Projects and Products Portal for Leonardo da Vinci

mTransition

UK/13/LLP-LdV/TOI-675

http://www.adam-europe.eu/adam/project/view.htm?prj=10845

Project Information

Title: mTransition

Project Number: UK/13/LLP-LdV/TOI-675

Year: 2013

Project Type: Transfer of Innovation

Status: granted

Country: UK-United Kingdom

Marketing Text: Using mobile technology to support VET learners at risk of becoming NEET, immigrant VET learners and learning mobility students.

Summary: mTransition provided VET learners with pastoral and academic support through an innovative learning mobile app. The app is an individual learning & development planning tool, incorporating social media functionality to enable a tutor and learner to negotiate then execute an individual learning plan (ILP). mTransition built on the achievements of an Interreg funded project (mCommunity 2011-2013) that piloted the use of mobile technology and remote tutoring to help NEET (Not in Education, Employment, Training) learners overcome common barriers, such as low motivation & engagement, to improve their qualifications & employability. The aim of the 2 year project was to transfer the app into 3 other VET learning contexts targeting learners at risk of becoming NEET, mobility learners on work placement, and immigrant learners seeking to overcome barriers of language and integration. The project identified an opportunity to help prevent VET learners from becoming disengaged or unfocussed. Maintaining meaningful contact with learners whilst on placement and ensuring they record their reflections on experiences when at a distance is challenging.
The trialling of the apps in different VET contexts led to the decision to redevelop them into 3 separate apps that all integrate with the Moodle virtual learning environment. There is now an app for course content and delivery, an app for managing the individual learning plan and an app for synchronous messaging. The apps have been built in HTML5 so are now available on iOS, and Android platforms and are free for educational establishments to download and use. The three apps provide education establishments with three tools to manage and motivate learners wherever they are located.

Description: The project was carried out by a consortium of experts from five countries (Belgium, Ireland, Italy, The Netherlands and the UK) that included three VET educational institutions, dissemination and research organisations and an internationally recognised centre of excellence for ICT research. All partners had experience of transnational EU VET projects and perform key roles in their own countries in supporting the provision of lifelong learning initiatives. This expertise was used to adapt, implement and evaluate the free downloadable mobile app into the 3 new VET learning contexts and to develop a website containing a toolkit of support materials and best practice guides in various languages to facilitate EU wide understanding and adoption. The transfer was further enhanced through the establishment of a community of practice and various dissemination activities.
By giving learners the opportunity to define their ILP & to monitor and document progress against agreed targets through the use of mobile technology, VET providers were able to enrich the training provision, increase engagement, facilitate cooperation between VET providers, learners and companies.
Outline of project activity
Five consortium meetings have taken place throughout the project, at venues in each of the partner countries. All partners attended and established ways of working, roles and responsibilities, preferred communication channels and reviewed all work packages to ensure understanding across the board. The mCommunity app was also demonstrated and reviewed for the first time by all parties involved. Online monthly meetings were agreed and have taken place regularly since the start of the project. All meetings are recorded and posted on a cloud based shared portal. Partners join meetings remotely using GoTo Meeting conferencing software. Since the start of the project, five face-to-face meetings have taken place in the UK, Netherlands, Ireland and Italy. The partnership has worked very well and any technical issues have been

