 - Combine coaching with goal-oriented courses, coaching and get-togethers across national borders.
 - Enhance employee skills at research and development parks.
 - Develop a program for business coaches.
 - Create an accelerator program for new business.



Funding programme Interreg IV A

Duration January 2010 – December 2012

Outcome Growth in Scandinavian incubators

www.kaskinkubator.com www.alexandersoninstitutet.se www.cred.nu



Stamp to Europe

Training Programme for Town Twinning in Europe

The project will be implemented in a transnational partnership of two associations for municipalities in the regions Steiermark (AT) and Mecklenburg - Vorpommern (DE) representing 541 (AT) and 744 (DE) municipalities. In a number of events the following activities aiming at the improvement of participation in the programme Europe for Citizens of municipalities with town twinning activities.

The events planned are:

- Training workshops for municipalities about the Europe for Citizens Programme (meeting of citizens and thematic networks of twinned towns)



Dr. Heidi Zikulnig (Europe Direct - Information Network Styria) welcomes all participants to the first seminar in Graz (AT)

- Seminars about foundation of twinning associations to improve the quality of twinning activities and to avoid twinning activities being subject to political and personal changes in municipalities

- Learn from good practice in the field of quality management in twinning activities as well as dissemination

- Multiplier seminars to reach sustainable effects and support of municipalities in the regions through regional development associations and networks

- A flying project office in Austria and Germany to give concrete support with the development and finalisation of applications for the Europe for Citizens Programme.

- Networking of municipalities from both regions



Europe for Citizens Programme

All activities and planned events are developed on the basis of concrete identified needs of the target group to receive more and better town twinning activities in both countries.

Programme Europe for Citizens, Support measures

Duration 2011

Outcome Criteria catalogue for the identification of good practice examples and on researching the skills and competences required in the working environment of the municipalities

www.gemeindepartnerschaften.eu



E-Bridge to Mobility

Supports mobility

Applies innovative learning

Builds self supporting society

The project addresses the needs that emerged after the accession to EU of new countries in 2004- 2007, as well as the challenges that Europeans face with the development of the common labour market. The growing need of flexibility to change profession and place of education or work requires new tools of assistance.

The project is focused on deployment of innovative ICT tools facilitating the process of lifelong learning and mobility. Mobility issues affect people of all ages amongst which two target groups of "E-bridge to mobility" were identified: young people (less than 25) and elderly people named 50+.

The objective of the project is a comprehensive on-line assistance for mobility

interested EU citizens. It is accomplished through development and implementation of innovative ICT tools and learning methodologies.

The outcomes improve professional skills (language and practical, improve the quality of lifelong learning, promote intercultural dialogue) and constitute e-community of people interested in mobility issues. This kind of assistance contributes to higher mobility and to the increase of competitiveness of beneficiaries. The project supports its users with tools and information to cope with acculturation stress. The users follow 4 steps: education (language of destination country), practical information (about destination country), joining e-society, establishing on-line contacts.



Funding LLP/Transversal Programme – KA3

Duration January 2009 – April 2011

Outcomes On-line courses, fully based on multimedia (adapted also to mobile phones), presenting language (A1 level) and practical information (basic law) about every-day life in Great Britain, Germany and Spain (available in Polish, Slovakian, Bulgarian and Romanian)

Didactical materials based on innovative CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning) and VOLL (Vocationally Oriented Language Learning) methodologies.

<http://www.2mobility.eu/>

STRESSLESS

Improving Educators' resilience to stress

The project STRESSLESS – Improving Educators' resilience to stress – is a 2 years project that started in November, 2010 and will end in October, 2012. Coordinated by SPI, STRESSLESS is a partnership with partners from 7 different countries: Health Education (CZ), The University of Nottingham (UK), The University of Patras (GR), Latvian Adult Education Association (LV), Association Européenne des Enseignants (BE), MBO Raad (NL), Vedoma (SI) and two associated



partners: European Trade Union Committee for Education and Haute École d'Ingénierie et de Gestion du Canton de Vaud (CH).

