



DE/11/LLP-LDV/TOI147 420

Healthy Learning in Small and Medium Enterprises

A project sponsored by means of the European Union

Small and Medium Enterprises are an important economic factor for the EU. According to the European Commission of Enterprise and Industry 99% of all European Companies employ 250 employees or less. But - it has also been pointed out - Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in the EU are less productive and grow more slowly than their counterparts in the US. Therefore it is important to strengthen European SMEs in their performances.

One way of doing it is by encouraging employees of all age groups in Life Long Learning. Since learning depends on certain prerequisites and does not happen simply by enforcing employees to do so, setting up the conditions for a *"healthy learning environment"* becomes a crucial step in the process.

Usually, though, SMEs are hardly aware of the necessity of learning at the workplace, never to mention the idea of a sustainable learning environment. This means they are seldom reflecting on questions such as:

- What makes learning at the workplace possible?
- What could improve and support learning abilities?
- What are the main obstacles to the learning process?

For all these reasons Healthy Learning in SMEs aims at adapting the former European Project *"Health Tutor in Adult Education"* - which focused on setting up a healthy learning environment in adult education institutions - to the needs of SMEs.

In particular the project has the following objectives:

- To raise SMEs awareness of the importance of learning at the workplace in general
- To train SMEs in setting up prerequisites for learning at the workplace
- To define the prerequisites for creating a sustainable learning environment at the workplace

And, as a side effect:

- To improve the general health of employees in SMEs
- To improve the competitiveness of SMEs

To reach the goals and to make things work, 7 partners coming from 6 countries such as Germany, Poland, Turkey, Great Britain, Italy and Romania are working within the project.



In detail these are the following institutions:

Deutsche Angestellten Akademie Berlin Brandenburg-West (DE), project coordinator

Contact: Anette Deharde-Rau, Email: adeharde@daatranspro.de

Pixel Associazione (IT)

Contact: Federico Fragasso, Email: federico@pixel-online.net

University of Information Technology and Management in Rzeszow (PL)

Contact: Dr. Maciej Piotrowski, Email: mpiotrowski@wsiz.rzeszow.pl

C.I.D.Af - Innovation and Business Development Center (RO)

Contact: Domnica Cotet, Email: domnica.cotet@cidaf.ro

KOWA association (DE)

Contact: Frank Hühner, Email: huehner@europa-uni.de

Makro Management Development and Consulting Limited Company (TK)

Contact: Ipek Incesulu, Email: info@makroconsult.com.tr

Edinburg Napier University (UK)

Contact: Matthew Dutton, Email: m.dutton@napier.ac.uk



Healthy Learning in SMEs is a Leonardo da Vinci – Transfer of Innovation project with a running time of altogether 24 months (Oct 2011 - Sep 2013) and is promoted with means of the European Union.

We would like to inform you in our newsletter about the progress of Healthy Learning in SMEs on a regular basis. It will be also possible to take part on a training set up by the HLS project. We will tell you more about it in one of our next newsletters.

If you are having any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Best regards,

Your team of Healthy Learning in SMEs - www.healthylearning.eu/