

EU Project: visuaLearning

Reference-No: 225773-CP-1-2005-1-DE-GRUNDTVIG-G1

Monitoring Report 4

Reporting partner: FIATEST, Romania

Reporting period: 1. December 2006 – 30. April 2007

Introduction:

As described in the project proposal it is planned to write regularly monitoring reports.

The reports should include information on:

- information about the progress
- establishment of local network
- development of group discussions with learners
- preparation of qualification workshops
- development of qualification concept
- difficulties and weak points
- strategies of problem solving.

<u>Remark</u>: The frames are adaptable to the length of your answers.

Aspects for Monitoring Report

Progress of project

activities undertaken during the reporting period

- Qualification workshop in Bonn, Germany (1.02.2007)
- The third project meeting in Bonn, Germany (31.01 3.02.2007)
- Three interview with learners
- Preparation for the qualification workshop (materials collecting, collecting feedback from the people involved in group discussion etc)

successful experiences and / or events

- I consider the second interview a success because the learners were really interested about visual learning subject. Even the visual learning subject is quite unpopular in Romania, the learners discovered within the discussion that they use often in their daily life different signs, methods to learn easier. Starting from this, the learners wanted to know more about this and about the methods used by others to facilitate their learning activities.
- One of the learners (from the second group discussion) is also a teacher for a vocational course (history course for adult organized by Cultural House, Bucharest) and, he was wiling to organize the third group discussion with his class (adults with age between 25 and 60 years old). Also, he was interested to participate at the qualification workshop that will be organized within the project.

difficulties and weak points

feedback from others regarding the project

- Mrs. Anne Marie Ormenisan (teacher) was very interested about the reader and the qualification workshop, because she teaches in vocational course and she need different methods to optimize the teaching process.

- Mr. Valentin Sava (teacher for vocational courses – history) is also interested to know more about visual learning concept to improve his teaching process.

Group discussions with learners

Description of target group(s)

- learners from vocational courses (history classes and training for those who want to work in human resources filed)

Results and findings

The participants from those two interviews were enthusiastic with regards of visual learning techniques. Also, they had the opportunity to share experiences and to learn about different means that can help them in every day life (they knew that the images, videos can have a great influence in their life, but within the interview they recognized that they didn't think about those like a method of learning – e.g. the concept "the power of images" had a great impact to them because they realized how important is to choose the right image to express something.

Consequences for the workshops and the qualification concept

The group discussion helped us to make a percentage for the manual contents (qualification workshop). We've decided that in our workshops we'll be presented methods and instruments for visual learning in percentage of 50% from the whole content. Te reason is that the learners need more methods to make easier their learning process.

Involvement of experts and establishment of local network

With whom did you work together?

Mrs. Magdalena Dumitrana (expert), Mrs. Elisabeta Putere (expert), Mrs. Anne Marie Ormenisan (teacher for an adult course which helped us to organize the second interview; also, she is willing to participate to the qualification workshop).

What have you done so far? What are your experiences?

We disseminate info about Visual Learning Project, website, future stages in project (reader which will be posted on the website, qualification workshops), expected results etc.

We are subscribed to the different networks, group discussions, where there are disseminated info from the European projects (e.g. Grundvigers – the list of Adult Education in Romania, opened to all organization and institutions in Romania interested in adult education projects and possible participants in Grundvig projects, Educatia Adultilor, a list which has 135 members and it is opened to all organizations interested in development of strategies and policy of adult education in Romania, and Formare – a list with 81 members also discussing issues related to adult education in Romania. We've successfully used these networks in other European project where Fiatest was involved (mainly for information and dissemination activities – e.g. Forward project where we managed to organize an international conference in Romania for adults with

reading and wirting difficulties attended by 200 persons, EMMA also for organizing the conference)

Dissemination

- What are your dissemination tools? (e.g. networks, magazines, newsletters...)
- Discussion lists mentioned at the previous points
- Presentations on the web page of FiaTest
- Presentation in the quarterly bulletin of FiaTest

What have you done? - Overview of activities in general (in addition: please fill in the specific "dissemination form")

We have mainly performed activities related to information on the project, also to the organisations which were involved in the interview. More dissemination activities will be performed in the further period, as a part of FiaTest presence in other project and also once the manual will be ready and there will be the possibility to disseminate a result.

Development of qualification concept

First steps

The group discussion gave us the opportunities to get a feedback regarding the contents for the visual learning manual (which it will be used at the qualification workshop). This feedback was offered by the participants within the interview, and the main idea was that we must to focus on the visual learning methods and instruments in our qualification workshop. The reason is that the learning with this method could be more efficient then others. They also seemed to be interested about the creative techniques used with new media (MindManager, Free Mind etc.) - we told about these techniques within the group discussion. We've gave those links and info about these methods used in Mr. Roll reader.

Country specific aspects or interests

Regarding the interest in visual learning subject, in Romania, the main interest is about methods and instruments because the traditional educational system in Romania aren't focus on visual learning and, in this situation, the learners are willing to use methods who make easier their learning.

Open questions

Preparation and testing of qualification workshop

• First steps

- getting feedback from the learners and teachers about their interest in visual learning concept

- gathering materials for the reader/manual

Country specific aspects or interests

- Visual learning methods and techniques

Open questions

Further steps

- Reader for the qualification workshop (May - June 2007)

© DIE/visuaLearning

- Organization of the qualification workshops (July 2007)

Remarks, questions and / or recommendations

Regarding the reporting period

Regarding the further steps

Regarding the cooperation between the partnership

I think it is useful for the partners to know more about the progress/detailed information from each report (e.g. results, good practices, methods used to involve/motivate the partners from local network in each country /partner) from the other partners.

City / Date, Bucharest/31.05.2007

Report compiled by: Simona Gitu