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KINDLING A BETTER WORLD

Defoin

TSITour

Training on Social Inclusion in Tourism,
by including elderly people as local storytellers for the Tourism Industry

TSITour

TSITour aims to develop a training module for the VET courses on the fields of care and welfare, which will provide a training on how to implement projects that will develop the storytelling competencies of elderly people under social care inside the touristic sector, fostering their role in the society and value them.

Data from EUROSTAT shows that the population is ageing in EU27-: it estimates that the percentage of people in EU above 85 years will triplicate from 2016 till 2080. Thus, social inclusion of elderly people seems to be a crucial topic, which needs to be addressed on the VET field: some VET programmes already include a training module on how to implement projects for the people under social care in order to bring positive effects for their mental and physical health. Yet, minimizing the idleness brings only limited benefits for the psychophysical health of the elderly, and does not bring significant socioeconomic gains to society.

In this sense, TSITour aims to give a second chance to the elderly people, providing them with a new opportunity to enter again in the active society, allowing them to be storytellers in the touristic sector. At the same time, this will allow the tourism industry to provide more authentic experiences to the tourists, resulting in economic gains, and contributing for the dissemination of the culture and history of the communities.

Objectives

➤ To create a training module on "Project Development for Social Inclusion and Valorisation of People with Special Needs of Social Assistance" for VET students in the field of social care and welfare;

➤ To develop hard and soft skills of VET students to create and implement projects and activities for Social Inclusion and Valorisation;

➤ To better prepare the VET students to address the challenges at the work place, with focus on the people under need of social assistance;

➤ To increase the notoriety of VET in the field of care and welfare;

➤ To use tourism and the elderly under need of social assistance as departure points to transform the tourism industry and the approach to social assistance, by valorising the elderly as voluntary Local Storytellers for the tourism industry;

➤ To increase the number of social inclusion tools and its beneficiaries.

Results

TSITour Training Programme

A Training Programme including a Module on Project Development aiming at providing trainees with the proper tools to create, implement and evaluate a project on social inclusion of elderly people as volunteer "Local Storytellers". The Programme will be developed after a detailed analysis of:

a) the potential benefits of "Local Storytellers" for the Tourism Industry;
b) needs of performance of welfare/social professionals;
c) elderly peoples' Inclusion and Valorisation;
d) needs of disabled people, old people and people at risk of exclusion;
e) good practices on this field.

TSITour Training Platform, Resources and Pilot Testing

A module and related resources addressed to trainees from VET courses in the social areas providing knowledge, skills and competencies to create, implement and evaluate a Project on Social Intervention using tourism as case study. These online platform contents will be validated through 2 pilot tests, involving VET students and elderly people implementing the acquired knowledge.