



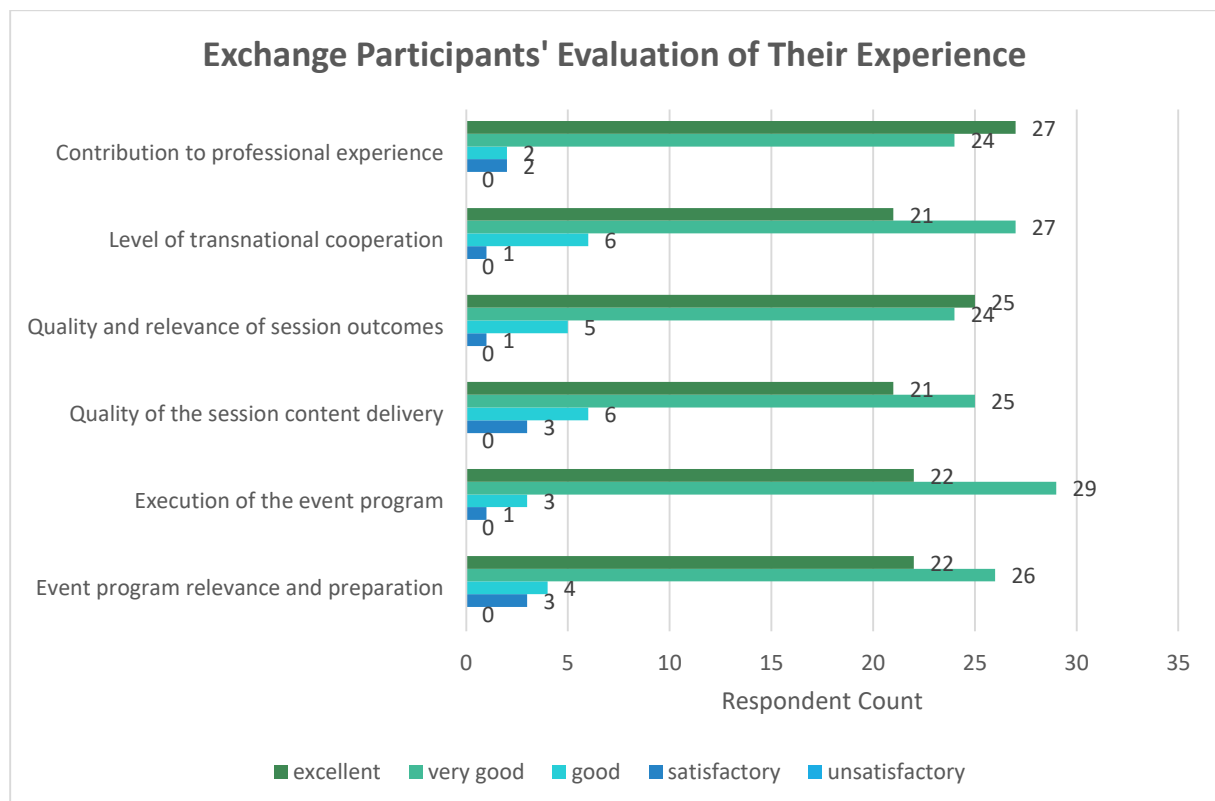
ACE-Trainer project concluded

In October 2022 our transnational *ACE-Trainer* partnership completed its work. Our activities were aimed at raising to higher levels the quality of vocational training in the sector of social services for senior citizens. It's the time to see how we did with regard to reaching our goals:

Professional development of trainers

We believe that quality of training is of utmost importance in vocational education of social workers involved in the senior service sector. Between June 2021 and June 2022 in total 66 trainers took part in five week-long workshops, which concentrated on professional development of the participants in the field of social work in the senior service sector. These workshop exchange events took place in Vilnius (Lithuania), Herzogenrath (Germany), Pécs (Hungary), Prague (Czech Rep.) and Livorno (Italy). 53 participants (out of the total of 66) came from abroad, while the other 13 trainers were in charge of implementing the event programs by the host partners.

Workshops' participants evaluated their experience very enthusiastically. 93 % of 55 respondents of the survey on how they evaluate their workshop experience believe that their participation in the workshop contributed significantly to their professional development. Detailed results of the survey in key performance areas are presented in the attached graph below.





Enhancing quality of the training content

A good training program is of course another pre-requisite of a quality vocational education. Our work sessions conducted during the exchanges were based on the Senior Service Worker (SSW) Course: Comprehensive training program, developed with Erasmus+ funding, which provides sound foundations for work in the senior social care sector (described in more detail below).

In the course of our workshop sessions we developed through our joint effort a number of additional training methods and tools supporting the SSW Course curriculum. From this new training tools portfolio, devised and tested in our workshops, we selected 32 most useful pieces and attached them to the existing content of the SSW Course.

Supporting utilization of the SSW Course

SSW Course is intended for professionals with completed vocational education in nursing or social work and preferably work experience in person-related services in this classification:

1. Primary care sector (e.g. medical care for older people in residential homes)
2. Person related services (e.g. home care, social assistance, care assistance)
3. Non-care related services (e.g. property caretaker, community helper, care coordinator)
4. Other related services (e.g. wellness, tourism, housing services, community services)

Recognition of work competences acquired previously as a part of vocational training, continuing vocational training or informal ways of training is possible and can be achieved by passing assessment and validation procedures of the integrated system of European Credits for Vocational Education and Training (included with the course).

The course is structured in 5 modules and has a volume of 200 classroom teaching hours. There are also 2 specialization modules (of 40 class-hours), which are elective. Each module consists of several self-contained learning units and learning units are further divided into individual lessons. Each module can be completed separately. The modules have theoretical and practical parts and include self-study elements of online training. The practical course segments are implemented as work-based learning in the senior service workplace or in related work fields.



Starting December 2022 the complete SSW Course is in its extended/enhanced form available for a free download from the [ACE-Trainer website](#) . You are cordially invited to utilize the training program, free of any charge.



Who we are



Lifelong learning and continuing vocational education center ACZ, located in Prague, Czech Republic, has been providing vocational training and adult education since 2004.

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Nevelők Háza Egyesület (Educators' Center Association) operates numerous projects and a public institution in the city of Pécs, Hungary, in cooperation with the local municipality.

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The Nell-Breuning-Haus competence center is a contemporary educational, meeting and conference center, serving the community in the diocese of Aachen, Germany, and beyond.

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The goal of Initiatives Network Association (ITINKLAS) in Vilnius, Lithuania, is development of networks of shared social experiences, creating conditions for the formation of creative and active society.

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Provincia di Livorno Sviluppo (in Livorno, Italy), has extensive experience in EU projects focused e.g. on social inclusion, gender equality, local employment strategies or transnational cooperation. Its mission is implementation of policies useful for local, sustainable development, research and training.

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