

Meet the Need

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An EU project to promote vocation related second language training for migrants

Background of the project

Language is one of the key competences for migrants' vocational integration in the host country: Not knowing to speak the host country's language without mistakes is often considered as being incompetent; thus finding adequate and qualified work is a (big) challenge for most people with migration background.

In this regard, teachers of second language courses point out that detailed knowledge of technical terms, phrases, or codes of conduct required in working life would contribute to enhancing migrant's labour market opportunities; at the same time migrant's self-confidence can be strengthened by acquiring specific vocation related language competence.

Another important aspect in this context is that migration background can be prejudicial to job application; migrants often suffer discrimination on the labour market as language requirements for job application in written as well as spoken form at the one hand and language skills needed for carrying out a job at the other hand frequently differ. Thus, it is crucial to sensitise employers to such discrepancies.

Likewise, gaining knowledge about employers' perspectives and demands can facilitate the work of language trainers. The same is true for suitable teaching material which provides specific technical terms, communication requirements, or explains language related expectations to employees in the particular vocation.

This project is funded with support from the European Commission within the Lifelong Learning Programme, Grundtvig. In Austria, it is additionally supported by the Austrian Federal Ministry for Education, Arts and Culture. Coordinated by Research Institute of the Red Cross, Austria.

Objectives of the project

In cooperation with vocational experts as well as language teachers, vocational teaching material will be developed in order to

- improve specific further education of migrants
- enhance migrants' possibilities of accessing the labour market
- support migrants' integration options
- strengthen migrants' self-confidence in a second language (vocation) surrounding
- sensitise employers to specific vocation related challenges for migrants

All material will be compiled to a Compendium covering selected vocations. It is important to emphasise that the Compendium does not contain specific course curricula. Instead, it is intended to offer flexibly applicable vocation related teaching material for general second language classes.

Target groups

The Compendium is developed for second language teachers and is meant to be a resource for general second language trainings.

Moreover, the Compendium will also include self study material for migrants.

Partners

- Research Institute of the Red Cross, Austria
- queraum kultur- und sozialforschung, Austria
- Asociatia pentru Educatie si Dezvoltare Durabila, Romania
- mhtconsult, Denmark
- Annesland Research, Consultancy Limited, United Kingdom
- Thüringer Volkshochschulverband e.V., Germany
- Agenzia per lo Sviluppo Empoese Valdelsa, Italy
- Die Wiener Volkshochschulen GmbH, Austria.

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