

Project Objectives

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Objectives of the project are

- to develop structures, models, methodology and materials for ICT seniors education
- to create network of educators
- to develop recommendations on the appropriate system and structure
- to develop recommendation for ICT industry
- to develop specific forms of mentoring among the participating countries
- to develop assessment and validation of learning methodologies.

It is proposed to do this in the following ways:

- To develop a set of modules and learning objects that specifically looks at required skills for educators to work with seniors at ICT education.
- To provide content of ICT senior's courses with aspect of national specifics. It will be important from European added value.
- To build a useful teaching tool and set of resources that will help training establishments deliver effective ICT senior's training using blended and e-learning methodology and technology.
- To test all created materials and learning objects and evaluate their effectiveness.
- To build a network of educators based on Internet and Web technologies as a Virtual Centre and develop specific forms of mentoring, which may be used for ICT senior's education in other EU member's countries.
- To look on research finding as resource for recommendations for ICT industry.
- To organise national workshops and international conference with focus on ICT senior's education and training.

A set of modules and learning objects will be created in partners countries and used in pilot courses their. After evaluation on national level there will be developed recommendations on international level, which may be later used for all EU countries. Before any materials can be design a needs analysis will be administered in each partner country to find good examples and working strategies and methodologies. A production of a CD ROM and e-learning support of blended learning for senior's educators and trainers will reduce the heavy cost of teaching a full course and provide a fast way to access information in an interactive way. The experience from this may be used for development of ICT courses for seniors.

The creation of Virtual Centre - interactive network community of educators will embody the principles of communal constructivist learning whereby users will be able to fully participate in the collective learning and sharing of innovative practices that will become apparent during the delivery educational support in each participating partner country. The Internet community will incorporate the web accessibility guidelines set by the WAI (Web Access Initiatives) of Worldwide Web Consortium to which the EU has committed itself. The Virtual Centre may be base for Help Desk not only for educators but also for all seniors in network created under Internet.

A system of peer review will be set up to ensure that all learning materials meet the highest quality in all partner's countries. The sharing of expertise between the partners and the invaluable input from senior's community will ensure

that the syllabus and content meets the needs of those educators who wish to take a course. It is envisaged that the final testing of materials will be outsourced to experts in the field of seniors and ICT.

To introduction of blended learning and e-learning tools will encourage educators to become fully acquainted with the latest learning theories, ethical guidelines, psychology of seniors and assistive technology that is required for effective ICT teaching of seniors. It will empower all who use it and reduce the barriers that are so often commonplace when working with seniors.

The most innovative aspect of this project lies in complementing the necessary human contact teaching process with e-learning tools which will facilitate and standardise the acquisition of basic skills and expertise in the field of training and working with seniors to develop their ICT skills. The project will use blended learning as a main approach to senior's education.

Creation of a network of senior educators - Virtual Centre - will help increase the delivery of each country's courses, methodology and teaching objects to other partners and later on also to other EU countries.

Recommendation for ICT industry on base of a project research may help not only to seniors but also to industry, because there is a great potential in a market. Usability Lab opened at CTU in Prague as a last technology for testing will be used for this research.

Other innovative aspects include:

- Pooling European experience and best practice in ICT training of seniors
- Implementation of a whole new interactive e-community for all participants in EU participating countries
- Orientation towards user-led tools that will benefit both educators and seniors