



DEAF ENTERPRISE

The project

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The project: Erasmus+

- European project: Erasmus+
- 4 Partners: UK, NL, IT, DK
- Main Contractor: University of Central Lancashire (UCLan), in Preston
- Management: Liesbeth, Pragma – NL
- Financial management: UCLan - UK
- Duration: 2 years. 1 September 2016 – 31 August 2018



The project: Erasmus+

- Erasmus+: strict rules for funding
 - + all payments are advance payments. If the National Agency (EU Erasmus+ representatives in the UK) doesn't approve of the output of the project, or of some of the expenses we claim, they can cut the budget. Worst case: we've done the work, but we don't get paid for it.

Officially: we are in charge. We are the owners of the project.

But: the National Agency is the client who pays.
And if the client doesn't like the end-product, we don't get paid. So ultimately, the National Agency sets the rules.



The project: What, Why, How?

What?

We develop a curriculum that can be used ‘across Europe’ to teach Deaf sign language users about entrepreneurship.

“Entrepreneurship”: how to be in charge of your own life.
Special focus:

- a. Starting your own business?
- b. Jobs: Improving your chances to find and keep a job: ‘employability’



Why?

1. UCLan, ISLA and Pragma have worked together in a number of EU projects. We were partners in the SignTeach project: 11 organizations from 6 countries, 3 years.
We wanted to continue to work together, but in a smaller project. So we looked for ideas, that were 1. useful, 2, interesting, and 3. likely to receive funding.



Why?

1. In the EU, and in the member states:
entrepreneurship VERY important. To stimulate the economy, to create new jobs, to innovate
- EU initiatives: entrepreneurship training programmes, websites, networks, funding, events, etc. etc.



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How?

1. Select a 'hearing' curriculum
2. Modify it for deaf sign language users: Draft 1
3. Discuss it with deaf trainers
4. Modify & improve it, add resources: Draft 2
5. Test it with the target group: National workshops, in 3 countries
6. Evaluate & finalize the curriculum > final!
7. Publish on it on Website
8. Disseminate the info, & hope that people will find it, will use it, 'across Europe'.



Challenges:

1. **What** to teach?

Start with a curriculum for hearing persons?? Is it sufficient to make mainstream information accessible, or is more needed?

2. **How** to teach?

Teaching strategies, methods, didactics: same or different?

3. **Who** to teach?

Very, very diverse target groups within each country, AND between countries

4. Make accessible?

5. How? National sign language? Int. Sign? Printed English + Google Translate??



Trainers in this workshop: many roles (1)

1. To learn:
about the curriculum, about working with groups
2. To give us feedback:
Deaf learners are different? Deaf teachers are different?
Deaf entrepreneurs are different?
3. To help us improve the curriculum, so that it can be
used to motivate, support deaf entrepreneurs &
jobseekers 'across Europe'.
4. To tell us what we can do to make the format really
accessible, and effective.



Trainers in this workshop: many roles (2)

1. To tell us what you need for the national workshops next year.
2. To teach the national workshops next year, and to give us feedback again.
3. To be role models, and show models (?):
Role models for deaf participants, deaf people visiting the website,
Show models for hearing people. Deaf Can, Deaf Gain
4. Maybe: to continue teaching the workshops.
And/or: to train other trainers who can teach the workshops.
In your country. And maybe 'across Europe'??