

Project ICT for Ecosynergy Seniors

Newsletter # 1



First meeting in Poland 2016-11-17-2016-11-20

We have had the first meeting in the framework of the project "ICT for EKOSYNERGII seniors." According to the plan it was held in Poland, and was organized by the project coordinator - the Social Ecological Institute. For four days we hosted representatives of the project's partners: MobilEducation from Sweden, Turkish TROY Environmental and the Center for Adult Education from Austria - SPES Zukunftsakademie. The meeting space was made available by the Wawerski University of the Third Age (WUTW), also participating in the project.

Dozens of people from WUTW met with representatives of SIE and with foreign partners. Each organization briefly introduced itself.

Let's start with the host, Wawerski University of the Third Age. It allowing access to numerous courses, lectures and activities it provides seniors a comprehensive intellectual and physical development. Seniors can for instance learn foreign languages, participate in computer classes, in lectures, gymnastics, nordic walking, trips in the country and abroad. The activities of the university break the stereotypes associated with seniors through their active participation in the life of the neighborhood and the city.

After this presentation the guests introduced themselves, and responded to the many questions asked by WUTW members.

Turkish TROY Environmental from the town of Canakkale works with youth and adults. The organization has cooperated with Germany, Poland, Spain, Italy, Greece. It focuses on topics important for every citizen, and thus on climate change, including energy issues. The latest project is the one for ICT and the availability of smartphones for people 65+ who have health problems and/or live alone.

Partnerzy projektu

Polska: Społeczny Instytut Ekologiczny

Austria: SPES Zukunftsakademie

Szwecja: Association Mobil Education

Turcja: Troy Environmental Association



Center for adult Education i Österrike - SPES Zukunftsakademie

Center for Adult Education in Austria - SPES Zukunftsakademie leads, among others, the Time Bank 55+ i.e. a neighborly assistance based on reciprocity. Hours are noted down on the so-called 'time accounts'. The bank's goal is to provide the necessary support that allows living independently at home as long as possible. This includes small services and support in all areas, such as: household chores, gardening, caring for pets, shopping, correspondence. SPES also conducts numerous courses including management, and supporting families.

Swedish Association Mobileducation aims to help senior citizens to participate actively in the digital world, thanks to, among others, the use of smartphones and tablets. It holds ICT courses on, among others, the use of tablets in daily lives and the use of social media. Used by Applications and other tools used by Mobileducation meet the needs of seniors.

Social Ecological Institute

And finally, the initiator and coordinator of the project. Social Ecological Institute has been operating since 1990. From the beginning it has been supporting the growth of civil society, as well as the creation of social-public that work towards a sustainable development. The organization has experience in working with seniors. Their project run in 2012-2014 focused on women in rural areas covered among others teaching the basics of ICT. SIE completed three senior volunteer projects: the program "Learning for life", Grundtvig - in partnership with Turkey, Greece and Germany in the years 2011-2014. The website www.ecosynergy50+.com was made available then.

In addition to meeting with WUTW, the project's participants worked on setting rules for implementing further its objectives, assigning tasks to each organization. The Group set among others a schedule of meetings in the other countries, contacts between meetings, teleconferences, task priorities.

There was also time for a short sightseeing of the city. Our guests truly enjoyed Warsaw.

Total population in the EU – over 501 million;

50-64 years old equal 19%; 65-79 years old- 13%, 80+ years old - 5%.

In Poland - 21% - age 50-64; 10% -age 65-79; 3% - 80+

In Austria - 18% - age 50-64; 13% - age 65-79; 5% - 80+

In Sweden – 19% - age 50-64; 13% - age 65-79; 5% - 80+

In Turkey – 12% - age 50-64; 6% - age 65-79; 1% - 80+

Daily use of technology for information and communication purposes: 36% people 55-64 years old, 17% 65-74 years old. Surveys show the following: in the 55-64 years old group – 35 % has little skills; 16% medium 1% high; in the 65-74 years old group: 22 % has little skills; 7% medium and 0% high.

