

CLN

Community Learning Networks in Northern Periphery Areas

The development of remote learning has been a crucial factor in increasing the possibilities for people to remain in rural areas and can help stem the flow of young people from peripheral areas. However, in order to successfully implement this, a support system is necessary. The Community Learning Networks project aims to address these issues and follows on from a successful phase 1 project under Article 10. The project builds on this success and aims to establish a Community Learning Network spanning the Northern Periphery areas. It will also address issues of access to learning and rural depopulation. The common denominator of all partners is that they are supporting learning in remote, sparsely populated areas, which in turn sustains the communities they serve. By addressing some of the key support issues required for Learning Centres, the project will deliver underpinning support for future business and community development. This will be further fulfilled through the inclusion of a Northern Heritage module, which will include cultural and environmental aspects of the Northern Periphery area.

Objectives

- Establishment of a Virtual Learning Community (VLC) across learning networks in partner countries to include all aspects of distance learning and taking into account rural community infrastructures
- Extended support through the joint development and delivery of modules, including a Northern Heritage module and module to develop skills to support remote learners, and associated technical support and evaluation
- Delivery to wider community of a lecture series of 8 Master Classes available through VLC
- Ensure participation of wider community and across learning networks through a regular newsletter
- Consider adaptation implementation of skills transferability models in similar INTERREG areas

Project activities

The project will set up a support network for learning centres, and institutions supporting distance learning in the partner countries, through which joint development of learning materials and delivery of short courses will take place. The project will facilitate the establishment of a Virtual Learning Communities (VLC), which will be managed overall by a Project Manager and developed and serviced by a Project Co-ordinator in each participating country. The most modern means of technical support will be used during the project.

Expected results

- Establishment of Virtual Learning Community; connecting and providing support for Rural Learners and Staff in learning centres or involved with distance learning
- Skills enhancement for distance learning and learning centre staff and users
- Northern Heritage module will lead to greater awareness of Northern Periphery culture, heritage and environment
- Transfer of knowledge through the Master Class Lecture Series, bringing communities into the learning centres or into the Virtual Learning Community
- Sustainable communities through the increased resource to businesses and individuals offered by Learning Centres
- Introduction of customised model for skills transfer from study of similar INTERREG undertakings



Partners

Rovaniemi Polytechnic - Finland
Høgskolen I Bodø - Norway
Akademi Norr - Sweden
University of Akureyri - Iceland

Project website

<http://edge.ramk.fi>

Measure
1.2

Total Budget
672 000

NPP Award
336 000

Project Period
01/03/2002 – 31/05/2004

Countries Involved
Scotland, Norway, Sweden,
Finland

Lead Partner Organisation
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