To transform information into knowledge and knowledge into wisdom for a better life in modern times, fostering digital citizenship and intergenerational dialogue.

**G&G UP OVERVIEW**

G&G UPdate is a transnational Transfer of Innovation project (ToI) co-funded by the European Commission within the Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP) – Leonardo da Vinci sub-programme (2011-2013). The intervention works within the area of the active ageing, by fostering the elderly people digital citizenship and the intergenerational dialogue. The background idea was born in 1998 with the G&G initiative - designed and managed by ENAIP FVG (Italy) - that up today has been spread in 19 European Countries and that in 2010 has been awarded as the best project for "ICT for social Inclusion" ("G&G Enhancement project.", co-financed by the Grundtvig Learning Partnership Programme, LLP 2010 Awards).

In this new edition of G&G have been joined Latvia, Romania and three more Italian Regions (Lazio, Basilicata and Sardinia).

**What are we working for?**

Elderly people Digital Literacy improvement and Intergenerational dialogue encouragement, by means of training. To learn how to benefit from ICTs use, in fact, would contribute to active ageing by helping older people to overcome their isolation and loneliness, to keep them in contact with family and friends through the Social networks, to access to information services of different typology, available on web and provided by local private and public bodies. Digital literacy is nowadays considered one of the essential skills to allow citizens to effectively and fully exercise citizenship in the modern society. The solution proposed by G&G UP is based on a friendly, simple, non competitive and free of charge approach, able to help the elderly to handle their digital divide and to overcome their exclusion from an ICT based society.
How G&GUP works?

The G&GUP task forces active on the partnership territories, train to the G&G ICT learning approach groups of teachers/trainers/tutors and social operators working within Secondary schools, VET Centres, Universities and NGOs, so as to make them facilitators of the inter-generational dialogue process (the G&G facilitators).

The G&GUP facilitators train groups of "G&GUP Digital Educators". In each school partner of the G&G initiative, groups of students adhere as volunteers to the project, thus taking the part of “Grandchildren”. They learn how to assist and support "Grandparents" approaching the ICT world.

The Grandchildren ("G&GUP Digital Educators") train groups of Grandparents to approach the ICT world and use the ICT means.

The challenge of G&G initiative is to merge enthusiasm with experience, movement with rest, dreams with destiny, youth with wisdom, innovation with aging. Future and past cooperating in using technology to foster citizenship, personal growth and mutual understanding.

G&G “work in progress”

After the start up phase, G&G UP partnership has been involved in the activities aimed at making direct and indirect beneficiaries actively participating in the project development and implementation. At this regard, in all partnership countries has been planned the realisation of Consensus Seminars addressed to local stakeholders interested in the adoption of the G&G model as methodological practice on which base low cost training actions aimed at supporting the adult’s digital literacy improvement and so at fostering their active citizenship in the digital society.

During each one-day Consensus Seminars participants were informed on:

• G&G UP project, in terms of fixed goals, activities planned, outputs and outcomes expected;

• the G&G initiative, focusing in particular on the methodology proposed, didactic tools and materials worked out and results achieved during the past experiences.

For the time being, two Consensus Seminars were realised in Italy and Latvia, but other four have been planned for the next period of May-July, that will be held in Italy (Region of Sardinia and Basilicata) and Romania (Bucharest).
G&G UP meets local stakeholders

Consensus seminar in Latvia

On April the 13th took place in Riga at State Gymnasium No.3, the "G&G Up informative seminar" organised by the project representatives of VISC (National Centre for Education directly subordinated to the Ministry of Education and Science of Latvia). The meeting was managed in cooperation with ZaWiW (Zentrum für Allgemeine Wissenschaftliche Weiterbildung der Universität Ulm - Germany) and was attended by the representatives of 26 Education Institutions. Key speakers were Miss Aina Spaca, Miss Baiba Berzina (VISC, Latvia) and Mr Ralph Schneider (ZaWiW, Germany).

During the first part of the seminar the representatives of School Management Board, the Teachers and the Social workers participating, were introduced to the project idea - in terms of aims, contents, activities planned, outputs and outcomes expected - and to the implementation steps foreseen both in Latvia and Germany, as Countries involved in the partnership.
The second part of the meeting was structured in a more interactive way: on one side, to the audience were showed informative and training materials and tools available on the G&G website and platform; on the other, a "Question&Answer" session was run, aimed to focus and clarify to all participants the possibilities of implementing within their Schools and organisations the methodology proposed by the G&G initiative.

The seminar has attracted the attention of one of the Latvian national TV channels (LTV7) having come to the first part of seminar to interview project partners and participants and to film the material for a news spot on daily evening news.

