

VOCA extended - Increased accessibility to vocational training and increased attachment to the labour market for disabled people through the VOCA Europe 2 Mentor model

2009-1-TR1-LEO05-08629

<http://www.adam-europe.eu/adam/project/view.htm?prj=7327>

Project Information

Title: VOCA extended - Increased accessibility to vocational training and increased attachment to the labour market for disabled people through the VOCA Europe 2 Mentor model

Project Number: 2009-1-TR1-LEO05-08629

Year: 2009

Project Type: Transfer of Innovation

Status: completed

Country: TR-Turkey

Marketing Text: VOCA extended has been developed "to train mentors (who are persons with physical disabilities) and consequently support (home based) employability of (mentee) people with physical disabilities by means of e-mentoring". Therefore both mentor and mentee will be included in the labour market and they are both home based workers. Thus, e-mentors will be trained by e-learning and they will e-mentor mentees who will work from their homes. VOCA extended combines "old" techniques "e-mentoring", "e-learning" and "e-working" together to create an innovative "new" approach. This unique approach is very open to be further developed and grow in the field of "virtual learning and virtual working".

Summary: Due to booming technology and IT phenomena, distant learning and e-employment (home based employment) are growing in an exponential manner. Although disabled people with mobility limitation are the most suitable part of the population which conforms to this new trend from the most aspects while forming more than 10% of European population, there is not a real efficient development targeting this group in this new field of employment. Knowing the fact that the "home based employment" is one of the best employment models for disabled people in general, and it was also mentioned that almost half of non-working persons with disabilities need some form of assistance to work throughout the European Union. In past VOCA projects focus was put on the process of getting and keeping a job, and one of the project outcomes was the development and testing of a model for the training of Mentors who can assist both companies in employing a disabled individual and disabled people. In this project, VOCA extended, mentors are being offered training in more languages and they are also e-trained in guiding disabled people in how to work from home.

Therefore, the project supports participants of VOCA e-courses in further training activities for developing a e-mentor skills and profession, for e-mentoring the disabled people in integration to the working environment and to a new job. Thus, mentors can use the knowledge, skills and qualifications gathered via VOCA e-courses both existing and in the new field and localized in new regions. VOCA also supports improvements in quality and innovation in vocational education and training systems targeting e-mentoring disabled people and further improve practices present in this field.

Description: Disabled people are almost twice as likely to be inactive as non-disabled people in European. Disabled persons face a much harder situation in the labor market than persons without disabilities and there is gap between the employment rate of disabled and non-disabled people. Even physically disabled person requires more income than an able-bodied person to achieve the same living standard.

To this end VOCA extended Project developed a model for the employment of individuals with disabilities: e-Mentoring provided the foundation that enabled the disabled individual to break through what are often barriers to career success despite their skill and abilities. In this direction the goal of the VOCA extended project is to facilitate one-on-one mentoring relationships between mentee and e-mentors.

We hope that as a result of the project a lot of disabled Europeans may enter the virtual job markets from their homes...

Project Information

- Themes: *** Labor market
*** ICT
*** Lifelong learning
*** Open and distance learning
*** Vocational guidance
*** Enterprise, SME
*** Access for disadvantaged
*** Equal opportunities
*** Continuous training
** Recognition, transparency, certification
* Social dialog
- Sectors: *** Administrative and Support Service Activities
*** Other Service Activities
** Education
* Information and Communication

Product Types: description of new occupation profiles
website
open and distance learning
material for open learning
procedure for the analysis and prognosis of the vocational training requirement
program or curricula
transparency and certification

Product information: www.vo-ca.net is a professional portal with user interface and social media modules. e-Learning modules contained in the platform, which will be transferred in more professional open source e-learning platform, such as Moodle in next phase of the project.

Program has been designed to understanding e-mentoring activity. Due to physical disability, mentors may not have had the opportunity or the mobile ability to obtain any on the job training or special training classes. For this reason it is important that on line training. This program aims to create and conduct a pilot course that offers a comprehensive curriculum and demonstrates the applicability of the method and its benefits.

Therefore, pilot training package was prepared under the philosophy of former VOCA project and adopted to the philosophy of our current approach. The basic outline is compatible to all needs addressing to real e-working environment.

Projecthomepage: <http://www.vo-ca.net/>

Project Contractor

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Country: TR-Turkey
Organization Type: SME - small and medium-sized enterprise (up to 250 employees)
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Products

- 1 VOCA extended Portal "www.vo-ca.net" for e-mentoring

Product 'VOCA extended Portal "www.vo-ca.net" for e-mentoring'

Title: VOCA extended Portal "www.vo-ca.net" for e-mentoring

Product Type: website

Marketing Text: Disabled people are almost twice as likely to be inactive as non-disabled people in European. Disabled persons face a much harder situation in the labor market than persons without disabilities and there is gap between the employment rate of disabled and non-disabled people. Even physically disabled person requires more income than an able-bodied person to achieve the same living standard.

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We hope that as a result of the project a lot of disabled Europeans may enter the virtual job markets from homes...

Description: employment has always been a problem for disabled person. Disabled people face a lot of unusual obstacles in getting a job or building their own business. Even more they are faced with a wide spectrum of different barriers in integration to the working environment and to a new job. Under this conditions it is important that to provide disabled people with the same individual choices and control in their daily lives as non-disabled people.

Working-from-home online jobs can be the solution for disabled person's professional and personal life. Furthermore "e-mentoring" as a home based online job may suitable to work from home. In the virtual workplace e-mentoring can be a method of helping disabled people to get a new job and improve their job competence by providing suggestions and encouragement.

The aim of VOCA extended Project is increased accessibility to home based vocational training and increased attachment to the labor market for disabled people. Specific aim is; to train mentors and consequently support (home-based) employability of disabled people by means of mentoring. Our basic approach can be summarized as follows:

- * VOCA extended has established on the basis of home based e- mentoring
- * VOCA extended web site will bring together mentees and mentors
- * The physical disabled mentors who request to work in their homes will transfer their knowledge and experiences to the physical disabled mentees with the aid of training received from VOCA web site.
- * Mentor and mentees will maintain the relationship and cooperation between each other at the next stage.

Target group: There are mainly two target groups and a tertiary target group of VOCA extended project. Primary target group which is the focus of the model and also the end users of the project, is people with physical disabilities having mobility restrictions and seeking to find employment by using and developing their certain background as future mentors. Secondary target group, which is the individuals who will benefit from the training of the primary target group who are relatively less or inexperienced disabled people (mentees, future home based workers) trying to get or maintain contact with the labour market. Using the tools of training given with this VOCA extended mentor training, primary target group would support the secondary target group in reaching their professional development. Tools are all based on ICT

Product 'VOCA extended Portal "www.vo-ca.net" for e-mentoring'

Target group: environment. Companies, trainers, and institutions of vocational training and education are considered as the tertiary target group, as the project will develop a model, including tools and templates that can be used to qualify persons to assume the role of Mentors, and as such enable them to assist companies.

Result: e-mentor e-training for e-working environment. www.vo-ca.net will also be the platform where mentors and mentees meet each other and develop future business and integrated employment opportunities.

Area of application: Virtual working.

Homepage: <http://www.vo-ca.net/>

Product Languages: Romanian
Slovak
Spanish
Turkish
English
Lithuanian