



Golden Goal Plus - Integrating Sport Activities with Basic Skills & Communication Training. A LEONARDO DA VINCI – Transfer of Innovation Project

About the project

The increasing complexity of work processes requires higher literacy, numeracy and communication skills to deal with every day working life. In most European countries, basic skills are defined as *the ability to read, write and speak in the respective language and to use mathematics at an everyday level.*

Low-skilled and poorly qualified young people have often left school with insufficient speaking, listening, reading and writing skills, but also with low communication and social skills. They therefore form a “hard to reach” group that does not tend to take part in adult education or lifelong learning initiatives, because “traditional” training measures very often don’t match their interests and capacities and, in the worst case, even confirm the negative self-image of the target group. “Golden Goal Plus” is based on a previous European project, “Golden Goal”, in which a Curriculum for basic skills and social skills training in combination with sports activities, as well as a Toolbox containing materials and methods was developed by a large partnership. In many European countries, this combination of basic skills education and sports (as a learning subject *and* activity) has proved to increase learners’ motivation to participate in learning and training. In the course of this new project (2008-2010), this particular approach and existing products will be transferred into Germany, Poland and Portugal. GOLDEN GOAL PLUS aims at adapting materials to Polish, Portuguese and German contexts and customising them for the chosen target group.

The introduction and implementation of GOLDEN GOAL PLUS into learning concepts will support tutors working with low-qualified young adults and enable training providers to reach a new target group that has, until now, been reluctant to participate in conventional education.

The project’s main products

The following main products will be produced in each target country: A country-specific collection of training materials, a teachers’ handbook with guidelines and curriculum for basic skills training for young disadvantaged adults motivated by integrated sport activities, as well as an implementation concept.



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Golden Goal Plus in Poland, Portugal and Germany

As a first step, country reports have been written, which clarify the general context in which the project will be implemented. The three countries, Germany, Poland and Portugal, show some differences with regards to target groups, as well as in the recommendations they give for the country-specific customisation of GOLDEN GOAL PLUS products. In terms of implementation of the project, however, all partner countries agree on the high usability of the approach and on the type of potential beneficiaries. All partners agree that the project will be of interest and use for the final target group of “low-skilled, poorly qualified young adults” who have left school with insufficient reading and writing skills and with low communication and social skills.

Finally, after a thorough analysis of the country-specific realities and several interviews with policy makers, teachers and the young adults of the target group, recommendations for the adaptations of GOLDEN GOAL PLUS in the respective countries have been defined. The training materials, for instance, will include a larger range of exercises with different levels of difficulty in the Portuguese version, and above all, more recent and possibly more local sport events will be introduced as part of the activities. As for the “Curriculum for basic skills training for young disadvantaged adults motivated by integrated sport activities”, in the Portuguese version in particular, educational policy experts will add more theoretical information on the benefits of combining sports and basic skills education. The results of the German interviews, on the other hand, show a need for some shorter and more compact GOLDEN GOAL PLUS Handbook and Guidelines, as expressed by teachers and trainers in Germany.

For implementing the project, all countries have identified a range of potential beneficiaries, among them being education and employment foundations, public schools and, most importantly, vocational education centres. The GOLDEN GOAL PLUS Implementation Concept will offer a structured action plan to them, showing how to put respective learning materials into the mainstream learning practice.

In the upcoming weeks, the GOLDEN GOAL PLUS main products are going to be carefully adapted to each country’s specific needs. All these products will be available for free download by the beginning of next year.

You will find more information on the products in the next Golden Goal Plus newsletter. It will give more insight into the results of the validation phase. For more information on the theoretical background, the products, and the project partnership, please consult our project website: www.golden-goal-plus.eu

