Open Learning to Sign Language

Newsletter 01

Welcome to the first Newsletter of the OPEN project which is Leonardo da Vinci Transfer of Innovation funded by Lifelong Learning Programme from 2013 to 2015.

OPEN aims to improve situation of D/deaf people in the world by giving them full access to language education (other sign languages and English language) in order to foster contact with cultural diversity, eliminate communication barriers and thus improve mobility in the world as well as communication with foreigners. To achieve the project aims, OPEN will create two final products:

N°1 e-learning educational package for learning the English language in combination with the 6 sign languages/systems: International Sign, Italian Sign Language, Polish Sign Language, Greek Sign Language, Swedish Sign Language, Spanish Sign Language.

N°2 transferable methodology that can be used with other sign languages.

Project Activities

OPEN project is at the stage of developing experimental program for language training. In all partner countries video recordings are being realized. As soon as this activity will be finished, pilot test will be organized. If your organization is keen on cooperation in this process please contact partner from your country.

Partners across Europe

The OPEN consortium brings together six EU organisations who are collaborating in order to develop and exchange innovative practices in terms of learning sign languages. The participating organisations are:

Project Leader/ Coordinator:
Asociación de Desarrollo Rural Estepa Sierra Sur – SPAIN www.adrestepass.com

The Association for Rural Development Estepa Sierra Sur which is a non-profit association constituted in July 2000. Its board of directors and its general assembly is composed of members coming for the public and private sectors, this allows different sectors to work together and make joint decisions about the future of the region Estepa-Sierra Sur (Andalusia – Spain).

S1: SYNTHESIS Center for Research and Education Ltd – CYPRUS www.synthesis-center.com

SYNTHESIS is a learning events provider and a center for the development of social entrepreneurship. Institution offices are located in the United Nations Buffer Zone in Nicosia. Its learning events aim to inspire and empower learners, young or adult, who are at risk of social exclusion. SYNTHESIS is implementing training programs for people with disadvantages or disabilities, including people with hearing impairment.

S2: Europeiskt Teckenspråkscenter – SWEDEN www.signlanguage.eu

The NGO, European Sign Language Centre, started in 2009 and developed Spreadthesign.com, the largest sign language dictionary on the Internet. The work is international and the office headquarters in Sweden holds webmaster/programmer, coordinator, linguist, PR, production leader and production team. All are experts in their field of work and support the other countries that are joined to Spread the sign. Spreadthesign.com was nominated as best practice 2010 by the Commission.

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S3: Fondazione IKAROS – ITALY www.fondazioneikaros.org

Fondazione Ikaros is a certified VET and provider, operating in the fields of Initial Vocational Training, Higher Education, Lifelong Learning and Job services in the provinces of Bergamo and Milan; its nucleus dates back to 1972. Ikaros received an Excellence Label from Lombardy Region being active in the provision of a wide range of training initiatives, some of these targeted at specific groups i.e. early school leavers, NEET or disadvantaged groups. Ikaros developed an important expertise in the field of teaching and learning with ICT, as well as in formal/informal skills development and competences certifications through ECVET system, being involved in several European projects concerning these issues.

S4: Szczecińska Szkoła Wyższa COLLEGIUM BALTICUM – POLAND www.cb.szczecin.pl

COLLEGIUM Balticum – University of SZCZECIN founded in 2000 is continuously ranked as one of the best private universities in northern Poland. Its objective is to provide young people with knowledge comprising many fields so that they can receive an interdisciplinary education providing them with a better competences in actual society and in the difficult labor market both in Poland and internationally. Within its faculties, students can choose educational science (pedagogy) where courses on sociology and psychology are provided. This includes work with people at risk of social exclusion.

S5: Amber International SRL – ITALY
www.ambergroup.org/CamporlecchioEducational

Amber International Srl is a Training and Consulting company specialized in managerial, social and educational sciences. It was founded in 2001 by a pool of Managers with previous professional experiences in large managerial consultancy enterprises. Amber International Srl offers its experience in Added-value Solutions Development by applying innovative methodologies in the llowing domains: Training and Education, Evaluation, Validation of informal and non-formal learning, Human Resources Consulting, Development of (ICT-) training and Education models.

At EU level, Amber International Srl has participated to several project.

We invite you to follow OPEN website and to contact directly your local organization if you would like to participate in the project activities.

www.opensignlanguage.eu

Follow on:
Twitter: @OpenSignos
Facebook: Opensignlanguage.eu

Coordinator Entity:
Asociación de Desarrollo Rural Estepa Sierra Sur

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