'STRESSLESS' main aim is to develop a tool to combat the consequences of the increased pressure that is on educators and the education system as a whole.

Programme Lifelong Learning Programme

Duration Nov 2010 – Oct 2012

Main outcome Guidebook

Contact Sara Brandão at sarabrandao@spi

www.spi.pt/stressless

The main outcome of the project is to develop a guidebook regarding work-related stress, particular in the context of educators and education institutions.

The guidebook will facilitate better conditions for a healthy and satisfied work environment, by implementing strategies to prevent work-related stress.

INCO II

The Internationalization Consulting vocational training will be the outcome of a Leonardo da Vinci funded project.

As INCO II is a transfer of innovation project, it is the existing vocational training "Internationalization Consulting" that is to be transferred to three different countries: Spain, Slovenia and Turkey. This training offers a mixture of learning methodologies and includes presence units, e-learning, self-study units and project work that have to be delivered by the students. The target groups



for this training are management consultants and their clients (SMEs), employees in SMEs dealing with internationalisation and university graduates.

The consortium successfully finished all three pilot trainings that were planned for this project. In the third partner meeting in Ljubljana the evaluation was discussed and the units and syllabi for the final curriculum were agreed on.

However, there is still one main result of the project that has to be developed in the last months of the project: the Certification Board. This board will consist of the INCO II project partners and the main aims will be the dissemination and the quality assurance of the project outcomes. It is possible for training

Funding programme Leonardo da Vinci – Transfer of innovation

Duration Nov 2009 – Oct 2011

Outcome Vocational training "Internationalization consulting" that will be quality assured by a Certification Board

www.inco2.at

institutions all over Europe to join the board and then offer this high quality training on the free market.



An experienced team of European institutions is working on the project INCO II

SEES

SME's e-learning to e-Work Efficiently

Introducing e-work gives another vision on work and another vision on leadership. Preparing the staff for "virtual working environment" and implementing "E" work in a company is not an easy task. There are many barriers that need to be considered. There are still many limitations and constraints to be resolved, not only in a technological level, but also from a social perspective. Therefore, training is an urgent need to develop the necessary skills to assist workers in becoming successful, future potential e-workers.



The goal of SEES project, developed under the Leonardo da Vinci program, "SME's E-learning to E-work efficiently", is to provide practical and useful support for preparation of e-managers and e-workers of SMEs for working in a "virtual environment".

This project aims at analyzing, identifying the necessary competencies required for "e-work" and also will develop and pilot-test on-line tools and e-learning material for e-managers and e-workers to support their preparation for "electronic e-work".

Funding programme Leonardo da Vinci Programme – Development of Innovation

Duration Two years (2009-2011)

Main outcome On-line Competency Tool-KIT for SMEs to support the self-assessment of E-managers and E-workers and e-learning curriculum for the two target groups including 12 key competencies

www.learn-ework.eu



Spotlighting European developments and projects

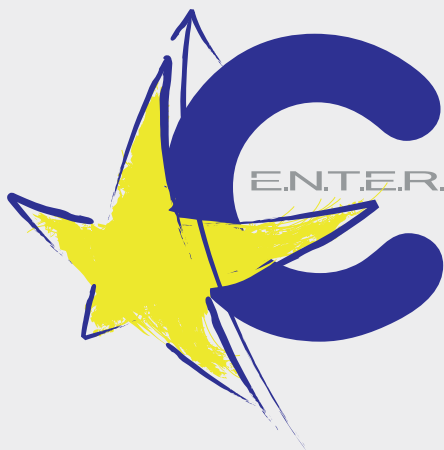
The next edition of Focus Europe will be distributed in January 2012.

Deadline for article submissions will be 16th November 2011.

Please contact petra.kampf@enter-network.eu for submission guidelines and details of available space.

Partners

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- UK Point Europa



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C-E.N.T.E.R. - Competence, Communication, Cooperation in the C-E.N.T.E.R. of Dissemination and Exploitation of EU Project Results (505336-LLP-1-2009-1-AT-KA4- KA4MP)

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