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## General Introduction

Aiming to go beyond the national specificity of the partner countries and to provide a feasible material all across Europe, "Continuing Education Designed for Counsellors Working in Adult Education" - ACCED, project number 225646-CP-1-2005-RO-GRUNTDVIG-G1.1, adopted the same competency framework developed within the DPPC project - "The Development of Psycho-pedagogical and Professional Counselling Services". This framework was used for developing and providing a structured Training package, contributing in this way at the compatibilisation of the counsellors' education and training.

The project aim was to offer a coherent training course, compatible at the European level, designed for career counsellors/ practitioners working in adult education (AE) institutions.

The main project objectives were:

- To design the training course concept;
- To develop useful didactical materials/ resources (Training package);
- To test the outputs for validating and improving them;
- To provide two Grundtvig 3 courses for all professionals interested at national and European level;
- To disseminate and exploit the ACCED products at European level.

The direct beneficiaries of the outputs are the career counsellors/ other staff working in AE institutions/ counsellors' trainers or other adults that are trying to improve their professional development. The ultimate target group will be all adult learners, particularly unemployed people over 40 and young job seekers (16-25 years old) at risk of social marginalisation.

The didactical approach used in elaboration of the Training package was based on the principles of linking theory with practice, respecting the principles of the constructivist approach on learning at adult age, of providing examples of good practice. The Training package was designed in an attractive, interactive, practice oriented way, helping the practitioners to find solutions for concrete job situations, to reflect on their own experience and practice, to learn by doing etc.

The Training package consists in 6 booklets and a Trainer's guide.