



Education and Culture

Leonardo da Vinci



ROMANIA
MINISTERUL EDUCATIEI SI CERCETARII
UNIVERSITY OF CRAIOVA

No. PROJECT: RO/2005/PL95010/MT	
PROJECT TITLE:	
Development on EU standards of young graduates competencies for social integration of disabled children by adapted sport activities	
ACRONIM: EU-DIS-CHILD	
PROMOTOR: University of Craiova	
ORGANISATION TYPE (CODE): U	
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TYPE OF ACTION:	Plasamente
NUMBER BENEFICIARIES:	10
TARGET GRUP:	young graduates in kinetotherapy and phisical education and sport

Project summary

Why? The problem of disabled children in Romania was well mediatised all over the world and generated a lot of coments. Many steps for the improvement of disabled child' s condition were done in the last period, but there still are aspectes that can be worked on. Begining with 2004 *many disabled children were integrated in normal schools* as a first step for social inclusion, but teachers, parents and even children are not yet fully prepared for this challenge. On the other hand sports activities are one of the most accesible approaches for the improvement of many aspects concerning the handicapped child' s condition, such as: health level, psychological aspects, developing of competitional spirit, team spirit and social integration. *At this time Romania has no national or regional competitions for disabled children*, despite the fact that we have a well developed infrastructure for sport and good level of training and

participation in sports activities. **The aim of the present programme is to increase and develop adaptability, particularly in order to consolidate organisational changes at this level and put the basis for the implementation of sports activities for disabled children.** *Internationalisation of sports for disabled children is more obviously as the Olympic Games was followed by Para Olympics for disabled persons, where Romania had no participation.*

Who will be involved in the project? The beneficiaries of the placement will be **young graduates from the Faculty of Sports** in Craiova, with 2 specialisations: sport teachers and kinesiologists, but the end users of the project will be in first place the disabled children. As for internal partners we intend to create a partnership in order to offer specialists for all specific fields involved: vocational training programme planners, trainers and occupational guidance specialists. This team will include: doctors, kinesiologists and sports teachers from University of Craiova, Faculty of Sports and Kinesiology, representatives from Regional Direction for Child's Protection, representatives from the regional body of Romanian Ministry of Education, Research and Youth, representatives of international organisations such as World Vision. The complex structure of the partnership is motivated by the necessity of obtaining direct information for different aspects involved: legal, medical, organisational, psychological, in order to prepare the beneficiaries before departure and also to assure the implementation of gained experience during the placement in order to actually start implementation of such activities for disabled children. The external partners will be represented by experienced organisations involved in the same type of activities, helping to apply the principle of **sharing experiences and expertise**, as the underlying principle of the project contributing to the development of sports implementation and facilitating **harmonisation between Romania and the European countries.**

What we intend to do? The problem of sports implementation for disabled is much too serious and involves aspects not yet approached in Romania, so we consider this *a new field of experience and a new area of training.* Solving this aspects needs a direct contact with people with experience in this field. ***For this reason we intend to arrange placements in countries with organisations*** with solid background in sports implementation for disabled children, intending to accomplish **the following objectives:**

- *acquisition of new experience* in the light of skill needs created by implementation of sports activity in disabled children with handicap.

- *acquisition of new know-how* in the light of skill needs created by organisational changes that have to be implemented in solving disabled children's problems by theoretical and practical courses

- *obtaining an Europass* at the end of this mobility as the proposed training is work linked for both professions (sport teachers and kinesiologists); improving foreign language skills. By this we will facilitate the **integration of the target group into national and international labour market.**

- *establishing a framework facilitating the transfer of knowledge, experiences and innovative practices in this field*, helping to establish an European dimension in this area for our country and to start a complex programme of competitions for disabled children as one of the main activities of dissemination and valorisation of the project

- *forming specialists for a very new occupation on labour market „itinerant teacher for disabled children”* that appeared recently, linked with integration of these children in normal schools (see attached documents).

We also consider that this exchange will help to introduce changes into national vocational training systems and practice by adapting the masters curriculum in kinesiology and sports science to international levels, as we intend to **introduce the study of adapted physical activities for disabled persons into the modular system of master in sport and kinesiology.**

Where and when the project will take place? The duration of the programme will last 14 months; the period of exchange will be of 3 months. **Time and place of the actions** are included in a following schedule. The placements will take place in Austria and Italy as host countries with great experience in the problem.

The project consists in the following activities that will be developed:

1. Strengthening the partnership; arranging all contractual and financial aspects with the partners
2. Selecting the participants; arranging individual agreements for the beneficiaries
3. Identification and synthesis of needs; establishing the work plan; steps for obtaining the Europass
4. Pedagogical, language, cultural preparation before departure;
5. Making arrangements for travel and accommodation
6. Departure for Italy. The host organisations will arrange theoretical courses and visits with direct contact with all categories of specialists involved in this problem, following a pre-established work plan that will allow the rotation of the beneficiaries in different departments.

