

« AGID Project » Last Coordination Meeting in Brest



Genet d'Or has hosted the last Coordination Meeting in Brest on the 21st and 22nd of October 2013

Evaluation of the e-learning platform

The AGID project which consists in developing an e-learning platform and targeting frontline staff working with elderly and aging persons with Intellectual Disability, has held its last coordination meeting in October this year.

Co-funded by the European Commission, the project aims to develop a training program in e-format on Aging and Disability issues with the primary aim to provide quality services provision to aging people with ID. The multinational consortium consisting of highly motivated partners, intends to provide services that will better meet the specific and evolving needs of this new emerging population- aging people with intellectual disabilities; through quality training of the staff and professionals working with the user.

Evaluation of the e-learning platform

After four months of development and delivery of the training modules in e-learning format, the AGID project is now focusing on the evaluation of the

usability and easy to use of the platform, by the support staff working with elderly and/or ageing people with Intellectual Disabilities.

Why usability is important for e-learning?

Usability is essential for understating the user's satisfaction and user's acceptance of a product. It is the measure of the quality of the user's experience when interacting with a system. When the results by the usability evaluation shall be integrated within the e-learning platform, the expected result shall be the **implementation of user-centered process** which considers the involvement of the final user throughout the ideation, planning and development phase.

Learners interacting with educational applications have to deal with two learning processes at the same time:

- they learn how to interact with the system

- they learn how to acquire new skills and expertise.

Difficult-to-use interface will negatively affect the learning performance. For this reason AGID's evaluation of the e-learning platforms purpose is to evaluate if the e-learning modules, as they are implemented in the platform, are useful in helping front-line staff in ameliorating their knowledge and competences related to the work with aging people with ID.

To evaluate the usability perception of the software AGID shall integrate the SUMI and SUS method, two of the most used questionnaires in usability evaluation and research.

AGID's usability evaluation shall examine in particular two topics:

1. the first deals with general aspects concerning the **complexity and the usability of the graphic interface**;
2. the second focuses on the user's **usage of the e-learning software** and on the **degree of perceived pleasantness by using the system**.

Nevertheless, some factors, in addition to demographics, shall be considered within the results of the evaluation such as: years of work experience, educational level, general and specific computer experience, and previous experience with this or similar products (Dumas and Reddish 1993). Therefore, the socio-demographic variables collected among the sample group shall be used to identify specific users profiles for whom some specific adjustments of the user interface might be necessary.

Final Dissemination Conference

The Final dissemination conference of the AGID's outcomes will take place in Vienna, on the 25th of February 2014, under the form of face to face meeting. An interpretation in English, German and French will be available (easy language in German will be also provided) as also PCs within the conference room will be provided; with the aim to offer first hand testing possibility to frontline staff and the professionals. The final conference shall

AGID Consortium :

- Fondation A.P.E.M.H (Association des Parents d'Enfants Mentalement Handicapés); Luxembourg.
- De Montfort University- Leicester - UK .
- University of Vienna (Faculty of Psychology) Austria

better explore the co-production approach and concentrate on transfer on knowledge exploring best sharing knowledge approaches.

In particular the Final Dissemination Conference will:

1. Provide an overview of the important issues of Ageing in settings supporting PwID and a detailed insight into the importance of training of staff working with these issues
2. Provide information on the content of the training platform
3. Provide an opportunity for first-hand testing of the AGID training platform
4. Provide key note speeches on the AGID outcomes and what ageing for people with ID actually means

Yet, the Final conference will also include World café session and self-advocates roundtable as to guarantee first hand feedback and evaluations by the users' on the trainings' impact on quality of the services the users is provided with.



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<http://www.agid-project.eu/>*

- A.R.F.I.E (Association de Recherche et de Formation sur l'Insertion en Europe) ; Brussels
- C.A.D.I.A.I (Cooperativa Assistenza Domiciliare Infermi Anziani Infanzia); Bologna
- Les Genêts d'Or (Association œuvrant dans le secteur Médico-Social), France.
- Zonnelied asbl ; Belgium