Project Information

supported and addressed through both face-to-face and remote training sessions. Most contact was maintained through the mTransition team portal where members posted comments; replied to discussions; uploaded project documentation; tracked project progress through a Gantt chart and scheduled calendar events. In addition to the portal, the project used the Oovoo instant messaging platform and telephone calls to stay in touch.
The first 6 months of the project were mostly focused on mobilisation, including the creation of a project website, the setup of the team portal & delivery partner training sessions. The project did experience some teething problems including underestimating the resources required to support learners; unforeseen IT infrastructure limitations within delivery partner organisations and the training required to fully implement the project. These issues were quickly raised and addressed through increased training & technical support and the recruitment of new project resource. Pilot activity work gained momentum in June-July 2014, and by September 2014, all delivery partners were in a position to start large scale rollout implementation. By the end of the project, 217 VET learners at risk had been engaged, with all data captured and evidenced both through the mobile app and through agreed systems and processes; 80 VET teachers were directly informed about the project; 1500 institutions were informed about the project through online dissemination activities; and the project ran two major dissemination workshops with audiences of around 150 delegates at the Euromobility conference in Brussels (2 and Sardinia respectively.
In the second year, large scale implementation focussed three delivery partners on targeting VET teachers and learners. Following beta testing in the autumn of 2014, Learners' and teachers' feedback resulted in the decision to redesign the app into three separate apps, one for content, one for the individual learning plan and one for messaging. These apps are now available free of charge to educational institutions anywhere in the EU via the iOS App store and the Android Play Store.

Themes:
*** Sustainability
*** ICT
*** Open and distance learning
*** Vocational guidance
*** Initial training
** Intercultural learning
** Lifelong learning
** Access for disadvantaged
* Enterprise, SME

Sectors:
*** Human Health and Social Work Activities
*** Education
** Information and Communication

Product Types:
evaluation methods
modules
open and distance learning
teaching material
website

Product information: The mTransition mobile apps are designed to help learners focus on their personal development and improve their knowledge and skills to enhance their qualifications and employability. The three apps are comprised:
1. An electronic individual learning planning tool (eILP);
2. A Moodle based course delivery tool allowing users to view and complete courses and assignments; and
3. An instant messaging and a social networking communication tool.
By using the apps, all parties involved in a work placement or training initiative cancommunicate and manage the learners' experience. The learner is also able to update their progress against each element of their learning plan that means that the experience is fully interactive and they are more likely to remain engaged.

Projecthomepage: http://www.mtransition.eu/

Project Contractor

Name:	Pembrokeshire College
City:	Haverfordwest
Country/Region:	Wales
Country:	UK-United Kingdom
Organization Type:	initial training
Homepage:	http://www.pembrokeshire.ac.uk

Contact Person

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Coordinator

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Country/Region:	Wales
Country:	UK-United Kingdom
Organization Type:	initial training
Homepage:	http://www.pembrokeshire.ac.uk

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Partner

Partner 1

Name: National Institute of Adult Continuing Education (England and Wales)
City: Leicester
Country/Region: Leictershire, Rutland Northamptonshire
Country: UK-United Kingdom
Organization Type: others
Homepage: http://www.niace.org.uk

Partner 2

Name: European Vocational Training Association (EVTA)
City: Brussels
Country/Region: Bruxelles Cap, Brussel Hof
Country: BE-Belgium
Organization Type: others
Homepage: http://www.evta.eu

Partner 3

Name: ROC West-Brabant
City: Etten-Leur
Country/Region: Noord Brabant
Country: NL-Netherlands
Organization Type: others
Homepage: http://www.rocwb.nl

Partner 4

Name: Centro Studi "Cultura Sviluppo"
City: Pistoia
Country/Region: Toscana
Country: IT-Italy
Organization Type: others
Homepage: http://www.cscs.it

Partner

Partner 5

Name:	Waterford Institute of Technology
City:	Waterford
Country/Region:	Southern and Eastern
Country:	IE-Ireland
Organization Type:	others
Homepage:	http://www.wit.ie

Project Files

F.2.18.1 a - Newsletter for July 14.pdf

http://www.adam-europe.eu/prj/10845/prj/F.2.18.1%20a%20-%20Newsletter%20for%20July%2014.pdf

Newsletter July 14

F.2.18.1 b - Newsletter for October 2014.pdf

http://www.adam-europe.eu/prj/10845/prj/F.2.18.1%20b%20-%20Newsletter%20for%20October%202014.pdf

