



PROJECT NEWS

Issue #1 May 2013

RECENT NEWS

The Restart 2 Partners are currently adapting and translation the Restart Training Programme for delivery in their local area.

To find out more about the Restart 2 Project, and keep up with the latest news and events, visit the Restart 2 Website:
www.restart2.eu



THE RESTART 2 TRANSFER OF INNOVATION PROJECT

Is a two year European Project being delivered through the **Leonardo da Vinci Lifelong Learning Programme** which commenced on 1st October 2012. The Restart 2 Project aims to overall develop the quality and attractiveness of VET systems and practices throughout Europe by ensuring that they are responsive to the very specific needs of a group in society known to be at high risk of social exclusion: lone parents.

It will target support at lone parents that face particular difficulties in the labour market actively involving them in the project to transfer qualifications across Europe. Research carried out by the Project co-ordinators in 2008 reveals that while most lone parents want to work they often face a complex combination of personal and structural barriers: low self-esteem, lack of affordable childcare, fear of moving off benefits and the need to update skills and gain work experience.

“Research reveals that while most lone parents want to work they often face a complex combination of personal and structural barriers”

1ST PARTNERSHIP MEETING - BELFAST

Possibilities NI hosted the first project meeting and launch in Belfast in December 2012, where the Restart 2 Partners; **Gingerbread**, **Possibilities**, **CJD**, **Wisamar**, **Caritas** and **DEL**, collaborated on the creation of strategies and action plans and discussed the management of the project.

At the meeting the partners had an opportunity to view **The Restart Film** - short film about the Restart Programme and its impact on lone parents. Orla Higgins, a Gingerbread Trainer who has delivered the Restart Programme, spoke about her experiences of the course and the positive effect it has had on the trainees.

2ND PARTNERSHIP MEETING - LEIPZIG



Wisamar hosted the second project meeting in Leipzig in April 2013. At the meeting the partners gave an update on their work packages and discussed the adaptation of the training pack as well as the implementation of the training pilot from September 2013.

At the meeting Hartmut Schäfer, a German ECVET expert, spoke to the partners about ECVET and the standardisation of the vocational education and training system in Germany within the vocational training act. In Leipzig the partners also met with Wisamar's Stakeholder Forum who were introduced to the partnership and the project. John Mallon, from DEL, spoke to the German Stakeholders about the key role of involvement of Stakeholders in transfer of innovation projects, and experiences from the view of a government department of being directly involved in Restart 2.



THE RESTART 2 RESEARCH REPORT

Restart 2 Partners have researched the situation of lone parents in Germany, Lithuania and the UK. Wisamar is overseeing the research within the project and will outline the findings of the research in a detailed report which will be available in July on the project website. One of the quantitative findings of the report is the current number of one parent families in each of the partner countries: in Germany 19% of all families with children are lone parents, in Lithuania it is 17.25% and in the UK it is 26%.

The research also describes routes to lone parenthood, the gender dimension to lone parenthood, attitudes towards lone parenthood, obstacles to lone parents' employment and examples of good practice in the partner countries.

MORE NEWS

To find out more about what is happening in the Restart 2 Project, or for more information about the partners, the Restart Training Programme or the Project's research click [here](#).



BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE PROJECT PARTNERS



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