



e-Bulletin 4

Welcome

This is the MATURE (*Making Adult Teaching Useful, Relevant and Engaging*) project's fourth and final e-bulletin updating you on developments.

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/>

MATURE training

The MATURE project team has created two training programmes. The MATURE face-to-face training programme is composed of 10 units that can be delivered in a number of different combinations according to the needs of potential trainees. The MATURE self-study training programme has a choice of 8 units to be used by participants for independent learning.

How has MATURE training been developed?

Using expertise within the MATURE project team and within its national, European and global networks, content for training units was researched and drafted into face-to-face and self-study units.

The draft units were extensively tested and evaluated by over 150 people of different backgrounds. Some of our evaluators attended pilot training sessions (teachers; mentors, volunteers; professionals and non-professionals); some trialled self-study units (trainers; experts; teachers;

volunteers). Our Portuguese partner, responsible for evaluation within the project, commissioned an expert panel of 21 evaluators (teacher-trainers; experts in the fields of adult education, the education of seniors and older people's issues) to review the training units. Evaluators in all categories have been drawn from the countries of the MATURE partnership and beyond.

All of the training units have now been redrafted in English and now partners are translating them into French, German, Greek, Polish, Portuguese and Slovenian. Once finished (September 2014) they will be uploaded to the MATURE website (<http://matureproject.eu/face-to-face-training>; <http://matureproject.eu/online-training-2>) where they can be accessed FREE.

MATURE training – longer courses

It had been the intention of the project team to submit a proposal for a MATURE training course to the European Training Database. With the suspension of this database plans have changed. Our Austrian and UK partners are leading on the development of a suggested outline for a longer course making use of material from all the training units. This process demonstrates how MATURE content can be formatted to develop courses that might appeal to those wishing to offer training under new Erasmus+ arrangements. Our outline will be available from the website in September. (<http://matureproject.eu/>)

The MATURE advice booklet – 'Later-life Learning for All'

MATURE training has focussed on the potential role of people and organisations outside education in

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the engagement and learning of disadvantaged older people. The project team has worked with a number of these 'intermediary' agencies at transnational meetings and in the development and delivery of training products. One outcome has been a booklet targeted at individuals and organisations unfamiliar with learning opportunities for seniors and/or of their particular part in bridging the gap between participation and non-participation. This booklet will be available FREE in all partner languages from the website in September 2014 (<http://matureproject.eu/advice-booklet>).

MATURE and you – 'thank you' and stay involved

The MATURE project team would like to thank the many people who have been involved in different ways with our project so far – from attendees at our public events to training participants and evaluators - you have all made a really valuable contribution to our project and its products.

Please stay in touch with us via the 'MATURE and you' pages of our website.

(<http://matureproject.eu/making-mature-work-2>)

On 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.

(<http://matureproject.eu/conferences-and-events>;
<http://matureproject.eu/haveyoursay>).

An invitation you can't refuse – the MATURE conference 'Realising the benefits of later-life learning', September 19th, 2014, Hamburg.

This conference – FREE to participants – will provide a stimulating mix of internationally renowned speakers, workshops and networking on the theme of later-life learning. The conference will enable you to meet the MATURE project team and some of their expert evaluators; hear more about their work in finding solutions to widening participation from the hardest-to-reach; gain an insight into the products from the project and how they might be used; network and debate issues with an audience drawn from across Europe. Conference languages are English and German. If you'd like to join the growing delegate list for this conference go to <http://matureproject.eu/conference-details> for instructions.



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