Newsletter October 14

F.2.8.1 a - mCommunity - ILP installation guide.docx

http://www.adam-europe.eu/prj/10845/prj/F.2.8.1%20a%20-%20mCommunity%20-%20ILP%20installation%20guide.docx

eILP Installation guide

F.2.8.1 b - mCommunity - ILP user guide.docx

http://www.adam-europe.eu/prj/10845/prj/F.2.8.1%20b%20-%20mCommunity%20-%20ILP%20user%20guide.docx

ILP user guide

F.2.8.1 c - mCommunity - Messenger installation guide - Copy.docx

http://www.adam-europe.eu/prj/10845/prj/F.2.8.1%20c%20-%20mCommunity%20-%20Messenger%20installation%20guide%20-%20Copy.docx

mCommunity installation guide

F.2.8.1 d - mCommunity - Messenger user guide.docx

http://www.adam-europe.eu/prj/10845/prj/F.2.8.1%20d%20-%20mCommunity%20-%20Messenger%20user%20guide.docx

Messenger user guide

mCommunity App Manual_V2.pdf

http://www.adam-europe.eu/prj/10845/prj/mCommunity%20App%20Manual_V2.pdf

mCommunity App Manual for full visibility of mobile app functionality. This product will be used for implementation into vocational education and training across different educational contexts in Europe.

mtrans evta dissemination workshop to generalassembly.pdf

http://www.adam-europe.eu/prj/10845/prj/mtrans%20evta%20dissemination%20workshop%20to%20generalassembly.pdf

EVTA dissemination workshop

mTransition final evaluation report from NIACE v2.docx

http://www.adam-europe.eu/prj/10845/prj/mTransition%20final%20evaluation%20report%20from%20NIACE%20v2.docx

mTransition evaluation report

mtrans_newsflash1_final.pdf

http://www.adam-europe.eu/prj/10845/prj/mtrans_newsflash1_final.pdf

mTransition Newsflash 1 - July 2014

Products

1 Project Website

2 Project Management Plan

3 Mobile App and online Portal

4 Project Evaluation report

Product 'Project Website'

Title:	Project Website
Product Type:	website
Marketing Text:	The website acts as the first point of information and communication on the project.
Description:	The project website includes information on the aims and objectives of the project and the project partners. It is a communication tool for all partners and a tool for project dissemination. The website gives visitors access to the project news forum, Twitter feed and access to the project bi-monthly Newsletters. The website also act as the communication medium for case studies, success stories and review reports.
Target group:	All staff involved in the project, end users of the app and interested parties.
Result:	1 - Project Website 9 - Awareness raising 17 - Use of social networking/media 18 - Newsletters 19 - Regular website updates 26 - Case studies, Success stories and review reports
Area of application:	Marketing, Information and Dissemination
Homepage:	http://mtransition.eu/
Product Languages:	

Product 'Project Management Plan'

Title:	Project Management Plan
Product Type:	website
Marketing Text:	The project management plan shows key milestones, roles and responsibilities and timescales. It provides the team with a greater sense of ownership and responsibility while still providing full visibility across the team.
Description:	The project management plan is housed online via the OnlyOffice project management portal. The portal provides the project team with a GANTT Chart, Contact details of team members, Milestones, Task lists, Documents storage and a discussion forum for sharing information.
Target group:	The partnership team.
Result:	2 - Project management Plan 4 - Project Monitoring Plan 5 - Record of partner meetings
Area of application:	Project management and monitoring
Homepage:	https://mtransition.onlyoffice.eu/auth.aspx
Product Languages:	

Product 'Mobile App and online Portal'

Title:	Mobile App and online Portal
Product Type:	open and distance learning
Marketing Text:	The mobile app and online portal is an individual learning planning tool built on a real time communications infrastructure
Description:	The mTransition Mobile app is a tool for the delivery and management of learning. It provides end users with three key functions; 1. Electronic individual learning plan (eILP) for setting and monitoring learning goals. 2. A virtual learning platform for content and activity delivery. 3. An instant messaging tool which allows students and teachers to communicate. The app also has a social networking forum to accommodate peer discussions and interactions. The app is a free download available from project partners. End users of the app and portal can access training materials and users manuals via the portal, and have access to technical support from the TSSG.
Target group:	VET Learners and Teachers
Result:	7 - Modified App 8 - Product Training Manuals 10 - Training Materials 11 - Trial of App 13 - Technical Support
Area of application:	For the delivery and management of learning and development via mobile technology
Homepage:	
Product Languages:	

