



Project description

The project "Learning for a Life in Freedom" is granted by the European Commission, Socrates Programme – Grundtvig 1 (European Cooperation Projects) – and implemented in the period: October 2004 – September 2006.

Project background

The training of basic skills in most European prisons is offered as an education organised in modules with a fixed curriculum. The attendant will be placed at a level according to formal skills - and the training is mostly focused on improving these. This rather traditional approach towards training is out of touch with modern adult education.

Prison inmates as a highly heterogeneous target group does not make it obvious at all to offer education based upon groups/classes. The needs and levels are most often too different for that within the given group of inmates. And the concentration of persons with the need of an extraordinary level of tutoring is high. Research has shown that a large number of persons within the target group have got a high level of both personal and social based barriers towards education. An individually orientated education is an important instrument to overcome these barriers.

So there is a great need for transformation of the education in prisons into a more individualised practise!

The participating prisons/institutions involved in the project attempt to facilitate such a transformation. An education that combines the improvement of formal skills with the improvement of a number of personal skills: communicative skills, team working, flexibility and the ability of absorbing new knowledge and transforming this into competences. A transformation, achieved by training and education of teachers involved in education of prison inmates – and by development of teaching material and models.

Aims and objectives

The aims and objectives of the project:

- Collection of experiences with flexible and individual orientated tutoring and education, and based upon these
- The development of education models
- Other initiatives for targeting the education of prison inmates
- The initiation of lifelong learning within the target group



Innovative aspects

The innovative aspects of the project:

- Development, test and evaluation of models for individual based learning for prison inmates to replace the existing traditional “class room” offers
- Models that combine the learning of general basic skills demanded in daily life as well as on the labour market with the improvement of a number of personal key skills
- An approach towards learning that has been passed on to teachers involved in teaching prison inmates in an integrated process. A process that focus on both the individual formation of this approach and the learning on how to materialize the approach

Target groups

The primary target group is teachers and other staff members dealing with training of basic skills of prison inmates.

The secondary target group is prison inmates who attend the prison education section. The focus will within this group be set on short educated persons with a need of improvement of both personal and formal skills.

Participating Institutions

Country	Institution
Denmark	Coordinating institution: VUC FYN - Adult Education Centre Funen Enggade 15 5000 Odense C www.vucfyn.dk Phone: + 45 6265 6550 E-mail: udvikling@vucfyn.dk
Denmark	Statsfængslet i Nyborg – Nyborg State Prison Vindingevej 36 5800 Nyborg Phone: +45 7255 2800 E-mail: anker.jonsson@kriminalforsorgen.dk
Belgium	Leerpunt – Learning Point, Centre for Basic Skills, Flemish Ardennes Vanhovenstraat 36 9600 Ronse Phone: + 32 5520 7001 E-mail: johan.veys@cberonse.be



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