



NEWSLETTER



inclusive tourism





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Project coordinator

PROJECT

European Peer Counselor Training in Accessible Tourism - Peer Act

Dear reader of our first Newsletter,

we are happy to present you to the first newsletter of our Erasmus + KA 2 project European Peer Counselor Training in Inclusive Tourism, short Peer-ActT. In this newsletter, you find reports of our first activities and results. The first article will give you a brief introduction to the project and the involved project partners.

After starting the project in November 2018 we had two transnational partner meetings, one in Corbera (Spain) from the 30th of November till the 3rd of December 2018 and one in Osijek (Croatia) from 14th till 17th of May 2019. Two articles will show you what we have done so far during these meetings. We wish you a pleasant reading and we are happy if we can get your comments, if and how the newsletter and the project are interesting for you. Please contact us by using the contact data below.

Cheers

PEERACT PROJECT SUMMARY

Why is this project needed?

The “UN-Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities” and the “EU disability strategy 2020 for Inclusion in Europe” are calling for better and equal participation of people with special needs at adult training activities but also as adult trainer themselves. These International and European documents are also the legal basis and politics of the Social Tourism Strategy of the European Commission, which is claiming the accessibility of touristic offers and destinations, accessible traveling as well as the accessibility of e.g. public spaces.

Who are we?

Verein zur sozialen und beruflichen Integration e.V., VSBI (Germany), is the main applicant and project coordinator. The VSBI is supporting people with disabilities to live independently by using personal budgets and personal assistants.

Asociación para el Estudio y Promoción del Bienestar Social, PROBENS (Spain), is a provider of trainings for segregated people in Barcelona to increase the employability and the inclusion in society.

Zöld-Aktív Szociális Szövetkezet, Zöld-Aktív (Hungary), is a social cooperative supporting social entrepreneurship and rural, accessible tourism in Pécs and Baranya county.

QUICK FACTS_

Program:

Erasmus+, Key Action Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices, Strategic Partnerships for adult education Innovation

Duration:

01.11.2018 – 30.04.2021

Contractor:

Nationale Agentur Bildung für Europa beim Bundesinstitut für Berufsbildung, Germany

Contract No.:

2018-1-DE02-KA204-005122

Coordinator:

Verein zur sozialen und beruflichen Integration e.V., Merseburg, Germany

Who are we?

KOPF, HAND und FUSS gemeinnützige Gesellschaft für Bildung mbH, KHuF (Germany), is running the first accessible and inclusive Co-Working-Space in Berlin and is producing Apps and Tutorials to support people with disabilities

Udruga za kreativni razvoj, SLAP (Croatia), is a training provider for social entrepreneurship in rural areas in Osijek. SLAP is also supporting the advocacy of social economy in Croatia.

Unione Montana Alta Langa (Italy) is a public body and union of 38 municipalities in the area of Langhe (region of Piedmont). The union is responsible for the inclusion and accessibility as well as for the development and promotion of local tourism.

Our main principles

Main principle in the inclusion process of people with special needs is their equal participation in all relevant topics, activities and processes as experts in own interests.

EXPECTED IMPACT OF PEER ACT

The main long term impacts of the project shall be

- the empowerment and equal participation of people with special needs as experts and adult trainer in own interests,
- better awareness and a higher level of knowledge and skills by key decision-makers and staff in tourism and leisure activities on the European level as well as an European cooperation and exchange/mobility of peer-experts.
- the start of the creation of so-called service chains to guarantee more accessibility in the future.



The core objectives and expected outcomes

The project have two core target groups for training activities:

- Firstly the experts in own interests, people with special needs as peer experts and peer counselors as trainees and adult trainer
- Secondly the key decision maker and staff in private and public institutions and enterprises involved in tourism and leisure activities as trainees.

The consortium likes to develop and implement an innovative methodology to training needs of people with disabilities as Peer-Experts and adult trainers, in accessible tourism in regional but also in a European context.

Further expected results are:

- implementing 5 regional training and peer counseling centers
- implementing 5 Peer/Mentoring-Training-Curricula and Trainings for Inclusive Tourism
- publishing a Handbook with marketing/exploitation strategy how to implement local training centres for inclusive tourism and trainings in inclusive tourism



OPENING MEETING OF THE PEER-ACT PROJECT IN CORBERA DE LLOBREGAT

30.11 - 3.12.2018

For three days the partners of the European project "Peer-Act" funded by the ERASMUS + KA 2 program, held the first meeting of the project invited by PROBENS in Corbera and Barcelona.

The main objectives of this kick-off meeting were to learn more about each other, to specify the actions and organize the responsibilities and roles of each one as well as having some insights into good practices.



In Barcelona PROBENS organized a Hidden City Tours to show how segregated people have a view of Barcelona city. Finally, we could see many examples of tourist offers, which are adapted to different needs of the clients, and/or that offer work to people with difficulties of labor insertion.

It is the starting point for a very interesting project that can greatly improve the mobility of people with disabilities and make the tourist offers adapted to the real needs of all types of customers.



During the meeting in Corbera de Llobregat, we visited the textile colony is Colonia Güell with its Gaudi church and checked the accessibility and how transformations processes can work in an inclusive way.

SECOND TRANSNATIONAL PARTNERS MEETING IN OSIJEK

15. - 16.05.2019



Also, we have determined the guidelines and the time period for further actions on the project by individual partners. After the meeting we visited Nature Park Kopački rit located in Baranja region, one of the largest wetland areas in Europe. The second day, May 16th meeting was held in house of the Association for Creative Development Slap in Erdut, not far from Osijek, where we established the work methodology of the project, made the final conclusions and evaluated the meeting. After the meeting we visited the local landmark, the Erdut tower, overlooking the Danube. We also visited the birthplace of Croatian scientist Milutin Milanković in Dalj, and our hosts also introduced new tactile plates for visually impaired visitors in the newly renovated home of the famous scientist.

The second meeting of PeerAct project partners, oriented on inclusive tourism, was held in Osijek in May 2019. First day, May 15th, Association "Zvono" from Belišće, whose members have been helping people with disabilities with their involvement in everyday life for a long time, hosted us. The meeting took place in the area of their volunteer camp and the center for creative activities "Citadel". Each of the partners presented examples of good practice from their home countries in terms of inclusion of people with disabilities in tourism. Conclusions have been made about what are the advantages and disadvantages and what can be improved.

