

VALUE Network – Employability Sub-group Dissemination / Exploitation Plan

Subgroup Members: Alison Hughes (University Liverpool, UK), Ruud Duvekot (InHolland University, NL), Matthew Hill (IVR, UK), Cristina Rigman (Babeş-Bolyai University).

The purpose of this plan is to anticipate and reflect on some of the ways in which the subgroup can disseminate and exploit the work of the subgroup in a focused way, in addition to individual partner dissemination about the overall work and concept of VALUE. The plan, therefore, is divided into two sections as follows:

Employability Subgroup initial plans

A key resource will be the main VALUE dissemination leaflets and also the webpage for our subgroup, which will give specific focus to the issue of employability as it relates to volunteering and the opportunities ULLL can provide in recognising the learning that occurs in these cases.

We will review the dissemination / exploitation activity to date at each subgroup meeting and a note of this will be included in meeting minutes.

Potential avenues for our dissemination include:

- Individual contact and engaging in dialogue with other actors in the field – e.g. decisionmakers, supporters, interested parties, stakeholders and end users of the resources. This could include Volunteers, Employed managers of volunteers, Employers supporting employee volunteering, ULLL practitioners. For example Business in the Community (BITC) in the UK, which has a developed website with case study snapshots of employee volunteering.
- Pinpointing authors of articles / experts / websites with specific interest in this area – asking them to provide resources for the website (as experts or through providing materials) and engaging in dialogue with them. Colleagues already working with the NL partner on APL related to ULLL (Bénédicte Halba of Institut de Recherche et d'Information sur le Volontariat - Institute for Research and Information on Volunteering, FR) are an example of this. Also the Head of the Continuing Education Department, University of Versailles Saint Quentin en Yvelines, France, who worked with University of Liverpool on a previous project focusing on Trade Union members engagement with ULLL.
- Identifying attendees / potential workshop presenters for the Turkish final conference around this theme e.g. a NL expert - Jo Peeters, Steunpunt Scouting Gelderland and an academic from University of Wales Lampeter/ Prifysgol Cymru Llanbedr Pont Steffan, Department of Voluntary Sector Studies.
- Presentations, workshops for interested bodies eg at conferences, seminars, meetings. It will be important to not only give a presentation but to engage in dialogue on this issue and obtain feedback, thus exploiting the subgroup resources. An example could be the national network for ULLL in the UK (UaLL)

- Send copies of our final report to those contacted earlier and requesting feedback and reflections from them on the issues identified.

An ongoing reflective review of the plan

A summary / reflection on this activity is included in the final report of the subgroup.

Throughout the life of the Network the subgroup has identified a number of broad key issues (discussed and developed in some detail in our final report), and in order to deepen this discussion we have identified and contacted organisations /individuals that we consider would be interested in this issue e.g.

- ***Motivation of volunteers: What do volunteers want out of ULLL (in terms of employability)?***

A presentation to the 6th ICCE Continental Coach Conference, December 2010 by the NL partner InHolland and his volunteering colleague from NOC*SNF addressed this issue (re learning opportunities for coaches in Dutch sport unions) – see the NL partner dissemination records and also the subgroup and bibliography webpages for the resultant paper.

As a result of the project IVR has embedded ULLL in its work around volunteer management. This has included a project exploring the skills gaps and needs of those who manage volunteers (and the potential role of ULLL in satisfying those needs). As a result IVR has worked with the Association of Volunteer Managers (AVM) and Skills – Third Sector in the UK.

- ***Motivation of other stakeholders the wider context – employers, trade unions, government (national and local)***

The Leopold Kronenberg Foundation at Citi Handlowy, Poland is an example of a major bank encouraging its employees to volunteer in the community. Also Özel Sektör Gönüllüler Derneği (OSGD) The Corporate Volunteer Association, TR. In the UK the Office of Civil Society is a relevant contact point.

In the UK some key business contacts have been the Confederation of British Industry, Federation of small businesses and Business in the Community. IVR is linked into these contacts through Volunteering England's membership.

- ***Volunteering is not just an employability but social interaction***

The needs of stakeholders around volunteering, employability and ULLL have also been tempered by the need to acknowledge the wider benefits of volunteering and ULLL. IVR, through Volunteering England, works with a range of stakeholders including national government, local government, Higher and Further Education Institutions and employers.

- ***The ULLL response to the need – flexibility***

UK Universities engaged in this field are an example e.g. University of Wales Lampeter/ Prifysgol Cymru Llanbedr Pont Steffan, Department of Voluntary Sector Studies. Also the Vice rector for LLL of the University of Brest, France who is also the President of the French University Lifelong Learning Network

March 2011