Lifelong Learning Programme

THINK TANK
CREATING CAPTIVATING
TEACHING STRATEGIES
FOR VULNERABLE LEARNERS

ThiNK

CYPRUS	CASE STUDY Nº2	PAPER B

ZEBRA FORMATIONS ASBL
HANNUT
BELGIUM

ZEBRA FORMATIONS
Hannut
Belgique

WHY NOT TRY?   /   IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA TO…

A long term project involving persons of different generations could be set up and implemented in several stages.

Some initiative by the Adult Education Centres could be taken with the help of local authorities to identify the isolated aged persons and invite them to a stimulating social gathering, corresponding to their interests, during which they could exhibit some productions related to their personal lifestyles and history (eating habits, food, cooking, games that were played in the old days, clothes and fashion, popular sports, etc.). It would be a good idea to invite young people to do the same.

A number of playful activities adapted to the target group profile could be presented, including music and dance. Organisers should make sure that, with a computer, they are able to show similar points of interest taken from various sources, prepared in advance or taken from Internet: photos, videos of local sceneries, forgotten recipes, old and new style clothing, etc.

The project should include participation of already computer literate old aged persons who will encourage others to form a Cyber Club and take part in the collective scheme, starting with one computer and an Internet link in an accessible central point. With time the number of participants should grow and be encouraged by the organisers to focus on a wider number uses of ICT, taking into account any reluctance or fear. The cost of project should be assessed by the organisers but should involve a small contribution by each group member.

NECESSARY CONDITIONS: MATERIAL / PLACE / TIME

It should be necessary to find a "safe" familiar central place such as a village hall equipped with at least one computer, an overhead projector and a screen. Some form of transport should be organised and subsidised for isolated and disabled persons in order to easily get to the "Cyber Club". Participants should be encouraged to organise themselves and given responsibility for setting up timetables and opening hours. Cost of "teaching" can be reduced by including volunteer trainers.

POSSIBLE OBSTACLES

Lack of initiative on behalf of authorities. Emotional and behavioural difficulties can be overcome with time if aged persons feel that their own fears are nor rejected but taken into account.

ILLUSTRATION