

econ-it 2



Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme

Leonardo da Vinci

E-zine #1

About the project

- The ECON IT 2 is about creating training resources for Business Advisors and making transfer of IMLSS – Integrated Mobile Learning System Solution).
- Make Business Advisors (BAs) better prepared to serve their SMEs' customers and result in improving the performance and growth of the enterprises they serve.
- Provide BAs with online training resources.
- Transfer of Integrated Mobile Learning System Solution (two new countries)
- Increase of BA's capacity.
- Support SMEs through transnational analysis of training needs and developing a corresponding training resource.



KICK OFF MEETING

The first project meeting was held in Szczecin – the leader partner's city. It took place between 21st and 23rd of November 2011. All of the parts of the meeting were completed according to the agenda. The following partners participated in the meeting (see picture above):

1. Canice Hamill – Canice Consulting;
2. Bill Leonard – Chartered Management Institute;
3. Mariam Rodenas - Insitituto de Economia Publica SL;
4. Luis Ballester - Insitituto de Economia Publica SL;
5. Hugh Reilly – Meath County Enterprise Board;
6. José Carvalho - Sociedade Portuguesa de Inovação - Consultadoria Empresarial e Fomento da Inovação, S.A.;
7. Ana Maria ONU - Institutul Național pentru Întreprinderi Mici și Mijlocii;
8. Joanna Markiewicz – Northern Chamber of Commerce;

Funder:

Foundation for the Development of the Education System
National Agency for Lifelong Learning Programme Leonardo da Vinci
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00-551 Warsaw
POLAND

Leading partner:

The Northern Chamber of Commerce
Al. Wojska Polskiego 164
71-335 Szczecin
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The ECON-IT2 consortium

The Northern Chamber of Commerce (NCC) in Szczecin is the largest self-governed organisation representing companies from the West Pomerania Region in Poland. It was established in late 1997, at the initiative of sixty entrepreneurs. After fourteen years of functioning, membership had grown to over 1500 enterprises from the whole area of north-west Poland. The principle task of the NCC is to provide services to member companies, including training and education services, the organisation of cooperation visits and the facilitation of networking opportunities, financial assistance and interest representation and lobbying. With extensive EU project experience and a wide base of SME contacts, and the understanding of SME needs, that comes from being a representative body, NCC is ideally placed to lead and co-ordinate the project.

Sociedade Portuguesa de Inovação - Consultadoria Empresarial e Fomento da Inovação, S.A. SPI is a knowledge management oriented company with the mission to manage projects that foster innovation and promote international opportunities. SPI provides services in 3 areas: Training, Consulting and R&D. SPI has a permanent staff of nearly 50 people in 8 offices worldwide. SPI has extensive experience in conducting consultancy and training services to private companies, especially SMEs. SPI has also developed numerous further projects in the area of entrepreneurship. SPI is an accredited training provider with experience in developing training plans, identifying/ selecting training resources, developing didactic materials, supervising and evaluating training courses and addressing the impact of training programs, etc.

The Chartered Management Institute is the only professional body in the UK dedicated to promoting the highest standards of management and leadership excellence. The CMI is the guardian of the National Occupational Standards of management and Leadership and sets the standards that others follow. As a membership organization with over 70,000 individual members and 400 corporate members, the CMI has been providing forward-thinking advice and support to business and individuals for more than 50 years, and continue to give managers and leaders, and the organizations they work in, the tools they need to improve performance and make an impact. CMI has extensive experience of analyzing the training and development needs of organizations and individuals, and has developed learning materials and tools to support them.

National Institute for Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (INIMM). INIMM's main objective is to support economical development by offering educational and affairs services to entrepreneurs and managers. INIMM has a wide experience in developing projects on European programmes, assistance and entrepreneurs' support in relationships with different (inter)national bodies, consultancy services. INIMM's strategy aims to promote SMEs' interests nationally, to create a favourable RD environment, innovation and business contacts for entrepreneurs. INIMM is highly experienced in providing a wide range of trainings for entrepreneurs focusing mainly on the ecological field trainings for SMEs. INIMM is perfectly placed to lead the dissemination of the project having access to significant numbers of SMEs.

Canice Consulting is a small business specialising in business training and consultancy operating in the areas of local, regional, enterprise and employment development throughout the European Union and further a field. CC staff have extensive experience working in a range of Leonardo programmes and have particular expertise in the development of multimedia vocational training tools. Specifically, staff include small business experts, multimedia designers and programmers with extensive experience delivering multilingual, interactive learning tools. At a regional level CC has an extensive network amongst SME support organisations and have worked with over 300 SMEs in training and development. Their geographic location in Northern Ireland means that the company has also participated in a number of socially oriented programmes, and has acquired a deep understanding of the way in which training programmes may support the cross-cutting themes of social inclusion and equal opportunities. Given their strong track record in the production of interactive, blended learning training resources CC will take responsibility for the Technical Realisation phase of this project.

Instituto de Economía Pública IEP is a service provider company in the field of local and regional development, specialised in the promotion and implementation of innovation as a factor in competitiveness. Within this innovation-driven framework, our company has become involved since the beginning of the 90's decade in the study of Information Technologies requirements both in the private and public sectors, which led us to provide advice and support for the implementation of R&D projects at regional, national and transnational levels. The company has been involved in more than a dozen different R&D projects of different sizes, at different territorial levels and with different responsibility ranges.

Meath CEB is a statutory authority established by the Department of Enterprise, Trade & Employment in 1993 and is supported by the Irish government and the European Commission under the National Development whose board members are drawn from a wide spectrum of industrial, commercial, public and social life. The primary task of the organisation is to assist and support small growth-orientated and start-up businesses and to promote their growth and competitiveness in order to maintain and ensure future employment and socio-economic development of the county. Given their extensive experience in the implementation of major e-business and e-government initiatives over recent years, not to mention their history of participation in a wide variety of cross border, pan European and intersectoral partnerships, Meath CEB has been selected to take responsibility for the Internal Evaluation activities of the project. As a public authority, the ability of the organisation to contribute to the valorisation process is also significant, given the quality of the government - government linkages that only an organization such as this can access.