

Minutes of 1st European Coordination Meeting 13th – 16th December 2012 Ferrara - ITALY



13th December

In the first evening, we had the arrival of the groups from Turkey and Romania and the mutual presentation of the participants.

During the working dinner, participants talked to each other about their groups and about the project; in particular, they examined the proposals and possibilities about the Second Meeting, not yet assigned. Everyone agreed with the proposal to hold the meeting in Romania, preferably in the second week of May, to avoid the costly periods of Easter.

14th December

The whole day's work took place at the Elderly Social Center "Il Melo".

Participants were welcomed by Maria Kavouri from AimNetwork the host organization of the meeting. She explained the logistics and other issues regarding the meeting days.

The project partners presented their country and their activities, using short videos and PowerPoint presentations. Lavinia Prosciuc presented Romania, Suceava and the Bucovina Guides Association. She related the history of the association, presented the members and talked about their aims, followed by a short video about their main project, called the Mountaineering School that gather together mountain lovers of any ages. Maria Kavouri talked about Italy, Ferrara and AIM Network. Mesut Arabacıoğlu introduced the Turkish participants to the group. Then he added that Fatma Isnik had been the president of the Turkish association for a long time and Mr. Selami Kocabiyik and Mr Kemal Yaman are the official members of the association. He also said that Mr Kemal Yaman is the stake holder and also the principal of the İzzet Baysal Community College which is set in Bolu. Then Mesut Arabacıoğlu gave information about the Turkish culture, lifestyle and cuisine alongside with photos. Also, he mentioned about the historical, natural beauties and tourist attractions of the city. Furthermore, he presented the Turkish association Bolu Halkın Eğitimini Geliştirme ve Destekleme Derneği. He gave information about the history of the association, the structure of the board, the members and the volunteers. Also, he informed the participants about the vocational, socio-cultural courses and the seminars and the workshops which the Association offers. Finally, Mr Arabacıoğlu

concluded by saying that Bolu Halkın Eğitimini Geliştirme ve Destekleme Derneği will contribute to the success of our project objectives together with all the partners.

Next, the coordinator of the project, Nicoleta Robiuc, showed us step by step, using a PowerPoint presentation, generality, the objectives, the phases of the project and the required tasks (these will be split among the different groups). All the participants agreed for the Second meeting to be held in Romania, in the second weekend of May: the duration will be: two days of work and two days of travel.

The arrival of the local journalist Margherita Goberti that took photos and got informed about project's activities for an article on the local newspaper "Nuova Ferrara" was a great opportunity in order to make our project known.

Having lunch together was another moment of interaction and exchange of experiences. The lunch, prepared by the volunteers of the Social Center, was a full immersion in the life of the center and a demonstration of its style of work.

After the lunch, the participants had a guided tour of the center and Gianni Bonaccorsi, the responsible for the gardens showed us the vegetables gardens of the old people. Later on, in the meeting room, Luciano Federici, the president of the Social Center "Il Melo", talked about the history of the Center, the number of the associates, the activities and the participants to the different activities (gardening, dancing, pool, cultural travelling, health groups and others), highlighting the need for an intergenerational collaboration; with him, Michele and Edmo, members of the centre, illustrated the respective areas.

The coordinator of the project, Nicoleta Robiuc, explained the objectives that need to be achieved as a result of the first meeting, and the various tasks to be assigned. The logo of the project was approved; the participants discussed the BlogSpot, prepared by the Romanian association. A BlogSpot is preferred to a website, for the lower cost and for the persistence and availability of the documents on web. All the products of the project will be available on the BlogSpot.

Assessment is one of the tasks of this phase of the project; Ms Maria Cristina Turola, from the Italian partner presented a preliminary semi-structured questionnaire, aimed to collect information on the potential aged learners. Furthermore, the Italian partner will be soon prepare a similar questionnaire for youngsters by Valentina Muceli and Ilaria Bimbo in their quality of psychologists. The coordinator proposed that all groups should work on this schedule, suggesting changes or additions peculiar to their situation/culture. The agreed deadline is 31st January 2013.

In the case of the evaluation of the quality of life, the Italian group suggested the use of a standardized instrument, the WHOQoL - bref (26 items), a free, self-administered questionnaire of World Health Organization, cross-culturally comparable. Afterwards, Maria Cristina Turola delivered a brief PowerPoint presentation, prepared by Valentina Muceli and Ilaria Bimbo, on the Italian background and some data on elderly in Ferrara.

The working session was closed at 18.10

15th December 2012

The venue of the meeting is the Music Room of the Municipality of Ferrara. Maria Cristina Turola addressed to the participants and introduced Deputy Mayor, Dr. Massimo Maisto. He welcomed the participants and highlighted the importance of the theme of old age and aging, especially in an area like Ferrara, where the percentage of elderly people is very high : "It is essential to enhance the role of the elderly, and not marginalize them". Moreover, he pointed out the interest of the institutions for this type of project, and asks to be kept informed of the initiatives linked to it.

Maria Kavouri introduced Dr. Laura Lepore from Municipality of Ferrara, coordinator of Foreign Area office and counselor of Intercultural Education. Dr. Lepore evidenced the need to define the concepts of young, elder, old, oldest and their background and assures their cooperation. Introduction of Professor Tiziano Telleschi (University of Pisa) and his lecture : Intergenerational transmission of values and abilities: the mediation's role of Associationism - English version edited by Francesco Polini, Ilaria Bimbo, Valentina Muceli, Anna Monini e Luciana De Marco), followed by a short discussion.

In the end, the coordinator of the project, Nicoleta Robiuc, summarized the results of the meeting, recalling the need to be simple and concrete, to define the respective tasks; she will send to the associations a proposal for the tasks, to report all activities and especially to communicate each over: the communication is the most important task in this project. At the end, the certificates ceremony took place. Fuat Sunay in his quality of student of University of Turin in the faculty of communication and media, from the Italian partner, realized videos and took photos from the whole the event in order to realize a trailer and a short film. Aimnetwork addressed a big thank you to all, who cooperate for the realization of this meeting.