Product 'Project Evaluation report'

Title:	Project Evaluation report
Product Type:	
Marketing Text:	This report will give readers an analysis of the project.
Description:	NIACE undertook the evaluation of the mTransition project, examining the effectively of the activities of the project.
Target group:	VET providers
Result:	Positive ideas on the implementation of mobile technology in VET learning
Area of application:	For considering whether organisations should invest in the use of mobile technology in VET.
Homepage:	
Product Languages:	English

Events

Europe Mobility Network Conference 2014

Date	25.09.2014
Description	The project team will hold a number of dissemination workshops to promote the project and demonstrate the app.
Target audience	Post secondary, vocational and tertiary education providers
Public	Closed event
Contact Information	EUROPEMOBILITY NETWORK Via Puccini 80 - 51100 Pistoia Italy - Tel. +39 0573 50444 Email: info@europemobility.eu www.europemobility.eu
Time and place	25/26 September 2014 in Cagliari, Sardinia

Report EVTA General Assembly

Date	25.06.2014
Description	General assembly of EVTA members in which the work of the mTransition project is presented
Target audience	WET providers
Public	Event is open to the public
Contact Information	Geoff Elliott geoffe@pembs.ac.uk
Time and place	25 June 2014, Brussels

Events

Europe Mobility Network Conference 2013

Date	27.11.2013
Description	The mTransition team presented and demonstrated the App and Portal at the Europe Mobility Conference
Target audience	Post secondary and tertiary education providers
Public	Closed event
Contact Information	EUROPEMOBILITY NETWORK Via Puccini 80 - 51100 Pistoia Italy - Tel. +39 0573 50444 Email: info@europemobility.eu www.europemobility.eu
Time and place	27/28 November 2013 in Brussels

Events

mTransition Kick-Off Meeting

Date 15.10.2013

Description

Day One Agenda
09:30 Teas & Coffees
10:00 Welcome & OARRs (Objectives, Agenda, Roles & Rules)
10:20 Introductions exercise
11:00 mCommunity Project Overview & TOI Seminar Update (Pembrokeshire College)
11:45 Partners recap of context & requirements (CSCS, ROC WB, EVTA, NIACE, PC)
12:30 Lunch
13:15 App and Portal Training
- App features
- Portal
- mCommunity Moodle
- Status Net

14:45 Break
15:00 Q&A
15:30 mTransition Ways of Working:
- Goal and mission
- Effective communication systems
- Establishing clear structures and roles
- Establishing mechanisms for problem solving
- Encouraging collaboration

17:00 Day One Close

Followed by a social and evening meal that has been booked on Tuesday evening in Cardiff Bay at 19:30pm…

Day Two Agenda
08:45 Teas/Coffees
09:00 Agenda review and Teach to Learn exercise
09:30 Requirements gathering Part 1 (TSSG)
10:30 Break
10:45 Requirements gathering Part 2 (TSSG)
12:00 Lunch
12:30 Getting Started Breakout sessions (Work package planning/ideas; identifying outstanding knowledge gaps):
- Dissemination & Evaluation partners (EVTA, NIACE)
- Implementation partners (CSCS, ROC West Brabant, PC)

13:30 Breakout session summaries
14:00 Actions and next steps
14:30 Day Two Close

Target audience All mTransition partners

Public Closed event

Contact Information Caroline Griffiths (c.griffiths@pembs.ac.uk)

Time and place mTransition Kick-Off Meeting Agenda
15th & 16th October 2013
At Cardiff White Water International