



Creative Women in Labor Market

MIRA

Erasmus+ KA227

Partnerships for Creativity

Project Number: 2020-1-TR01-KA227-ADU-098492

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MIRA – Creative Women in Labor Market Newsletter.

INTRODUCTION

In our 4th and final MIRA Newsletter let us remind ourselves of the ever-changing world, where one pressing issue stands out prominently: the growing challenge of women's unemployment and gender inequality. We are still feeling the aftermath of the COVID-19 outbreak which has only exacerbated the problem, of gender inequality, making it more crucial than ever to address it through the power of creativity, the creative economy, and art.

At the heart of project Mira lies the belief that social connection and employability can be fostered through participation in the arts, allowing individuals to transfer their newfound skills into the job market. We recognize that creativity holds significant value in contemporary life and has become an essential aspect of lifelong learning, particularly as we navigate a rapidly changing landscape.

This final newsletter delves into the profound emotional impact of the massive unemployment caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. By reviewing the growing inequality and marginalization within the workforce prior to this crisis, we shed light on the antecedents that set the stage for the current unemployment dilemma. Our exploration also encompasses the existential loss, anxiety, and terror that arise from threats to livelihoods and the need to manage the psychological consequences that undermine our very existence.

To mitigate the impact of job loss and the associated sense of terror, MIRA project proposed a range of strategies. By providing comprehensive support, the MIRA project aimed to empower individuals to navigate the challenges of unemployment and barriers to learning and find meaningful pathways forward.

The core objective of our project is to enhance the employability and entrepreneurship of women facing low skills, limited qualifications, and fewer opportunities. We achieved this through strategic initiatives rooted in the creative economy. By supporting women as they enter the labor market, we strived to prevent social exclusion and alleviate poverty. Moreover, we aimed to promote art and creativity as life skills, providing guidance and access to employment opportunities through artistic and creative avenues. In this process, we also emphasized the development of competencies in creativity and digital literacy, working towards fostering gender equality (European Commission).

As we progressed through our project, several key outcomes were expected to materialize. These included the creation of an innovative e-learning platform that would serve as an open learning environment for all project stakeholders, offering a wealth of resources and tools for continuous development.



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Additionally, a comprehensive training course tailored specifically for creative women will equip them with essential skills across six modules. We developed a creativity training toolkit for trainers, enabling them to effectively support learners through the project's thematic areas.

In line with our commitment to engagement, two training events were scheduled, providing opportunities for women and organizational staff members to participate actively. These events, along with pilot trainings for our primary target groups, aimed to fully involve them in our planned activities, nurturing a collaborative environment.

We are excited about the potential impact of our project. Together, let us empower women, foster creativity, and pave the way for a more inclusive and equitable future.

The project is funded by the Erasmus+ programme, KA227 Partnerships for Creativity in The Field of Adult Education ‘

The project has been coordinating by Izmir Governorship (Türkiye), and the partnership structure is composed of Izmir Ekonomi Üniversitesi (Türkiye), Kingston Wadokai CIC (UK), Ege İş Kadınları Derneği (Türkiye), Asociația De Dezvoltare Intercomunitară Harghita (Romania), and Redefine- Associação Para A Investigação, Educação E Desenvolvimento (Portugal).

INTELLECTUAL OUTPUTS

Since the successful Transnational Project Meeting (TPM) hosted by "Redifine" in Portugal, all partners have continued to work hard on the completion of the intellectual outputs of the MIRA project. However, prior to these outputs becoming readily available and accessible to women free of charge, the 1st LTT meeting of MIRA-Creative Women in Labor Market Project was held on 23-27 January 2023 in İzmir, Türkiye. The main agenda of the meeting was to bring together leaders and participants for training, and evaluation of the works related to the planning of the training program and the intellectual outputs of the project, in which representatives from all partners fully attended. Our aim is to introduce the knowledge and empowering them with valuable resources to enhance their learning experiences.

Let's dive into the remarkable outcomes:

E-Learning Platform: *The dynamic and interactive e-learning platform serves as an open learning environment for all project target groups. It includes an extensive e-library, valuable tools, and resources that facilitate continuous development for learners, educators, trainers, and staff members. By integrating two digital environments, each with a distinct purpose, the platform optimizes outcomes and maximizes learning opportunities.*

Training Course for Creative Women: *MIRA believes in the transformative power of creativity and competence. The comprehensive training course, comprising six modules, adopts a positive and holistic approach to learning.*



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Covering crucial topics such as Creativity and Competences, Art and Design, Digital Technology and Innovation, Media and Marketing, Entrepreneurship, and Going International, this course equips creative women with essential skills and knowledge for personal and professional growth.

Creativity Training Toolkit for Trainers: *Recognizing the pivotal role trainers play in supporting learners, MIRA has developed a practical and comprehensive trainers' guideline toolkit. Aligned with the topics covered in the MIRA Training Course for Women, this toolkit provides trainers with valuable resources and guidance in areas such as Creativity Skills and Competences, Art and Design (including various art forms), Digital Technology and Innovation, Media and Marketing, Entrepreneurship, and Going International.*

These intellectual outputs stand as a testament to the dedicated efforts of our project team and partners. They embody our unwavering commitment to fostering creativity, competence, and lifelong learning among women.

