

Key Action: Learning Mobility of Individuals
Action Type: Adult education staff mobility

Project Title

PLUNGE INTO EUROPE

Project Coordinator

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Project Information

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Topics Intercultural/intergenerational education and (lifelong)learning ; Key Competences (incl. mathematics and literacy) - basic skills ; Teaching and learning of foreign languages

Project Summary

The project PLUNGE INTO EUROPE is a consortium between three schools for Adult Education and a teacher training center in Jaén. This last centre, represented by the Adult Education trainer, is the coordinator for the development, implementation, impact and assessment of the project.

The consortium was created to answer the needs for internationalization of these small schools which have a disadvantaged social backgrounds, as two of them are located in rural areas far from big towns and with difficult access, and the other is in the town of Jaén in an area considered disadvantaged.

After the needs analysis on the part of the participants in the European Development Plan, we established the objectives to achieve in three main parts:

- 1) Competences in leadership and management of educative teams.
- 2) Competences in teaching for diversity outreach.
- 3) Competences in linguistic and methodological development in a foreign language. English.

Once the improvement fields were set, the objectives were planned in four levels, dealing with:

The teachers. To gain competences in addressing the needs of adult learners with disadvantaged backgrounds. Migrants, old people, youngster without any official certificates, or workers who need new labour competences.

The students. To wide their basic competences in maths, Language, ICT and responsible citizenship. To develop and learn from diversity.

The results. To improve the number of students in schools, an decrease the leaving rates and dropout.

The institutions. To be more flexible in their structure of teaching plans. To allow an easier access to them on the part of the students. To be opened to the community and Europe.

In our consortium there will be 11 teachers in courses, 11 in job shadowing and 1 in teaching assignment. In addition we have to add all the influence on the rest of the adult education staff of the schools taking part and the teachers who are part of the teaching training network of the coordinator institution.

Now concerning the participants' profile. it is necessary to point out that we established four profiles in relation to their needs. One is for teachers of English, who need to improve their linguistic and methodological competence, to teach adult learners in their second language. Other profile is addressed to sociolinguistic field teachers and scientific field teachers who need to improve their professional competence in methodologies and new strategies to teach heterogeneous students as they have intercultural classrooms, classroom tolerance and diversity. There is a third profile to answer the needs of the management teams of schools. Headmasters, Head of studies and secretaries, who are in need to update their training to lead inclusive educative teams and organizations. And Finally we project a fourth profile addressed to the teacher training staff who needs to develop methodological strategies to train and lead adult education teachers in their difficult task of dealing with the process of teaching and learning.

Finally making reference to the benefits from the implementation of the project, we envisage clear effects on the students, the teachers, the schools and local community. The benefits affect the students as they are included in an open educative community and school which favour equality of opportunities for all. They will increase their basic competencies in maths, language and ICT, and will become active citizens in their contexts. We see the benefits as we create schools open to Europe and addressed to the local communities development with the participation of local institutions and associations of women or young people. The effect of the project is also beneficial to teachers who will improve their teaching competences. We support the professional development of adult education staff.

INCLUSION, LITERACY, DIVERSITY OUTREACH AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF ADULT EDUCATION STAFF will be clues aspects in our project PLUNGE into EUROPE.

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