



Social Connections: Trainers for e-social work

Newsletter #1

August 2021

Welcome to the Social Connections community!

Dear members of the Social Connections network, we would like to introduce you to the aim of the project and the results that we have foreseen to be implemented in the next 2 years of work.

To give you the context, across Europe, millions of younger and older persons with mobility impairment due to illness, age, or disability, or with immunodeficiency are restrained every day, often together with informal carers, in their opportunities of social interaction and engagement in meaningful activities outside their homes.

As clearly shown during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic, online technologies could be exploited to provide social support and a sense of belonging. The specific goal of the Social Connections project will be **to develop digital pedagogical competences of C-VET educators in the social sector, enabling them to teach their students how to develop and use high-quality digital content for social inclusion of clients who are housebound because of disability, illness, or COVID-19 related restrictions.**



What is our objective?

- We will implement and pilot innovative methods and tools for teaching trainers and, by means of them, students, advanced digital competencies to deliver technology-mediated social work and community work practices.
- **We aim to help social work trainers and practitioners to perceive themselves as *digitally ready* for e-social work practices.**
- Our project will contrast the exclusion and isolation of vulnerable housebound persons, given the implementation of digital tools into social work.



What are we doing now?

We are eagerly working on the **Curriculum to teach e-social work (IO1)**, output that will be a pedagogical resource for trainers engaged in VET and CPD training courses for social professionals, upskilling them to be able to identify the challenges and the opportunities offered by e-social work. This tool will also help them plan and implement a training curriculum to educate social professionals on the use of ICT in their work with clients.





What is next?

The next step is to develop a **Toolbox for e-social work: A learning by doing experience (IO2)**, a set of pedagogical activities that care professionals can implement with their users in a digital environment, an activity that will be coordinated by Anziani e Non Solo Società Cooperativa Sociale from Italy.

In the following months, Virtual Campus LDA (Spain) will take the lead and, together with the partners, will work on creating **Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) for C-VET in digital social work (IO3)**.

Each tool that we have presented will be developed by a team of experts working at a transnational level to bring the best results for the target groups. With expertise in fields such as social innovation, research social work, education, the inclusion of vulnerable groups, our partners are fully equipped to deliver quality work.

Do you want to keep yourself updated with the project's news?

Check the project [website](#) and you will have access to general information about the project, its consortium, useful resources, and a contact form if you want to be part of our network. Check our [Facebook page](#), follow us and you will receive notifications every time we make a new post or release new project materials.



Project Partners



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