



## **ASLECT – Active Seniors Learn, Educate, Communicate and Transmit**

### **Report on the German Local Workshop “Seniorenangebotsentwickler”**

The German workshop, titled “Seniorenangebotsentwickler” was organised by the Institut für Soziale Infrastruktur (ISIS) in cooperation with the State Agency for Volunteering in Hesse on May 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> 2012 in Frankfurt am Main as part of the ASLECT project. It was based on a four-step selection process which had screened institutions and organisations with regard to the possibility of participation for seniors. The training materials were constructed according to the 15 examples of good practice.

After the workshop, an information evening for cultural and educational organisations took place on July 4<sup>th</sup> 2012 which resulted in two new local projects.

The workshop was not straightly directed towards cultural and educational organisations but instead focused on training local teams of voluntary senior counsellors who should advise educational, cultural and social institutions on how to get senior volunteers involved. The workshop gave the participants the opportunity to build new and improve existing skills which will enable them to further facilitate seniors’ involvement in cultural and educational organisations and the society as a whole. It also served the purpose to increase the amount of cultural and educational activities not only for, but also from seniors and therefore advance the inclusion of seniors.

On May 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> 2012 seniors, members of volunteer organisations, museums and senior networks participated in the workshop which took place at the State Agency for Volunteering in Hesse in Frankfurt am Main. The following topics were discussed in the training sessions:

- Increasing the attractiveness of areas of operation
- An active involvement of senior volunteers in educational institutions not only as students but also as teachers
- Creating a friendly learning environment
- Sustainability and Success
- Development of action plans

During the training sessions the participants analysed and assessed some of the 15 good practice cases identified by the partners in the ASLECT project:

- From IZL: “Growing older in Schauenburg“ - Research study of the University of Kassel. There was a survey of people who were born between 1935 and 1965. In

Project No. 511842-LLP-1-2010-1-RO-KA4-KA4MP

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission.

This publication reflects the views only of the author and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

addition, interviews, group discussions and expert interviews took place. For 36 weeks, people wrote columns for the "Schauenburg-Kurier" and discussed subjects like different ways of living together, e.g. shared apartments or multigenerational houses, or future need for care and family connection. The study groups "Generations and meeting places", "Generations and care" as well as "Generations and living" resulted in the project "Initiative for Growing Older in Schauenburg".

- From SEVEN with the Austrian and Bulgarian Red Cross: Four volunteers participated in an exchange program and took over tasks in areas like day-care centres for seniors, visit and company services, handing out food to people in need and integration of refugees
- From SLIC; Project Plan60 in Austria: Four empowerment courses took place which resulted in twenty projects, e.g. "Plan60 venue central library" which offers special services to older users like dealing with the research program OPAC and computer introductions to the library in German and English, or "Plan 60 travels" where people meet and organise travels
- Grundtvig senior volunteering projects compendium: Feliz: An exchange program of the partner Universities in Lodz/Poland and ViLE e.V. in Ulm/Germany for senior students. The volunteers engaged in areas of "Lifelong Learning", "Intergenerational Learning" and "Information and Communication Technology". An additional exchange with Bratislava followed.

After the workshop the voluntary counsellors were encouraged to contact organisations and advise them on how to increase the engagement of seniors in cultural and educational organisations.

About two months after the workshop an information evening was offered on July 4<sup>th</sup> 2012 for cultural and educational organisations which addressed similar topics as the workshop. It resulted in two new local projects:

- "Remembering – Telling – Painting": A member of Mittelbuchen historical society talks about different topics regarding the greater Hanau area and motivates seniors to tell their own memories from this time. After they get inspired to paint pictures together with their grandchildren.
- "Books to People": A voluntary mobile book service will be installed which offers to deliver books to older, disabled and/or less mobile people and also to read the books to them. Cooperation partner is a library in Groß-Auheim.

## The German local workshop on May 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> 2012



Project No. 511842-LLP-1-2010-1-RO-KA4-KA4MP

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission.

This publication reflects the views only of the author and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

## The information evening on July 4<sup>th</sup> 2012



Project No. 511842-LLP-1-2010-1-RO-KA4-KA4MP

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission.

This publication reflects the views only of the author and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.