



LearnersMot

Motivating adult learners

*How to Trigger Primary Motivation for Learning in Low Educated Adults
Using ICT Tools*

Project No. 2017-1-ES01-KA204-038414

MULTIPLIER EVENT REPORT

Eurosuccess Consulting, Cyprus



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

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Introduction

Under the framework of the LearnersMot project, two multiplier events were organized by Eurosucceed Consulting, which were hosted at two separate educational institutions: the first multiplier event took place at Perifereiako Gymnasio Pera Choriou Nisou in the Nicosia District, while the second took place at Lykeio Ayiou Spyridona in Limassol district. Both educational institutions were specifically chosen since either they organise educational activities targeting both learners who are at risk of becoming early school leavers and their family members, or they operate as adult education centres. Both multiplier events were organized on December 10th, 2019. In total, 80 educators attended the events – 40 educators from each educational institution.

In particular, the first secondary (in the Nicosia district) is located in a rural area where many learners from vulnerable backgrounds are situated. In addition, the school operates under the Adult Education Centres Programme of the Cyprus Ministry of Education, Culture, Sport and Youth, offering a variety of interdisciplinary courses which aim at the general educational development of individuals from various backgrounds and ages. The second institute (in the Limassol district) is located in an urban area with a history record in having a high number of learners with migrant background. For this reason, the school through its educators and partners' association organises at a regular basis personal development activities for both parents and students.

The general scope of the multiplier events was to present the aims and learning tools of the LearnersMot project, while the educators were engaged in several interactive activities that were developed by the project partnership. The overall impact and feedback from both events were very positive, as the educators were equipped with knowledge and practical tools that will help them design inclusive educational programs for low-skilled learners.

Agenda and logistics

Eurosucceed Consulting made professional contacts with the directors of the educational institutions, with which maintains good collaboration. The directors were informed about the purpose and content of the events, the methodological process and tools to be presented. Under communication, an agenda for both events was constructed according to the needs of the educators and their learners so that different practical activities and tools will be presented to address those needs. More specifically, the following theoretical points were presented:

- Formal vs Non-Formal vs Informal Learning
- The Role of the Educator in the non-formal learning process
- How to organize the learning process under a non-formal learning setting
- How to use the educational materials of the LearnersMot project (Handbook, Interactive Pack for Educators, and ICT Toolkit)

Apart from the theoretical presentations, the multiplier events incorporated a practical implementation of the produced educational materials of the project (extracted by the LearnersMot Blended Course) where educators were engaged in interactive activities that can be useful for their

Feedback on the event

For quality purposes, the participants were asked to provide their feedback regarding their overall satisfaction with the event experience, including the objectives, content, and methodology used, as well as the usefulness of the educational materials and knowledge acquired.

In general, the feedback received by the educators was very positive in terms of both organization and implementation, while the overall quality of the educational materials was regarded as interesting and useful. One of the topics highlighted and discussed by the educators was the challenge they face in keeping the ongoing engagement of their learners and how to maintain their motivation for participation for a long time. They also mentioned that the activities that were extracted by the Blended Course and the ICT toolkit were the most helpful parts for them and their work.

The participants personally thanked the organizers and talked positively about the new practices and approaches obtained, which can be used during the designing of their own teaching material. They also stated that such approaches shall be disseminated to Ministry officials so that they can be incorporated in the teaching practices of more educators in the adult educational centers.

Conclusions

To conclude, both multiplier events were regarded as a success, since the participants expressed their positive attitude towards exploiting the new tools and practices acquired. Moreover, the educators mentioned that there is still a long way ahead until non-formal education practices and continuous support of vulnerable learners are offered more systematically. However, their excitement towards this approach signified their willingness to further examine and implement such approaches in their own daily work.

Last, it is important to highlight that the number of educators that finally participated in the events (in total 80), exceeded the initial expected number of participants, which was 38, thus maximizing the sustainability and dissemination of the LearnersMot project to a wider audience. This was enhanced by the online dissemination practices that were implemented for the promotion of the multiplier events, achieving in this way a high number of multipliers.

Annexes

Annex I: Attendance List – Nicosia (Separate File)

Annex II: Attendance List – Limassol (Separate File)

Annex III: Agenda (Separate File)