Within The Scope of Intellectual Outputs Development Process

The MIRA project is dedicated to developing and implementing intellectual outputs using a structured and effective methodology.

Design and Development of Training Programs:

The consortium is committed to designing and organizing comprehensive training programs for creative women. During this stage, we carefully developed a curricula and upload valuable resources onto our online platform. We also conducted pilot testing of the learning platform to ensure its effectiveness.

Design and Development of the Training Kit for Trainers:

In parallel with the women's training program, we created a comprehensive training kit for trainers. This kit includes support materials, articles, and contact databases to facilitate effective mentoring. As part of the final testing the kit was made available for pilot testing and the partners provided feedback for continuous enhancement of its content.

Implementation, Evaluation, and Validation:

Our focus shifted to implementing, evaluating, and validating the project outcomes during this phase. The LTT in Türkiye gave the opportunity for partners to present their modules.

Local Pilot Trainings for Women: *Partner organizations organized training sessions for the projects target groups. The results were published and shared with the wider Community through local, regional and international platforms.*



Training for Creative Women from Partner Countries: We brought together women who participated in mentorship programs for specialized training in Türkiye. This unique opportunity fostered a cross-cultural collaboration and knowledge exchange.

Local Training for Trainers/Mentors: Groups of 10 trainers/mentors underwent specialized training sessions, enabling them to effectively guide and support learners. The results of these sessions are published and disseminated to benefit others in the field.



Final Meeting and International Conference

To celebrate the culmination of our project, we organized a final meeting combined with an international conference in Türkiye. This event served as a platform for sharing our achievements, engaging in fruitful discussions, and fostering valuable networking opportunities.

Dissemination of Project Results and Multiplier Events Campaign

We conducted a comprehensive dissemination campaign and hosted multiplier events to share the remarkable results of our project. Our consortium designed an exploitation and follow-up strategy that ensured the sustained impact of our efforts beyond the project's duration.

A qualitative research article was produced and submitted on 'EPALE' platform which supported the dissemination findings of social media platforms and other vehicles.

The MIRA project embraced a qualitative methodology that encompassed the entire process, from design and implementation to evaluation and dissemination. Our goal is to continue to empower women through creativity and support their professional development.

LTT Meeting: Opening Ceremony held at Izmir University of Economics (Türkiye)

The 1st LTT Meeting of MIRA-Creative Women in Labor Market Project was held on 23-27 January 2023 in İzmir, Türkiye. The main agenda of the meeting was bring together leaders and participants for training, and evaluation of the works related to the planning of the training program and the intellectual outputs of the project, in which representatives from all partners fully attended.



Opening Ceremony held at Izmir University of Economics (Türkiye)



Izmir University of Economics (Türkiye) LTT meeting was held on 23-27 January 2023



The 1st LTT Meeting of MIRA-Creative Women in Labor Market Project in İzmir, Türkiye



The main agenda of the meeting was to bring together leaders and participants for training, and evaluation of the works related to the planning of the training program and the intellectual outputs of the project, which representatives from all partners fully attended. During the LTT all those involved in the sessions thoroughly enjoyed the friendship, the sharing of good practices and the coming together to ensure the event was a success. The participants of the LTT benefited from the first hand experiences of collaborating with other countries. Some of whom had never travelled before and experienced such events. MIRA project is all about Life changing moments.



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Friday 27th January closing of the LTT

Deputy Governor of Izmir Governorship, Hulusi Doğan, presided over the closing of the event, presenting certificates to all who participated and congratulating everyone on their achievements.

Fatma Susam Coordinator for Izmir Governorship brought the event to its final ending and thanked everyone for their full support and active input.



Above: Deputy Governor of Izmir Governorship, Hulusi Doğan, presenting all participants with Certificates of attendance completion.

The final Transnational Project meeting of the "MIRA-Creative Women in Labor Market Project"

The final Transnational Project meeting of the "MIRA-Creative Women in Labor Market Project" was held on Monday, May 22nd and Tuesday 23rd May, 2023, in Izmir, Türkiye.



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This gave partners the opportunity to present their continued progress on work completed and any outstanding work that required attention.



The final international conference of the "MIRA-Creative Women in Labor Market Project" was held on Wednesday, May 24, 2023, in İzmir, Türkiye.

The closing conference of the "Creative Women Project in the Labor Market" prepared by the Governor of İzmir EU and Foreign Affairs Bureau was held with the participation of our Governor Mr. Yavuz Selim Köşger, Representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of İzmir, Ambassador Mr. Naciye Gökçen Kaya, provincial protocol, and invited guests.

All representatives from United Kingdom, Portugal, Romania, and Türkiye were in attendance and presented at the event.



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More Info:

For more information about the project and outputs please regularly visit the project:

www.miraproject.net

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Mira Project



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www.izmir.gov.tr

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1. Izmir University of Economics

<https://www.ieu.edu.tr/tr>

2. EGIKAD

<http://egikad.org.tr/en>

3. Redefine - Associação Para A Investigação, Educação E Desenvolvimento

<http://redefine.pt>

4. Kingston Wadokai Community Interest Company

<https://kingstonjkwadokai.com/>

5. ADI Harghita

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