7. Evaluation and validation of placement results;
8. Supervising the placements
9. Tutoring and mentoring the placements
10. Achieving the Final Report; presenting it to Official Organisations
11. Continuous dissemination of the project, its results and impact.
12. Valorisation of the project, assuring project's continuity and expected impact of the project results at the end of Community funding by forming mobile teams that will work with disabled children in normal schools during school programme and starting sport competitions in athletics, table tennis, volleyball and basketball, first on regional level and later on national level with participation to international championships with hosts organisations help.

Why us?

1. Our faculty has already experience in Leonardo programs; we have a solid background and experience in the problem as our students graduate as sport teachers and kinesi therapists; we cooperate in different programs with Regional Direction for Child's Protection and organisations for disabled children; we conduct several masters in sport science and kinesitherapy related with the subject of this proposal as „Kinesitherapy in sport activities“; „Kinesitherapy applied in pediatri“, „Management of sport activities“. So we can consider that the proposed project present a direct link with the global strategy and general development actions carried out by us and our partners, strenghtening co-operation between university and undertakings.

2. The programme can successfully complete and value a Leonardo pilot project promoted by our University that intends to develop a „Training Centre for Health Care, Prophylactic and Rehabilitation Services“. We work already with World Vision as partners in a project intitled „Early intervention in disabled children“; the activities within this project are held in our faculty, with students participation (see attached documents). The funding for this cooperation are supported by partners, that offers an assurance for continuing after the end of the programme.

3. Our Faculty together with World Vision held round tables with teachers from normal schools that integrated disabled children, so we are aware of problems raised by this recent measure.

4. Based on this project and previous Leonardo projects promoted by our institution (the pilot project mentioned before and a mobility project entitled „Aquisition of new skills and practical knowledge for the students in Kinetotherapy“ in 2002) we intend to develop a long term international partnership in order to help us in creating a centre within our university that will function as a centralisator for different activities adressed to people with special needs.

Within this centre we will organise courses adressed to teachers, parents, social parents regarding different aspects of care and education of disabled children. Students in kinesitherapy, social assistance and psihology will be involved forming mobile teams as well students in different fields (mathematics, physics, so on) helping so called itinerant teachers. The centre will also assure the dissemination of new information and will function for improving the impact of project.

Why we propose to choose a Leonardo project for attending these objectives?

In key words our motivation can be synthetised: EU dimension-new area of training-new employment possibilities-social integration of disabled children

1. The proposed objectives are of most actuality as integration of people with special needs is one of the priorities in atteinding European dimension, and Romania started this process with the integration of disabled children in normal schools in 2004. As experience must be gained, starting European programes that cover this specific field is a good step in solving the problem. In this spirit the present project tries to find solutions to an actual problem regarding integration of disabled children in school and society by an innovative dimension of using sports activities for social integration, developpement of competitional and team spirit.
2. At this time Romania has no national or regional competitions for handicaped children, despite the fact that we have a well developed infrastructure for sport and good level of training and participation in sports activities. The aim of the present programme is to increase and develop adaptability, particularly in order to atteind European dimension in this problem, offering a new area of trening and new employment possibilities.
3. The project values and completes the results of previous LDV projects developed by partners organisations, being directly linked to this proposal, considering this aspect as a main strenghts of the project.
4. The objectives of the proposed project corespond with second objective of LDV Programme *“to improve the quality of, and access to, continuing vocational training ...”* particularly by developing adaptability for the specific field of sports and kinesitherapy and rearding disabled children priorities

5. The project touches a strategic priority in the LDV Call of proposal 2005-2006: „ (---) transformation, modernisation and adaptation of the European education and training systems” as introducing the study of adapted physical activities for disabled persons into the modular system of master in sport and kinesitherapy.
6. The projects offers a good possibility for valorification of the transnationality concept, pointing on different points offered by different participants countries, offering complementary solutions in order to value all experience and enhance quality in the specific field, as required by the Council Decision of 26 April 1999, establishing the second phase of the Community vocational training action programme 'Leonardo da Vinci' " Whereas measures under this programme should serve the purpose of developing quality, fostering innovation and promoting the European dimension in vocational training systems and practices(-); (---) in order to reinforce the added value of Community action(-), by facilitating the transfer and dissemination, on a wider scale, (---)"

Finally we can conclude that the **added value** of present project consists in stimulation of joint work into development of a new field of experience and area of training in the specific field of adapted sport activities, focusing on the transfer of good practices and responding to the above mentioned needs, valuing the experience of multi-national partners by attaining European dimension in social inclusion of disabled children

The innovative aspect of this proposal consists in a new approach for Romania in the problem of integration in normal schools and social integration of disabled children.