During and at the end of the event, organizers received positive feedback: almost all participants found the project idea interesting and exciting and many expressed interest to join G&G UP project in Latvia.
Consensus seminar in Italy

On April the 27th, in the town of Bassano Romano placed in the Region of Lazio, took place the second Consensus Seminar of the G&G UP Project. The seminar was held at the Middle State School "Luigi Pellegrini", organised by the project representatives of Moiselle Le Blanc and Ce.Ri.S. (Centre for Social Research), in cooperation with the project Applicant ENAIP FVG. Key speakers and managers of the Seminar were Mr Massimo Lazzaretti (Moiselle Le Blanc), Mr Vincenzo Leone and Mr Maurizio Semplice (Ce.Ri.S).

During the meeting session the Headmasters and Teachers attending were introduced to the project idea - in terms of aims, contents, activities planned, outputs and outcomes expected - and to the detailed implementation steps planned in Italy that besides the Region of Lazio will involve also the Region of Sardinia and the Region of Basilicata.

In particular participants were informed on the general procedure and contents implied by the G&G method proposed by the project, focusing on: logistics requirements; training activities planned addressed to all target groups identified (trainers, young, elderly people); didactic materials and tools available on G&G website and platform (particular attention was dedicated to explain and show the working of the G&G "GYM"), transfer action duration and timetable.

The general feedback expressed by the audience at the end of the meeting was very positive: all participants found interesting the chance of being involved in a transfer of innovation project focused on the theme of the intergenerational dialogue and exchange based on ICT.
Active ageing is defined by the World Health Organisation as the process of optimising opportunities for health, participation and security in order to enhance quality of life as people age.

In response to the demographic challenge which all EU Member States are facing, the European Union has designated 2012 as the European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations and the European Commission has carried out an extensive survey (Special Eurobarometer 378 "Active Ageing" - Report) on active ageing, in order to understand citizens’ views and attitudes towards older people, the contribution of older people in the workplace and society, and how to best promote the active role of older people in society.

The following contents proposed summarize only some of the topics related to Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations, (such as demography, healthcare, pensions, volunteering and adult learning) outlined and analysed in the survey Active ageing and solidarity between generations. A statistical portrait of the European Union 2012, published by Eurostat (1).

The European Union designated 2012 as the European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations on 23 September 2011 (2).

One of the main goals of the European Year 2012 is to reverse the idea that older persons are a burden on society. As Europeans live longer and healthier lives, governments are looking for ways to involve older persons more in society and to keep them active; these changes could result in economic benefits for society as a whole, while at the same time promoting the physical, mental, and social well-being of older members of society.

The demographic changes that are likely to be experienced across the EU in the coming decades also present an opportunity for the development of new products and services that are geared to the needs of older people. There is the potential for a wide range of new technologies to be developed that could allow older people to stay autonomous and live longer in their own homes, to transform the delivery of care, or to personalise services in response to patients’ needs.

The European Year 2012 is designed to raise awareness of these issues, identify and publicise good practices, while encouraging policymakers and stakeholders (at all levels of governance) to promote active ageing. This initiative aims to:

- help create better job opportunities and working conditions for the growing numbers of older people in Europe;
- help them play an active role in society, and;
- encourage healthy ageing and independent living.

Without further institutional and policy changes, demographic change could potentially impinge on inter-generational solidarity, as working populations are increasingly asked to pay for the needs of an expanding group of older persons.

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1 Eurostat Statistical Books edition 2012 produced in collaboration with the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion and Eurofound, the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions.

2 Conducted by TNS Opinion & Social, requested by the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion and co-ordinated by Directorate-General Communication (DG COMM “Research and Speechwriting” Unit). http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/index_en.htm
G&G has been selected as best practice within the European Conference “Age on Stage: Later Learning in Adult Education and its Role in Europe’s Development – Challenges, Concepts, Benefits, Outlook (StAGE)”, that will be held from 21 to 22 June 2012 in Graz (Austria). ENAIP FVG (Italy) in the person of Mr Gilberto Collinassi and ILEU (University of ULM - Germany) in the person of Miss Carmen Stadelhofer will attend as G&G initiative representatives.

The conference will gather experts in the field of senior learning and lifelong learning policies, stakeholders, policy and decision makers in the field as well as representatives from the actual target group (senior learners) for a two day discussion and development event.

In a number of thematic workshops different aspects of learning in later life will be discussed and supported by project results and experiences available. The conference will be generally accompanied by a large project and results fair, allowing 30 best practice projects and their results, identified in the course of this project, to be showcased (info: http://www.age-on-stage.eu/flying-project-office/)

G&G UP SHOWREEL IS AVAILABLE ON OUR PROJECT WEBSITE

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