



Education and Culture

Socrates
Grundtvig



BASKI

BASKI – Basic Skills Training Model

Dear Reader,

This newsletter will inform you about a new EU-project called BASKI (Basic Skills Training Model). This first newsletter introduces the project and the project-partnership. The next newsletters will report the progresses in the project and will invite you to give comments.

BASKI is an innovative project which develops Basic Skills training for people with mental or multiple disabilities.

Background



Adults without disabilities have the natural ability of self-determination; they are able to articulate needs and wishes in private and professional life; they can determine and follow personal goals according to their particular situation; and, are able to obtain help and support when necessary. In people with mental or multiple disabilities this important personal ability is often lacking; or, due to their motor, cognitive, sensory, and emotional difficulties it is much more difficult to develop. More heteronomy than self-determination is especially experienced by institutionalised disabled individuals. They have to conform to given norms and structures and have to live and work with a high level of dependence. The right for a self-determined life and more autonomy for people with learning disabilities is demanded by inclusion-, rehabilitation- and normalisation processes in the work with disabled individuals. The Basic Skills Training Model within the framework of the presented project should take the principle of equal opportunities into account and lead institutionalised and hospitalised disabled people to an appropriate degree of self-determination and prepare them for active participation in society. The basic skills in this project also include; for example, the ability to reflect, articulate and the ability to benefit from supervision. Disabled people will learn as active, responsible people to take advantage of public services; for example, adult education courses.

Aim of the project

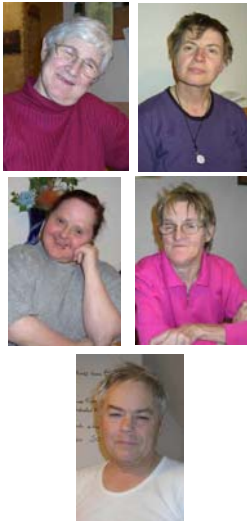


The aim of the presented project is in accordance with Article 26 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Commission (2000/C364/01), in which the right of disabled people for measures to be taken to ensure their independence, social and occupational integration and their participation in society is recognised and respected. The Basic Skills Training Model, which is to be developed in a transnational cooperation, shall put disabled individuals with a high need of care in a position to strengthen their ability to act and therefore actively organise their life and surroundings. The Basic Skills Training Model aims for a future-orientated sustainability (long-term measures) in the disability area. The Basic Skills Training is specially designed for institutionalised individuals with disabilities and the work is exclusively carried out in groups; a process of development, guided by external specially trained counsellors, should be stimulated. In a transnational cooperation specially developed and tested methodical and didactic material shall support severely disabled individuals especially in their expression of will and needs. At the same time social institutions which predominantly work with participants of the above-mentioned training are to be supported by trained European Counsellors in their organisation development and change process.



The Concept

A partnership of nine experienced Institutions, representing new member states as well as old ones was formed to develop innovative methodical/didactic material to support the development of basic skills for disabled persons. The coaching of personnel in institutions in the disability sector for the creation of suitable basic conditions assisted by new media (blended – Learning) is the way to achieve this goal. BASKI uses good practice experiences from other Socrates-projects with similar contents. The results of these projects will be analysed, transferred and modified to different national settings. A new methodical didactic approach in the compilation of the curricula and the methodical and didactic materials by the inclusion of the target group (learner-centered) is used by the BASKI-project. Through this the needs of the disabled people can be addressed directly. And disabled people have the possibility to decide how they want to achieve self-determination. By the inclusion of the target group in the making up of the curricula and the methodical didactic materials a high effectiveness and long-term sustainability it to be achieved. BASKI will have impact in the institutions within the disability sector even before the project ends in November 2008.



Target Group

The project's direct target group are individuals with mental or multiple disabilities (medium to high level of assistance) who are cared for in organisations in the disability sector (sheltered workshops, assisted living). Due to the fact that this target group includes many people with massive impairments in the cognitive, sensory, motor and emotional areas, their ability to act is severely limited and they experience a much higher level of heteronomy than self-determination in the living and working areas. Within the framework of the project basic skills are to be trained and the process of self-determination is to be professionally supported.

A further direct target group of the project is professionals in psychosocial counseling. Within the framework of the project this target group shall gain an additional qualification whereby a special field of activity is to be developed – group coaching and the support of people with learning or multiple disabilities - and the coaching and support of personnel in institutions in the disability sector. Indirect users of the project are institutions in the disability sector that through the Basic Skills Training Model could invest in human resources and promote sustainability in the care.

Project Progression

The BASKI project has just finished its preparatory phase, which includes the kick off meeting, national teambuilding and the creation of a guideline for the elaboration of the project products. The next step will be the conception and formulation of the handbook/curriculum until July 2006. The Results of this step will be available on the homepage of the project (not online yet) and will be also disseminated by the next newsletter.

The Products

The Basic Skills Trainings Model includes a Curriculum for **Basic Skills Training** for people with mental or multiple disabilities in small groups, **methodical/didactic material** developed to support communication, learning and group processes, **two Curricula for a further education** addressing professionals in psychosocial counselling (Train the Trainer and European Counsellor), test and evaluation reports received by the means of pilot groups.

The model will be available for dissemination on a **web-site** with a user-friendly, simple (integrated) communication platform.

A CD-ROM will be produced including all developed and tested products of the project and a handbook; it can be used also for project marketing and dissemination activities.



The Partnership

The project-partnership consists of eight partners from six countries working together to improve the situation of adults with disabilities. The composition of the partnership in the presented project aims to promote the relationship between the new candidate countries (BG), the new existing members (HU, PL) and the remaining existing member states of the EU.



