



# Thematic Workshop 3

European support for adult volunteering: the role of Grundtvig and other funding programmes

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Volont europe & CSV



## Volonteurope and CSV – who we are

Volonteurope is a 30-year-old European network committed to volunteers, volunteering, active citizenship and social action, promoting the rights of all to volunteer and contribute to society

- Volonteurope is committed to an inclusive, diverse and tolerant society; it is present in the EU and the Council of Europe
- Volonteurope is a member of the European Year of Volunteering (EYV) 2011 Alliance with CEV and a number of other European networks
- CSV, the UK's largest volunteering and training charity, celebrating 50 years in 2012, mobilises over 160,000 volunteers a year
- Our vision is of a society where everyone can participate to build strong and inclusive communities
- CSV works to open doors to all volunteers, particularly those from socially-excluded groups
- CSV is also a major provider of training to people of all ages
- Volonteurope and CSV have many years of experience in working in many different European programmes



## **‘Volunteer to Learn (V-Learn)’ Learning Partnership**

- A partnership between the UK, Germany, Czech Republic, Romania and Italy
- Our partners are: CSV & Volonteurope (UK); Gemeinsam Leben und Lernen in Europa (DE); Hestia (CZ); Cluj Volunteer Centre (RO); and Centro di Servizio per il Volontariato di Napoli (IT)
- The partnership has been designed with the aim to identify good practices that effectively promote learning and skills acquisition through volunteering
- The partners are experienced in providing volunteering opportunities to adults
- CSV in the UK has many different projects that aim to promote volunteering and active citizenship amongst adults
- Over the years this work has been facilitated by European programmes such as Grundtvig as well as the European Social Fund and other European funding programmes

## **‘Volunteer to Learn (V-Learn)’ Learning Partnership**

- As the UK partner we have been mostly involved in engaging the Social Activation Model (SAM) Project (funded by ESF) in the Grundtvig Partnership
- Based in the East of England, the SAM Project aims to enable mental health service adult users to engage in volunteering to learn new, creative media skills in radio, TV and web design
- The SAM Project, with the support of specialist media trained volunteers, works to equip its adult users with the ability and the courage to secure employment, start their own business, go into further education or remain active in their community as a volunteer mentor or trainer
- Results show that nearly every person on the project – thanks to the design of the initiative – secures either employment, further education/training or becomes a volunteer

## ‘Volunteer to Learn (V-Learn)’ Learning Partnership

- So far 3 mobility visits: Germany, Czech Republic and the UK
- October 2011: the visit to the CSV Media Clubhouse demonstrated the “open doors” policy of CSV
- The Partnership team delivered a highly-interactive master class at the VolontEurope Conference in Edinburgh in October 2011, which focussed on exploring the different ways that adults (depending on their individual circumstances) are able to access volunteering opportunities
- As the partnership we are now developing a website which will share good practice on accessing volunteering opportunities for adults across Europe
- There are still two more transnational meetings to take place, in Romania and Italy, where we plan to engage beneficiaries of the SAM Project (thus further linking the two EU funding programmes)
- The UK element of the partnership shows the effectiveness of linking different EU programmes to deliver a project (Grundtvig and ESF)



## Thank you

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