

ATENA - Access To Education for All

Project number 2019-1-IT01-KA202-007434



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Project presentation

By subscribing to the commitment to take into account existing projects, good practices, new trends and possible scenarios that are emerging, **ATENA - a project to exchange good practices in the VET sector** (Vocational Education and Training) - responds to the request for a change in education and focuses its mission on improving the education and vocational training ecosystem as a tool for social and cultural change.

Priority

The project responds to two closely interrelated priorities:

1. the professional development of teachers, trainers and tutors in the field of vocational training
2. social inclusion, in a perspective that considers the professionalism and the growth of awareness on the part of the teaching staff a crucial condition for an inclusive education system for all.

Context

The general **context** of reference of the project is the one outlined by:

1. the **United Nations Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities**
2. the **European Accessibility Act**.

From a more specific point of view, the project context refers to the principles promoted by the **European Agency for Special Needs and Inclusive Education**, and to the specific activities carried out by the Agency in this area.

Enhancing, in particular, the results of two initiatives implemented by the Agency (["Education and vocational training: policies and practices in the field of education for special needs"](#) and ["ICT4IAL"](#) - Guidelines for accessible information) **the goal of the project is to identify and implement - starting from the context of reference that characterizes each single partner organization - concrete strategies and methods for the application of the principles of information and accessible training.**

Objectives

The project has the primary purpose of **drafting, evaluating and implementing**, in a process of co-construction of contents that will involve both the main target group, and the final beneficiaries, **a declaration of intent on accessibility, as a reference document for the promotion and application of accessibility policies in the educational context and, above all, in the production of information and educational materials.**

Concept

The concept of the project stems from the particular focus of Bluebook on issues related to the accessibility of communication, from a collective reflection on these issues and from an internal self-assessment research conducted by each single partner. Through the self-assessment process, we have analyzed the following elements characterizing the information and training profile - relating to the digital materials available online - of the partner organizations:

1. accessibility standards for each organization's website (the websites were evaluated using the WAVE Web Accessibility assessment tool);
2. accessibility standard of a sample of documents released on the website by each partner (pdf, Word, PowerPoint, videos etc).

The data collected provided an updated profile on the level of accessibility of the online teaching materials of each organization and, although not exhaustive, show that most of the tools presented are not accessible or only partially accessible. Furthermore, self-assessment has shown that none of the partner organizations submit an official Accessibility Statement or a specific Statement of commitments.

Target

In line with priorities and objectives, the project affirms a **"user-involved"** and **"user-centered" approach** and includes the direct involvement of both people belonging to the priority target group, and people with disabilities and special educational needs, in their role as end users. **The entire staff of each organization will be asked to answer a questionnaire** for the precise definition of the status quo on the topic within the individual organizations. **Some of these people** (selected on criteria such as: competence, interest, previous experience, etc.) **will participate in a series of transversal meetings aimed at co-designing and implementing the final document. Representatives of people with disabilities and special educational needs will also attend these meetings.**

Methodology

In summary, **the methodology applied consists of the following phases:**

1. design and implementation of an internal questionnaire,
2. analysis of the data collected and implementation of a final report,
3. planning and implementation of a series of co-planning meetings,
4. elaboration of the final document,
5. creation of a specific document for medium-term follow-up,
6. promotion of the document within each organization,
7. presentation of the document to political decision makers at local and regional level.

After the closure of the project, after about six months the partners will measure the results achieved: the data collected will be analyzed collectively to verify their strengths and weaknesses in a perspective of strengthening and expanding the activities.

The project has a duration of 25 months starting in September 2019.

Partners

1. [Bluebook srl](#)
2. [Panevezio darbo rinkos mokymo centras](#) - Lithuania
3. [Associacao universidade empresa para desenvolvimento Tecminho](#) - Portugal
4. [Strokovni izobrazevalni center Ljubljana](#) - Slovenia
5. [Istituto di istruzione superiore Boselli](#) - Italy

ATENA - Access To Education for All

The abstract can be used both for the press release and for the announcement of the project (on each partner website and by email). The previous more extended description can be used as a point of reference for the personalisation of the messages.

An exchange of good practice in the VET sector (Vocational Education and Training) under the Erasmus+ programme.

Approved by the Italian National Agency, the project's main goal is to identify and implement - starting from the context of reference that characterizes each single partner organization - concrete strategies and methods for the application of the principles of accessibility in VET.

According to this goal, the project has the primary purpose of drafting, evaluating and implementing, in a process of co-construction of contents, a declaration of intent on accessibility, as a reference document for the promotion and application of accessibility policies in the educational context and, above all, in the production of information and educational materials.

After the closure of the project, the partners will measure the results achieved: the data collected will be analyzed collectively to verify their strengths and weaknesses in a perspective of strengthening and expanding the activities.

The project has a duration of 25 months, starting in September 2019, and involves the following partners:

- [Bluebook srl](#)
- [Panevezio darbo rinkos mokymo centras](#) - Lithuania
- [Associacao universidade empresa para desenvolvimento Tecminho](#) - Portugal
- [Strokovni izobrazevalni center Ljubljana](#) - Slovenia
- [Istituto di istruzione superiore Boselli](#) - Italy