



RESTAT

Recognition of Skills to Transform Accessible Tourism

Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union



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Newsletter 01

RESTAT KICK OFF MEETING

On the 14th and 15th of December 2018 representatives of all the RESTAT project's partners have met in **Tusa, Italy**.

The kick off meeting of the project was held by the coordinator, Municipality of Tusa. The meeting was also attended by all the partners, the organization **New Horizons** of Tusa (Italy), the disabled people association **Handy Club of Ostrava** (Czech Republic), the learning institution **Rogepa** (Romania), the Greek training institution **ECTE** and the **EuroFUE-UJI** (Spain).

IO1 - RESTAT'S PRACTICAL SKILLS AND EMPLOYMENT CONTEXT MAPPING

In order to accomplish the RESTAT's objective, the project has carried out **research** on the real needs of the audience in services and tourism sector, establishing priorities and needs with the intention of creating adapted and more accessible infrastructures.

This research has been complemented by **FOCUS groups** and **interviews** in which the audience of the project could present their opinions and needs regarding accessibility and sustainability in tourism. A total of **12 Focus groups** have been organized and 12 people with special needs and **12 tourism experts** have been interviewed.

RESTAT OBJECTIVE

RESTAT - Recognizing Skills to Transform Accessible Tourism aims to address the scarcity of available VET training courses by offering a holistic, package solution to render Tourism workers and professionals competent, ready to offer diverse tailor-made services to tourists with special needs, and notably, visionary in to subsequently act as the true promoters of **Accessible Tourism**.



Coordinator





FOCUS GROUPS

In the framework of **RESTAT project**, the consortium has carried out studies that determine the skills required by the public to make the tourism sector an accessible and sustainable area. The results obtained from the different **FOCUS groups** carried out by all the partners determined the skills required by the tourism sector in order to become more accessible and sustainable.

Moreover, these studies have also created synergies between the tourism sector and accessibility, in order to create new **accessible infrastructures** and offer them to people who need them.

INTERVIEWS

Since the European project RESTAT about accessible tourism started running, new considerations about the accessibility in such an important economic field as tourism have been taken into account. Through **interviews** with **stakeholders** and **target groups** of the project, RESTAT collected feedback on the requirements regarding accessibility on tourism and also raised awareness about the need of the Accessible Tourism.

IO1 COMPARATIVE REPORT - RESULTS

The aim of accessible tourism is not to create separate services or facilities for certain groups of customers, but to **remove obstacles** that make traveling to certain groups difficult or even impossible.

RESTAT's **Comparative report** looks at the different situations in the countries of the project and tries to establish the different levels of implementation of Accessible Tourism.



Coordinator





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When a new project is realized it would be essential to start immediately to think about the creation of a "**design for all**" structure. This would avoid creating aesthetically beautiful constructions that could be used by a few. Making roads and transport accessible without looking at the usability of places to visit even by those with disabilities is like making a painting in half. **The culture** of accessible tourism is slowly taking root both on a national and international level, but of steps forward there are still many to do.

Accessible Tourism, means tourism that is attentive to **everyone's needs**, raising the **quality** of the offer. Needs of all means knowing how to meet the needs of children, the elderly, mothers pushing strollers, people with disabilities that move slowly, do not see, or do not feel, or who have allergies or food-related difficulties.

The initiatives promoted and implemented in the last 10 years have been numerous, but what is perhaps missing, first of all, is the need to change the **vision** we have of these people. We should work on the perception of disability.

2nd TRANSNATIONAL MEETING

The RESTAT project **consortium** has attended the **2nd transnational meeting** of RESTAT project for accessible tourism. The meeting, hosted in Baia Mare (**Romania**) on 4th and 5th June 2019, has focused on assessing the quality and skills of workers to develop accessible tourism.

During these days, attendees carried out debates on the development of a method for the **evaluation of skills** and sessions focused on the preparation of a **quality report** on the tool for measuring the quality of accessible tourism.



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