



e-Bulletin 3

Welcome

This is the MATURE (*Making Adult Teaching Useful, Relevant and Engaging*) project's third e-bulletin updating you on developments in the MATURE training programme, its advice booklet and on the activities the partnership has undertaken to create and test its products.

MATURE's focus is on training to assist learning providers to deal more effectively with the needs and expectations of older, disadvantaged adults. Training tackles initial engagement and motivation and promotes understanding of the potential of learning for longer term well-being.

Go to our website for further information about the MATURE project and its partners:
<http://matureproject.eu/>

Face-to-face training units

The MATURE team has developed content for 10 units of face-to-face training based on theory and practice collated during a period of national and international research by partners

(<http://matureproject.eu/research-report>).

The units have been trialled in 5 partner countries (Germany, Greece, Poland, Slovenia and Switzerland) with groups of practitioners from various disciplines (adult teachers, mentors, entrepreneurs, professionals and volunteers from outside education).

Evaluations and recommendations from this process will form the basis for the development of the published programme due in September 2014.



Fig.1. Face-to Face training in Gdańsk, Poland

Self-study training units

There are 5 units for self-study currently available in draft format in English, French and German from the MATURE website (<http://matureproject.eu/online-training-2>). These units have undergone formal evaluation in 4 partner countries (Austria, Germany, Switzerland and the UK).

The MATURE team is keen to hear from others who might like to try out some or all of the units. Please leave your comments and suggestions in the 'leave a reply' box (<http://matureproject.eu/mature-self-study-training>).

This is your chance to influence the content and design of a pan-European training programme – we look forward to receiving your advice.

MATURE and you - get involved with our project

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The MATURE team would like to invite you to become part of the MATURE family whilst the project is in progress. You will receive updates about work in progress, invitations to MATURE events and opportunities to comment and offer advice.

In particular the MATURE partnership wants to make contact with individuals and organisations who will use its training units and advice booklet either now, in draft form, or once final versions are published in September 2014.

The 'MATURE and you' pages of our website are designed for people outside the project team. (<http://matureproject.eu/making-mature-work-2>)

Via these pages you can catch up on the news; publicise your conferences and events that are linked to MATURE themes; make sure that your project, publications or organisations feature in the MATURE links page and 'have your say' about matters to do with later life learning. Please use the 'leave a reply' boxes to ensure that you don't miss out on this opportunity to get involved with MATURE. (<http://matureproject.eu/conferences-and-events>; <http://matureproject.eu/haveyoursay>).

What next?

The MATURE team is preparing for its third transnational meeting in Bern, Switzerland in February 2014. A busy schedule will enable the partnership to determine the final format and content of its training programmes.

The partnership will review draft content for an advice booklet for organisations in contact with older people but not familiar with the potential of learning or of the processes for engaging with it.

The team is looking forward to meeting and debating later life learning, disadvantage and non-participation

with a Swiss audience invited to attend the partnership meeting.

A date for your diary

The final MATURE conference will take place on Friday, September 19th, 2014 in Hamburg, Germany.

Conference languages will be English and German and already a number of exciting key speakers have been recruited to stimulate lively debate around issues of later life learning, disadvantage among seniors and barriers to participation.

The MATURE team is fully engaged in the search for solutions to the learning needs of an ageing European population. The conference provides the opportunity to share information, to network and to understand more about initiatives in later life learning from across Europe.

MATURE products (training courses; advice booklet; research report) will be available for conference attendees and the entire project team will be on hand to answer questions about our work.

See you there!