
TRAVORS newsletter

Welcome to TRAVORS!

If you are working in a public, private or third sector organization supporting disabled people into work and looking for

- access to cutting-edge vocational rehabilitation training
- opportunities for career development
- flexible and innovative skills training

then you may find the TRAVORS project helpful.

TRAVORS is financed by the Leonardo Da Vinci Lifelong Learning Program of the European Commission.

In the current issue you will find brief information about our project. Please visit our website <http://www.travors.eu> for more information.

At a glance

Highlights

- 01/ The TRAVORS project is addressing barriers to employment
 - 02/ TRAVORS approach - blended learning and blended experiences
 - 03/ TRAVORS is a partnership with complementary skills and international reach
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Highlights

01/ The TRAVORS project is addressing barriers to employment

Disabled people represent a major component of economic inactivity in Europe. Employment is beneficial to health and is the best protection against social exclusion, but national policies face many practical obstacles in Europe, and the unemployment rate among disabled people is still high. There is an urgent need to increase the effectiveness of public, private and NGO employment support services. Experience in all countries shows personal advisors and rehabilitation practitioners need to be provided with skills and confidence to work effectively.

The TRAINING for VOcational Rehabilitation Services project will develop a new approach to vocational rehabilitation education that can be applied across Europe.

We aim to enhance the effectiveness of vocational rehabilitation practitioners using ICT-based distance learning combined with direct learning and incorporating a self-efficacy model of training for skills.

02/ TRAVORS approach - blended learning and blended experiences

In the TRAVORS project, we are revising and transferring a vocational rehabilitation

training programme from the United Kingdom to Estonia, Greece, Spain and Austria. The training will focus on skills of advisors more than on knowledge or procedures. It will provide employer- and client-support skills that can be used alongside the countries' medically-based welfare systems without demanding additional resources. The training will also be designed to enhance the self-efficacy of trainers, and of advisors and so to enable their clients, disabled people, to enter work. The teaching methods will be based on a careful Learning Needs Analysis, followed by structured practical experience of the skills. Supporting these principles will be a Quality Assurance Framework, and a strong ICT component, to reach people where it is most suitable for them to learn, but to do so without loss of quality.

We will pilot the training with approximately 100 individuals in the partner countries. They will apply the skills and be mentored during a six month period of placing disabled people in work. After evaluation, the training programme will be adapted to its final form. At the end of the project, each of the partners will have acquired training materials that directly address the urgent problem of unemployment among disabled people.

So far the project has produced:

- Reports summarising national policies and employment circumstances
- A consultation procedure & and policy
- The Trainer-training Research Principles and Design Specification
- Nearly 200 documents that support the training that is to be developed.
- A guide to Learning Needs Analysis
- Identified groups in each country who will be the trainers and the student-advisors
- Learning Needs Analysis for each country group

If you are interested in hearing more, participating in the TRAVORS training, or in the services the partnership can offer, please contact: david@vocationalrehabilitationconsultants.com or travors@rehabilitationnetwork.com

03/ Partnership with complementary skills and international reach

TRAVORS was developed by a partnership that involves both rehabilitation and education organisations in different regions of Europe: Austria, Greece, Estonia, Spain and the UK. The partners have complementary skills in education, rehabilitation, research, consultation, ICT, training and management and represent Government, Education, NGOs and the Private sectors.

The Partnership consists of seven organizations led by Rehabilitation Network Ltd from United Kingdom. Other partners are:

- The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) from United Kingdom
- Information Society Open To Impairments (e-ISOTIS) from Greece
- IDEC from Greece
- Karriere Club from Austria
- Valter Fissamber and Associates Ltd from Greece
- Integral Training Institute from Spain
- Pärnu College of Tartu University from Estonia.

Further information on the partners at our website:

http://www.travors.eu/en/partnership_en.html

Please visit our website <http://www.travors.eu> for more information or contact

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