

# Enhancing and upgrading ICT skills of trainers in the sociocultural sector<sup>1</sup>

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## CONTEXT

The introduction and use of information and communication technologies (ICT) in adult education is a positive development which is confirmed over time. This evolution involves changes and adaptations on the educational level, but also on the trainers' skills and training. ICT are now part of the indispensable tools of everyday life in general and of our teaching practices in particular. We use them more and more in our professional and personal lives.

The used technologies are very diverse: the tools of Web 2.0, collaborative platforms, digital workspaces, social networking... One of the challenges of ICT use in adult training process is the empowerment of technical and educational aspects of these tools by trainers; the purpose is how to integrate ICT in the educational practices of trainers in the socio-cultural sector. The sector employs almost 14,000 people in French-speaking Belgium (see statistics CFWB on [www.cfwb.be](http://www.cfwb.be)) most of them are trainers who may provide trainings using ICT for educational purposes. The same reality is affirmed by statistics across whole Europe.

## GOALS

The main objective of the project is to enhance the ICT skills of trainers in the socio-cultural sector and to support them in the practice of their educational work. The project will promote the use and integration of the ICT tools as a support material in the adult trainings. The corollary is a positive impact on learning outcomes of learners / trainees, the use of these techniques will allow them to be formed in a flexible way as far as place, time, and speed are concerned. Thus, the project will play a role in the fight against the digital divide.

Each trainer is an "e-facilitator" whose mission is to transmit knowledge, enhance the capabilities of learners/trainees, encourage them to self-training, but also help to fight against the digital divide.

The project's operational objectives are:

1. the creation of customizable training modules about "the use of ICT" to meet the needs of trainers in the socio-cultural sector. A preliminary work of matching between labour market needs and training offer will be made.
2. Encourage cross-border and cross-operators networking of complementary actors: training centers, universities, businesses...at national and European level.
3. the establishment of a "certification" training to facilitate the recognition and validation of training outcomes and their transferability between operators and between countries (professional and geographical mobility – generalization of CERTICA Model of LabSET – Ulg

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<sup>1</sup>.The socio-cultural sector is very varied; the sector employs some 14,000 people in Francophone Belgium. The sector is composed by many sub-sectors such as cultural centers, public libraries & media-libraries, associations & sports clubs, continuing education associations, youth organizations, vocational training associations ...

across Europe). It will be implemented in accordance with the criteria and principals of the European Qualifications Framework (EQF), the ECVET and EQAVET.

### **DELIVERABLES:**

The project deliverables are:

1. Establishment of a platform (network) of operators
2. Common skills and evaluation framework
3. Common training Program
4. Manual of learning outcomes recognition
5. Manual of certification of learning outcomes
6. 5 multipliers events (1 per partner country)
7. 5 training seminars (1 per country)
8. Toolkit which will bring together the produced and collected manuals and tools facilitating the use of ICT in education
9. Website

### **PARTNERS:**

#### **Belgium**

CIEP asbl: project coordinator (applicant)

University of Liège: full partner

#### **Portugal**

#### **Romania**

#### **France**

#### **Italy**