

## ERASMUS+ PROJECT

### COMTRAIN – COMPUTER SERVICE TRAINING FOR PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

#### NEWSLETTER 1

##### New player at the labour market

For the last 20 years we've observed the rapidly growing importance of computers in our societies. They are everywhere and have become indispensable in most of workplaces. IT skills are considered the most promising for the future employment and nowadays majority of children and young adults are doing extremely well with all electrical devices. The common problem is, unfortunately, that older adults have more difficulties in adapting to new reality. They need more time to adjust and a different, complex and more patient approach of teachers. The number of courses and projects that aim to help people learn new skills can be overwhelming and a quality hard to evaluate.

Adult people (especially aged 50+) belong to the people of the difficult situation on the labour market. In connection with the economic crisis, many workers in this age have lost their jobs and are now unemployed. Adult people, in particular those who are struggling with difficult situation on labour market are also at risk of social exclusion and isolation. That's exactly the reason why the COMTRAIN project is taking place. Our goal is to compare the best examples of practices around the Europe and find the solution for the **new course to become a useful tool for people to guide and help them keep up with the technological development** and offer better opportunities in the development of their careers.



*Photo 1 – increasing need for computer training courses leads to creating new schools and different curricula which might cause confusion among students*

### The Project

The project "**Computer Service Training for Personal and Professional Development**" is the partnership in the framework of Erasmus+ Adult Education program. The subject of the project is computer service training including personal and professional development. The target group of the project are adult persons (in particular aged 50+) who have lack the skills in the field of computer service.

What will distinguish COMTRAIN project from other computer training courses? The vast majority of existing courses aim to provide adult learners with the technical skills connected with computers and basic programs. Our activities will take into account not only the support for the computer, but also its use for social and professional development. Developed training program will allow adult participants for acquiring social and professional skills.

### The partnership

The project is developed by six partners: INNEO (Poland), Lancaster & Morecambe College (UK), Fundacion Siglo22 (Spain), BEC Druzstvo (Czech Republic), Future in Perspective Ltd (Ireland) and CK Edukator (Poland). The organizations have different sizes, characteristics and fields of specializations, which helps us develop a very effective cooperation. The project meetings are scheduled in regular basis to stay constantly involved in the project and focused on our goals.



*Photo 2 – Our team during the first project meeting in Sumperk, Czech Republic*

### Meeting in Sumperk

The kick-off meeting in the framework of the project COMTRAIN – Computer Service Training for Personal and Professional Development took place in Sumperk (Czech Republic) on 3rd-4th November 2016. The meeting has been hosted by BEC Druzstvo, Czech partner in the project.

The meeting started with welcoming and presentation of partners. All partners presented their organizations. The coordinator presented the project development plan including deadlines of tasks and division of work between partners. Partners have discussed the activities, focusing on the first output (Research and report), Dissemination Plan and Evaluation Plan.

On the second day the partners summarized the meeting and the Czech partner issued certificates for participants. Then partners went for a lunch followed by short walk in Sumperk.



*Photo 3 - Project partners from Czech Republic and Spain during the meeting in Sumperk*

The next meeting is planned on 13-14<sup>th</sup> June in Lancaster (UK). During this meeting the partners will discuss further activities of the project, dissemination, evaluation and monitoring.



### **Intellectual Output 1 – Research and Report**

During first phase of the project partners worked on the first Intellectual Output – Research and Report on best practices in the computer service training.

Each partner conducted research in the area of computer service training on national level. In total, more than 20 good practices from Poland, Czech Republic, United Kingdom, Ireland and Spain were found. In the next phase, the good practices were collected in the transnational report. The report contains attractive and effective methodologies and innovative approaches for computer service training including social and professional development.

These good practices will be useful for development of further products in the framework of the project – in particular the Handbook for conducting computer service training with professional component (the next Intellectual Output).

In the next newsletter you will read about development of the Handbook for computer service training and the second partner meeting in Lancaster (UK).

**To find further articles related to our project, we invite you to visit the following links:**

<http://comtrainproject.eu/>

<https://www.facebook.com/ProjectCOMTRAIN/?fref=ts>

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/15203770>