

VOCATIONAL TRAINING IN PRISON

Vocational Training in Prison - Grundtvig Learning Partnership 2012-1-IT2—GRU06-37734



V.I.P. NEWSLETTER I

Working with prisoners is a huge challenge for society in each country. International cooperation in the field of prison systems of education proved to be fruitful, the successful results are published in this Newsletter.

About Grundtvig Program

The Grundtvig Program is part of Lifelong Learning Program (LLP) of the European Union, which was provided for the years 2007-2013. Grundtvig is named after the Danish writer - Nikolaj Grundtvig (1783 - 1872), who invented and founded vocational schools for adult people in Denmark.

Nowadays, the LLP Grundtvig program is provided for adult people who need support. The target group are people with low qualifications, disabled, emigrants, etc. Topics and aims: to develop key competences like learning foreign languages, social and civic competences, cultural awareness and expression, methodologies for teaching adults, learning of elderly, ways to motivate adults to continue learning, especially those who have dropped school early.

Why V.I.P.?

Vocational Training in Prison was created in cooperation with eight partners from

eight countries - Italy, Netherlands, Romania, France, Spain, Poland, Austria, and Turkey. Peers of partners have participated in five meetings and workshops in different countries, where an important point was visiting prisons. The project is about sharing good practices, improve methodologies and approaches in order to accompany inmates in their own process of social inclusion and (re)entering labour market. And to improve relations between organisations engaged in these activities aimed at active social inclusion and (re)entering labour market of inmates.

MEETINGS

The first meeting in Netherlands was in November 2012. Meetings were the key form of communication and cooperation in V.I.P., because we participated in five trainings and workshops in five countries. We could observe, evaluate and know the prisons systems. We successfully improved our ideas and exchanged our

views and knowledge of particular situations in prisons in our countries.

TOGETHER

International collaboration is not always easy, but thanks to good tools and appointments we were able to be clear in ideas about education and entrepreneurship in prison.

PARTNERSHIP

Eight different countries, eight different languages and eight different cultures realised a really good project.

VALUE

The results of our collaboration will have an impact on organisations, widen our perception and open new possibilities.

OUR TEAM

V.I.P. Partnership was formed when the EU Agencies from different countries approved our proposal to jointly manage the VIP project in the educational program Grundtvig.

Partners collaborated regularly through skype, meetings and by email. The website of the project is:

www.vip-project.tk

A web 2.0 group including all people involved in the project was established. Its utilities are used and saved in order to improve communication about project process, in order to share information, to discuss various topics of the various stages of the project (data collection, shared approach, documentation stuff forecast from the project and document of each partner related to its approach/ methods, etc.), as well as keep documents connected with the project realization.

Important issue realized during each project's meetings were focus groups for

assessing the project process. Each partner organized the participation of the target group to the project process, performing activities and means that fit the national/local prisons and justice rules. The official language of V.I.P. Project was English.

ABOUT PARTNERS



ITALY - Lazzarelle

<http://www.caffelazzarelle.jimdo.com>

The Cooperative Lazzarelle is a social enterprise, that using the approach of diversity management engages as members and workers women in prisons for entrepreneurial activities. It is involved in coffee production within the female prison of Pozzuoli (NA - IT). Idea was born in by the belief, that prisons should not be a dark and forgotten place. We trust that even in the most difficult situation women are the protagonists of their change. The Coop. Lazzarelle promotes the creation of new entrepreneurship and self-employed women, to respond to two different types

of problems. Firstly, grouped to solve the serious problem of unemployment and underemployment women through the promotion of new micro-entrepreneurship and self-employment; secondly, encouraging the emergence of social enterprises able to offer and deliver innovative services in the territory. The perspective and orientation of the cooperative idea is mainly to have a greater focus on the reality of imprisonment, in the direction of social change, intended as an accompaniment to (re)entering the labour market, promoting new forms, attempting to prevent conditions that generate forms of poverty.



