

Foundations for Work



Newsletter January 2014



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About the Project

This multilingual, multicultural training course for Young Immigrants is an EU-funded project which aims to help young migrants to increase their integration into the labour market of their new host countries.

The project is funded by European commission through the Leonardo da Vinci – Transfer of Innovation Programme.

It brings together six organisations with expertise in employment and training, education, advocacy on behalf of migrants and communications to develop a training course that can be used across the EU Member States.

The overall aim is to assist young immigrants to upgrade their basic competencies and transferable work skills needed to open up progression opportunities either directly into employment and/or to further vocational qualifications and it is hoped to achieve this by:

- Fostering greater understanding of labour market trends and employment rights
- Equipping participants with improved workplace communication and teamwork skills
- Promoting greater awareness and use of host country vocational education and training structures and other training opportunities
- Gaining an in-depth understanding of barriers faced by young migrants in partner countries and the practical ways they can be overcome
- Promoting the widespread uptake and use of the training course, focusing on social factors with access to immigrant populations, vocational education and training institutions and other training bodies with potential to mainstream the course
- Contributing to the personal development of migrants and the fulfillment of their potential to expand their contribution to the labour market and the economy
- Creating greater awareness in the workplace of the positive aspects of cultural diversity,

improving societal relations and community integration by facilitating young migrants to gain access to more diverse employment opportunities.

The course to be developed by the Foundations for Work project will tailor original materials developed by DiversityWorks in the UK to meet the needs of young immigrants throughout Europe.

Piloting of the training modules

A pilot test of the Foundations for Work modules will be carried out later this year and will involve young immigrants in all partner countries. This testing phase is one of a number of training methods being used by the project to address the problems raised by young immigrants and VET providers in the Needs Analysis, undertaken last year. These problems include the difficulties young immigrants faced in gaining recognition of qualifications and prior learning acquired overseas.

The modules, developed by DiversityWorks in the UK and localised for use by the project partnership for country specific use, was presented at the partners' meeting in Belfast in 2013. After approval of the modules, a quick check was carried out in Sweden, Ireland, Spain and the UK, Northern Ireland with training staff.

The multilingual training course will be accessible in content and low-tech in delivery to engage learners with low qualifications and self-confidence. By focusing on skills such as oral communication and team work, ICT and personal finances, and using a learner-centric methodology, the course materials will effectively facilitate the acquisition of basic competences needed to succeed in the world of work, while also boosting confidence and attitudes of value in host countries, leading to more successful employment recruitment and retention in a wide range of occupations.

The 7 modules developed are:

- 1. Teamwork Skills**
- 2. Oral Presentation Skills**
- 3. Self Development**
- 4. Personal Money Management**
- 5. Applying for Work**
- 6. Using the Internet for Working and Living**
- 7. Cultural Awareness**

If you would like to get involved in this exciting new phase of the project please get in touch by emailing testing@foundationsforwork.eu or alternatively contact one of our participating partner organisations.

Project website

The Foundations for Work project involves setting up a dedicated website to communicate effectively its products, progress and achievements.

Our project website is now live and will be updated throughout the 2 years the project is running when reports and training materials are produced.

The website is available at www.foundationsforwork.eu

You can also:



like us on [Facebook](#)

or



follow our progress on [Twitter](#).

The project partners



[DiversityWorks](#) (UK) has supported the positive development of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups through building capacity and intercultural understanding. Alongside with its sister organization, Springboard, DiversityWorks has worked with over 2000 people in a range of training programmes. DiversityWorks espouses a person center ethos, and believes in a two way learning process with the learner actively engaged and owning their development and achievement.



[Fundación Laboral del Metal](#) (Spain) is a nonprofit organisation founded in 2004 to provide training activities and solutions for the metal industry in Cantabria, Spain. FLM carries out joint projects with government, trade and labour unions and designs bespoke education plans for the companies and public organizations on new technologies and methodologies related to qualifications, skills updating and competences development.



[Folkuniversitetet Kursverksamheten vid Lunds Universitetet](#) (Sweden) is an association of 5 extensions attached to the Universities of Stockholm, Uppsala, Goteborg, Lund and Umea, which offer a wide range of adult education all over Sweden, including upper secondary schools, schools in higher vocational education, courses for seniors and training, labour market education and further education and training for working life.



[Canice Consulting](#) (UK) is an international consultancy operating in the fields of local and regional development, enterprise and employment development, and management and technical support to EU networks and programmes.



[Doras Luimní](#) (Ireland) is an independent NGO founded in Limerick. It was founded in 2000 to further the rights of asylum seekers, refugees and all migrants by supporting them on a personal level while also engaging in advocacy for their collective interests. The organisation's values are rooted in the human rights framework, with a belief in equality and nondiscrimination in both public and private life and a string commitment to welcoming new communities and to extend particular support to the most vulnerable amongst them.



[European Forum of Technical and Vocational Education and Training](#) (Belgium) has over 200 members in almost all the member states; also members in Turkey, Canada and Russia. It is able to reach out to over 1500 VET institutions across Europe. This European network also has direct links to other European organizations including EUCIS, EVTA, EUA, Solidar CSR, Workers Education Association (Europe) and the Youth Forum.