



What is the ACE-Trainer project?

Society demand across EU for high quality training of social care staff in the senior care service sector has been steadily growing. The need for quality training was addressed by the ACE project, completed in 2017, by development of an innovative senior service worker training system (SSW Course). Exploitation of the SSW Course and the potential of related training products led us to resume the development work with the goal of:



1. Securing high-quality professional development for trainers involved in vocational preparation of senior service workers;
2. Enhancing the quality of the SSW Course by elaborating and detailing its training methodology;
3. Supporting utilization of the SSW Course among the partnership countries.

Vocational trainers of social care workers are the primary beneficiaries and the focus of the proposed project. The project will be for the most part accomplished in a series of joint trainer staff workshops focused on exchange of know-how and best practices of all participants. In structured workshop sessions participating trainers will enhance their professional competences and the workshops will also generate a set of outputs consisting of detailed lesson plans, worksheets and comprehensive methodology recommendations for training of social care workers.

Our Project Activities

The ACE-Trainer project started in November 2020 and its beginning has been affected by the covid-19 pandemic. Our partnership held two one-day coordination meetings and one three-day workshop online in place of the planned face-to-face activities. Although this was not the preferred way of implementation we managed to keep our project on track as far as the time schedule.



The first joint staff three-day workshop was conducted online between May 18 and May 20, 2021. Participants of the workshop reviewed the contents and the structure of the VET/CVET Senior Service Worker Course for social workers caring for the elderly, which has been developed in the ACE project. Workshop members subsequently focused on an in-depth discussion of the proposed methodology format of the best practice exchanges and further detailing of the proposed exchange methodology rules. In conclusion of the workshop the participants reached an agreement and approved a framework for methodology and organization of the upcoming joint staff exchanges.



Finally, between June 21 – 25, 2021, our first best practice exchange took place in Vilnius, Lithuania. While only three out of five partnership members were able to participate in the exchange, all scheduled activities were completed according to the event plan. Under the given conditions we consider participation of three partnership organizations in the event a breakthrough in the project.

The Vilnius best practice exchange event proceeded according to the plan elaborated in detail during our partnership's online workshop in May 2021. The core activities of the exchanges always consist of three one-day sessions dealing with various topics of social service work in the senior service sector. Work sessions of this exchange focused on the following three themes:



- The concept of senior service work
- Nutritional needs of the elderly
- Quality mobility planning for the elderly

In conclusion of the exchange event written outputs were formulated including detailed lesson plans and methodology recommendations for the topics. We hope that the second exchange, scheduled for the end of August in Herzogenrath, Germany, will take place with full participation of the partnership members.

Meet the Partnership Members



VZDĚLÁVACÍ CENTRUM

Lifelong learning and continuing vocational education center ACZ was founded in 1995. Its principle activities consist of providing vocational training and adult education both to individual trainees and to the corporate sector. Since 2004 ACZ is involved in implementation of various social and human resource development projects focused on disadvantaged groups, such as disabled people, long term unemployed, workers aged over 55, women returning from maternal leave, etc. In other projects we supported seniors going back to work as self-



employed or helped with finding work for people living in remote and/or inaccessible locations. Our most recent Erasmus+ projects focus on development of innovative vocational courses for social workers who care for seniors at home or in community based settings and on development of innovative courses for seniors on the topics of their health and well-being. ACZ also provides profession competence testing and recognition, work related counseling and human resource development. Our main office and the classrooms are located in the Prague city center and provide a convenient and attractive background for our educational activities.

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Nevelők Háza Egyesület (in English: Educators' Center Association, ECA) is one of the leading NGOs of Hungary, which operates numerous projects and a public institution in the city of Pécs in cooperation with the local municipality. ECA's aims are to support the civil grass-root movements with its internal and external resources in order that they can grow and strengthen, and be more active and by doing so they can encourage the growth of their closer and wider surroundings. ECA provides services, training activities and educational programs according to the principles of sheltering, developing, counseling and empowerment as well as LLL priorities. ECA was founded in 1993, and has been working for the development of the civil society for the last 25 years. Since 1997 the organization sustains the House of Civic Communities that helped to launch several local organizations. Currently more than 90 communities - formal and non-formal civil organizations, associations, foundations, art groups etc. - are operating in the building, while ECA acts as the umbrella organization for their benefit. Besides its infrastructural capabilities, ECA provides services and learning possibilities for NGOs, training activities, forums, research, conferences, professional consultancy, etc.

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The educational and meeting place of the KAB and CAJ in the diocese of Aachen - Nell-Breuning-Haus is an institution of the social associations "Catholic Workers' Movement" (KAB) and "Christian Worker Youth Movement" (CAJ) in the Diocese of Aachen. The Nell-Breuning-Haus is a modern meeting and conference center. A Competence center, which sees itself as a node where social and economic development can take place - initiatives are developed, promoted, stabilized and networked. In cooperative contexts new paths in education will be explored, starting from current political, social and cultural processes and problems in terms of content and methodology. The conceptual and practical educational work is focused on the participation especially of disadvantaged people, such as the unemployed, migrants, people in precarious situations and employment relationships, etc. For five years, the Nell-Breuning-Haus has also been seen as an educational institution for "Work and Health" and conducts various measures, qualifications and European conferences in this field.

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The Initiatives Network Association (ITINKLAS) was founded in 2007. The main goal is to continue expanding highly developed and sophisticated network of shared experiences, creating conditions for the formation of creative and active society. During its existence Association has participated in numerous National and International initiatives seeking to reduce unemployment effects, promote volunteering and stimulate job activation among disadvantaged society groups, aiming for human resource development and social inclusion. Areas of practical activity include: collection of best practices in the field of entrepreneurship; participation in the development of curricula and organizing pilot training events; production of audiovisual material; organizing business forums, conferences and workshops/seminars to promote entrepreneurship awareness and cascade the project outputs in business, social and academic circles. ITINKLAS has been working closely with its member local authorities, VET providers, academia, social partners and business in Lithuania and majority of EU countries. It cooperates closely with local labor offices and job providers within the scope of conducting social dialogue, dissemination of good EU practices, promoting lifelong learning, organizing work practice and apprenticeships for its clients.

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Provincia di Livorno Sviluppo (PLIS), the in-house company of Province of Livorno and Livorno Port Authority, has a consolidated experience in EU projects whose central themes are: jobs, social inclusion, gender equality, local employment strategies, transnational cooperation and logistics, maritime, port sector. Its mission is the implementation of policies useful for local, sustainable development, research and training. The company was created by the Province of Livorno in order to plan and manage European, national and regional projects aimed at contributing to local development, and able to be partner for any project activity funded under EU programs, implemented in cooperation with different countries. Through its activities, since 2000, PLIS has managed dozens of projects, specific training activities in the Region of Tuscany or EU approved projects to train many different professional figures in collaboration with public and private institutions and with around 30 European and non-European countries. It has produced marketing and training/information initiatives, over 500 transnational individual mobilities of workers, professionals and students in EU and other countries to improve their competences and employability.

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