THE NETHERLANDS - Noorderpoort

<http://www.noorderpoort.nl/>

Noorderpoort is the largest regional training centre (ROC in Dutch) in the North of The Netherlands and is situated in the town and province of Groningen. It combines about 35 buildings across the region. The Noorderpoort is organised in 23 different schools and covers both general and vocational education. Noorderpoort trains about full time 17.000 pupils and 3.800 part time students every year, and has around 1600 staff members. It offers:

- * regular initial foundational and senior secondary vocational education (in Dutch VMBO and MBO)
- * education for groups with special needs;
- * education within the youth prison "Het Poortje"
- * contract learning (further education, re-training at senior secondary level)
- * pre-vocational secondary education (in Dutch: VMBO), also in alliance with the MBO education
- * education and integration for (newly arrived) immigrants
- * secondary general education (higher general education (Dutch: HAVO)) and pre-university education (in Dutch: VWO) for youngsters and adults).
- * Noorderpoort Ondernemers Academie;



NP Entrepreneurial Academy is also part of our school, here students at the end of their education are offered a training in entrepreneurship for a year in direct and strong cooperation with the work-field and representatives of companies. This leads to young people starting their own business at the end of shortly after their sec. voc. education.

 **FRANCE - Greta du Velay**

<http://www.velay.greta.fr>

is a regional group of 21 public educational institutions under the Ministry of the education. With 45 trainers, it provides courses for adults in several areas (audio-visual, languages, key competences, etc.). It coordinates a network of open learning centres in rural locations. Certified ISO 9001, it exists since 1975. Half of the activity consists in supporting disadvantaged groups towards social and professional inclusion (migrants, unemployed, disabled persons, women returners, rural inhabitants). The other half consists in supporting SMEs in their learning processes. Its transversal expertise includes training needs analysis, course design, trainers training, development of learning services based on ICT. Since 1992 it is running a specific training course for the labour integration of people in prison. It also integrates prisoners with electronic bracelets in its vocational training courses. In the project we have shared that experience: the usage of IT tools, activities with the local environment, development of partnerships with companies, organization of outdoor activities, empowerment of the persons. It will participate to the data gathering and to

the elaboration of the final products. It is a member of the 258 Greta network in France.



Romania - R.D. Profil Consult S.R.L

<http://www.rdprofilconsult.ro>

is a Romanian company specialised in human resources, counselling and psychotherapy. The organization is engaged as supporting organization in the LLP project SU-TRA, addressed to professionals working with people with mental/cognitive difficulties and aimed at overcome the burn out syndrome. We are also doing training courses with the foundation "Casa Clementina", the courses being organized for young people that grew up in foster homes with the risk of social exclusion. The theme of these training courses is "Education for health and social reintegration".

R.D.Profil Consult S.R.L. in collaboration with Bethany foundation is making a study for identifying the need for instruction of the people who live exclusively out of agriculture.

We also evaluate these people in order to integrate them socio professionally.

For two years, R.D.Profil Consult S.R.L. has been improving activities aimed at (re)entering in labour market of people in prison in cooperation with organizations of its network, that will be supporting partner of V.I.P.



SPAIN - CONAE

www.conae.org

is a national organization of micro and small entrepreneurs with implementation throughout the national territory Spanish. It's an organization that includes all sectors of activities and is integrated in

the most representative national employers.

Its function is the representing all companies integrated in this organization. In addition develops all activities that may be of interest to their members, such as the formation in which have had a great experience over the years of the organization. The confederation has worked for 15 years in the delivery of training for adult people, mainly in the field of business creation and animation, and awareness. Entrepreneurship is one solution for any professional problem. We also collaborated with the Ministry of Labour, the community of Madrid and the Municipality of Madrid, in the training of people from disadvantaged groups in the labour market for insertion into the same through the creation of companies.



