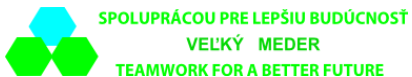


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**Our Strength is Experience –
innovative training program for
Experts by Experience**

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<https://experience-erasmusplus.eu/>

About the project

One of the key objectives in the European employment sector is to promote the employment of people with disabilities (PWD) on the open labour market and to encourage the employers to employ them.

There is a range of supporting public employment services available for PWD, however, the capacity of these services does not meet the requirements at the national level in any partner country due to the lack of qualified professionals. Organisations working in the non-profit sector play an increasingly important role in filling in this gap. The project aims to develop an innovative blended-learning training program for the “Experts by Experience” based on international recommendations.

The project will include 4 partner institutions active in the field of providing consulting, educational and special services for the disadvantaged groups in four countries: Slovak Republic, Hungary, Romania and Turkey.

Who are Expert by Experience?

The project defines the “Experts by Experience” as PWD who have personal experience with the challenges of disability and, who managed to handle them due to some specific skills, attitudes, methods and competences gained during an innovative training and, who can also use their experience to the benefit of other PWD. After completing the training, the “Experts by Experience” would work in non-profit organizations and thus facilitate the reintegration of PWD to the labour market.

The target groups of the project

- mentors and advisors with disabilities engaged in promoting the reintegration of PWD in the partner organizations (future trainers of the innovative training program for experts by experience);
- persons with disabilities (potential “experts by experience”)

The main objectives of the project

- to contribute to improving the quality and increasing the intensity and volume of cooperation between institutions promoting employability and employment of PWD by creating, developing and strengthening national and transnational partnership networks;
- to contribute to the professionalization of organisations, increase the knowledge and develop competencies of mentors, experts by experience and advisors and PWDs in general by engaging them in the innovative training program for the experts by experience;
- to support the (re)integration of PWD by the professionalization of organizations and promoting their client-orientation by using the personal experience of the experts by experience;

Expected results

- to organise workshops at the national level attended by experts and labour market actors with a view to identify educational programmes and good practices aimed at improving the skills and competences of the mentors, experts by experience and special and technical advisers concerned with the promotion of employability and employment of PWD and to collect recommendations on the development of these programmes at the national level;
- to exchange and share experiences, ideas, procedures and methods at the international level in the field of education of mentors, experts by experience, special and technical advisers engaged in the reintegration of PWD to facilitate the professionalization and internationalisation of organizations;
- to make use of the synergies between various sectors to promote the education of the experts by experience (i.e. experienced PWDs) and the reintegration of PWD;
- to develop the content of the innovative training programme for the experts by experience upon international recommendations in electronic form;
- to train the trainers of the innovative training program for the experts by experience, who are PWD;
- to carry out the pilot testing (in the form of blended-learning), evaluation and to draft recommendation for the implementation of the innovative training program for the experts by experience in the practice;
- to produce information materials (flyer, electronic collection, brochure) and the website;
- to support informal education and improving ICT skills of professionals (PWD) and experienced people with disabilities to support the reintegration of PWD;
- to promote the cooperation between the labour market actors from different sectors (state, public, profit, non-profit) at the local, regional, national and international level.