



KNOW HUBs

Local Knowledge Centers
as development HUBs in rural regions

KNOWLEDGE CENTERS

INTRODUCING THE NEW APPROACH TO ADULT EDUCATION

Challenging landscape. In times of increased immigration, the need for social inclusion, education and training are more in the spotlight than ever, as policymakers look for clear responses to challenges faced by EU Member States.

OECD Programme results for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (2017) demonstrate the necessity to empower marginalized adults to improve their proficiency in education, and to apply innovative approaches that also encourage community involvement and invest in reaching out to disadvantaged learners.

How can knowledge centers contribute to addressing effectively the local needs and demands of rural communities?

The 3M theory. Based on the 3M perspective, knowledge centres function as a [meeting point] for young adults and members of the community, as a [mediator] identifying the needs of individuals, the labor market and the continuing professional development of the adult education staff and as a [motor] to develop common visions, aims and strategies to contribute to the infrastructure for adult learning.



European project "KNOW Hubs" introduces to Knowledge Centers the concept of "3M: Meeting point, Mediator and Motor", coined by Prof. Gunnar Grepperud and Prof. Terje Thomsen (2002).

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ITC
Innovation
Training Center



European research has been conducted between November 2018 and May 2019 to identify the existing Educational Centers' roles and methods. The research took place in the period.

All KNOW Hubs partners from Sweden, Romania, Spain, Iceland, Ireland, Denmark and Greece undertook both a desk research for exploring the current status of knowledge/educational centres, and via structured interviews and co-creation workshops, directly contacting more

than 70 young adults and experts in the educational sector.

Project expert team will exploit the research data and findings, putting it into practical use, in order to develop targeted training material for educators and mentors.

Research findings were presented in Denmark (Veijle, 1 May 2019), during the second consortium meeting hosted by VIFIN.

What is a Knowledge Centre? That was the European Research key question, pointing out that the role of their activities is difficult to be defined.

Research highlights various educational initiatives, in most cases the role of mediator and meeting place is more obvious than the role of motor for social development; a fact that was also well-documented and confirmed by the desktop research findings.

All countries show a variety in ways to conduct adult education. Differences were noted between the countries that focus on individuals' development and those where the role of organiser and enabler of social development is seen.



Want to learn more
about adult learning?
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WHAT'S NEXT? THE KNOW HUBS TOOLKIT

We are now preparing a Toolkit to train and support adult center trainers as 3M mentors, including 21 innovative training materials valuable to become mediators, pro-activity, employment facilitators and social supporters.

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