AUSTRIA - Trummer & Novak-Zezula OG

<http://c-hm.com/chm>

Since its foundation in 1996, the Trummer & Novak-Zezula OG / Center for Health and Migration C-HM performs practice-oriented researches in the field of health and immigration. It follows a trans disciplinary approach where experts from different scientific disciplines work together with practice experts. It builds on a resource-oriented approach, focusing on health promotion, integration of stakeholders, empowerment of actors on individual and community level, and capacity building. Since 2001, the interplay of migration, health and work is main focus of the C-HM. Since one year C-HM is implementing activities finalized at (re)entering of people in prison (in particular immigrant people) in the labour market, through a close cooperation with other organisations of C-HM networks,

1st Meeting 	2nd Meeting 	3rd Meeting 	4th Meeting 	5th Meeting 
THE NETHERLANDS <i>Workshops and training in November 2012 in Groningen.</i>	TURKEY <i>Workshops and training in April 2013 in Usak.</i>	AUSTRIA <i>Workshops and training in October 2013 in Vienna.</i>	FRANCE <i>Workshops and training in February 2014 in Le Puy.</i>	ITALY <i>Workshops and training in June 2014 in Naples.</i>

that are supporting partners in the V.I.P. project development.



TURKEY - Usak Villages Development Association

<http://www.ukkader.org.tr>

has been active in city of Uşak since 2007. We have 45 registered and 50 volunteer member from different villages of Uşak. Our aim is to develop villages of Uşak as socially, culturally and economically. As association, we organize in the local educational and supportive activities. We organize seminars, panels and discussion meetings to share our and different people's views for the local development. As association members, we visit the villages every week and come together with disadvantaged people, women in the rural, disabled people, people who are exclude by public because their problems like alcohol or drug addiction, were released from prison etc. One of our aims, is to improve this situation in the city and disadvantaged rural areas. We organized local activities to integrate them into social life. In our local activities we work connected with local governmental organisations, they support us in our projects and social and cultural activities. As a non-governmental organisation we are active, and public also support us and participate in our organisations.



POLAND - Koinonia Jan Chrzciel - Oaza Wrocław

<http://www.wroclaw.koinoniagb.pl>

There are about 30 male and female volunteers who are engaged in the ministry. They are all members of Koinonia Jan Chrzciel in Wrocław. Koinonia of Wrocław was funded in 1992 by Dr. ing. Marek Maj as a non-profit organisation. In 1999 Koinonia begun working in prison in Wrocław and Wolow. The activities include: organizing religious and prayer meetings, formation meetings,

pedagogical, bible courses and seminars, social group trainings, relationship building and guidance for living in society. In addition to this, some prisoners can declare their membership to the Koinonia and take part in its activities in the Wolow penitentiary. They organize meetings for other prisoners several times a week in a prison chapel where they can share and spread the experience and knowledge gained during courses, seminars and other meetings in which they take part regularly. The members of the Association from the penitentiary and outside comprise a group which is called a Family Fellowship. They meet regularly once a month. The main purpose of those meetings is to introduce and implement formation materials developed and used in the Association. We present our path as an example of good practice and propose to follow our methodology. We plan our schedule for a year before together with Management of Assotiation Volunteers. Tools are based on needs of convicts by listening and observe them, but of course its limited by law and prison authorities.

V.I.P. is part of Lifelong Learning Programme, provided for years 2007-2013.



ABOUT V.I.P.

V.I.P. foresees teachers, managers, and social worker's mobility's aimed at improving their competences and skills throughout peer to peer exchange and observation of different practices performed.

Detained people are a very vulnerable social group in very marginal social contexts. The project is aimed at attempting to prevent or halt the processes and conditions that generate forms of poverty. This is why V.I.P. improves activities allowing detained people to have access to (adult) vocational education and training and opportunities of (re)entering in the labour market.

The aim of this project is to exchange methodologies and tools used in learning processes aimed at improving the professional competences of operators, helping them to become more able to interact properly with users and to avoid inappropriate interventions. The project activities foresee exchange among operators regarding both how to work with users and how to manage internal knowledge processes, for improving the effectiveness of daily work with users.