Project coordinator

Lebenshilfe Graz und Umgebung – Voitsberg Life-(LH-GUV)

Life-Help Graz and surroundings – Voitsberg

Life-Help Graz and surroundings is a non-profit organization founded 1960 by parents with handicapped children.

Support, guidance and counseling for disabled individuals and their families are offered by LH-GUV. To date it drives 5 houses, training flat and numerous living groups with full- and part-time assistance, and offers mobile living assistance. Over 700 people use the services of LH-GUV in numerous fields such as employment and qualification.

Responsibilities in the project:

Life-Help GUV is responsible for project coordination and the related financial administration, general project management and administration. Beside the coordination duties Life-Help GUV is involved in the conception and development of training modules partly in cooperation with people with disabilities (learner-centering). Life Help GUV organizes a pilot study with a specific implementation of the drawn up curricula as well as the implementation of institution coaching testing. Further tasks are translation work into German language and implementation and dissemination activities.

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Institut Arbeit und Technik (IAT)

IAT – Institute for Work and Technology

The Institute for Work and Technology as one part of the Science Centre NRW is an application focused R&D institute of the Federal State of North Rhine-Westphalia. Its task is to find and evaluate innovative solutions for the current structural changes. The main outcome of successful research should be new life employment perspectives particularly for people with special needs and a sustainable added value.

Specific responsibilities in the project:

The IAT works out a plan for public work and dissemination strategies formulates the newsletters and is also involved in the product development. Furthermore it organizes the 4th partner meeting in Germany.

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STOWARZYSZENIE “NIEPEŁNOSPRAWNI DLA ŚRODOWISKA EKON”

EKON – Association of Disabled for the Environment

Association “Disabled for the Environment EKON” was established in 2003 as a common initiative of disabled people and all those whose interests and passions are involved in ecology and environment protection. Support, guidance and counseling for disabled individuals and their families in the areas of job-seeking, creation of jobs for disabled individuals in the environmental and ecological sector (“green jobs”), advocacy for disabled individuals.

Specific responsibilities in the project

EKON is involved in the conception of the handbook and it designs and develops individual training modules partly in cooperation with disabled people (learner-centering). Further tasks are translation work into Polish language and implementation and dissemination activities.

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СДРУЖЕНИЕ “ДИА-СПОРТ”

DIA SPORT ASSOCIATION

The DIA-SPORT association was established in 1995 in Sofia, Bulgaria as a widely represented non-governmental organization. The Mission of DIA-SPORT association is to increase the quality of education and training at all levels and in all its forms as well as to foster integration of any social group regardless of gender, age and ethnic origin.

Specific responsibilities in the project:

DIA-SPORT designs and develops individual training modules in cooperation with disabled people (learner-centering). DIA-SPORT organizes a pilot study with a specific implementation of the drawn up curricula as well as the implementation of institution coaching testing. Further tasks are translation work into Bulgarian language and implementation and dissemination activities.

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Κοινωνία της Πληροφορίας Ανοιχτή Στις Ειδικές Ανάγκες – ΙΣΟΤΗΣ

e-ISOTIS - Information Society Open to Impairments

e-ISOTIS (Information Society Open To Impairments) is a non-profit making organisation founded in December 2002, that represents People with Disabilities, their spouses as well as members of the ICT (Information Communication Technology) community from the whole globe. Currently, its members exceed the 1500 and are located in many European countries.

Specific responsibilities in the project:

e-ISOTIS is responsible for the development and construction of the CD-ROM and the web site and also for the conception of individual chapters of the Handbook. Further tasks are translation work into Greek language and implementation and dissemination activities.

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ΕΡΜΗΣ (ΣΩΜΑΤΕΙΟ ΓΟΝΕΩΝ ΚΗΔΕΜΟΝΩΝ ΚΑΙ ΦΙΛΩΝ
ΑΤΟΜΩΝ ΜΕ ΕΙΔΙΚΕΣ ΑΝΑΓΚΕΣ) HERMES

HERMES is a Philanthropic, nonprofit Association – a legal person of private law – founded in 1988 by Parents, Guardians and Friends of people with disabilities. **Main types of activities:** education & rehabilitation, Vocational Rehabilitation Training, employability skills and Supported employment, creativity.

Specific responsibilities in the project:

HERMES designs and develops individual training modules. It organizes a pilot study with a specific implementation of the drawn up curricula as well as the implementation of institution coaching testing. Further tasks are translation work into Greek language and implementation and dissemination activities. Furthermore it organizes the 3rd partner meeting in Greece.

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Értelmi Fogyatékosok és Segítőik Országos Érdekvédelmi Szövetsége (ÉFOÉSZ)

Hungarian Association for Persons with Intellectual Disability (ÉFOÉSZ)

The Hungarian Association for Persons with Intellectual Disability brings together persons with mental handicap, their parents and relatives, as well as their helpers. Since forming the association in 1981 they have been striving to help the handicapped and their families that concerns approximately 300 000 people in Hungary.

Specific responsibilities in the project:

ÉFOÉSZ is involved in the conception of the handbook and it designs and develops individual training modules. Further tasks are translation work into Hungarian language and implementation and dissemination activities as well as the organization of the 2nd partner meeting in Hungary.

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Integr@point Forschung E.V.



Integr@point research

Integr@point is a cooperation between Lebenshilfe NÖ and the ARC Seibersdorf research GmbH. It is a consultation/information centre which offers people with disabilities, their relatives and professionals a wide range of information and advice about how technical aids in the field of computers and electronics can contribute to an improved quality of everyday life.

Specific responsibilities in the project:

Integr@point develops and makes up methodical/didactic materials for the Basic Skills Training in cooperation with disabled persons. They are involved in the conception of the handbook and they design and develop individual training modules. Further tasks are translation work into German language and implementation and dissemination activities.

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Das europäische BASKI Team

Impressum:

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