



European Orientation and Mobility and Autonomy in Daily Life Network

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WHAT'S NEW IN THE EOM ADL NETWORK ?

The mobilities have been organized in the first months of this year:

- In Tenerife : 17 – 20 February 2014
- In Valladolid : 10 – 13 March 2014
- In Marburg : 7 – 10 April 2014

Please find a short summary of these mobilities.

During the last months of the project, we will have to work on the final version of the products of this partnership, regarding the experimentations.

The mobility activities and the results of the project will be presented during the final conference “What kind of EOM / ADL training in the future?” that will be organized in Paris the 13th and 14th October 2014.

SAVE THE DATE !

TENERIFE'S MOBILITY

From 17 to 20 February 2014, the second international seminar was held at the University of La Laguna, Tenerife. The seminar's topic was the assessment of the needs of people with blindness and visual impairment as a basis for the development of an individual rehabilitation program. A total of seven people attended the seminar, three from Germany, two from France and two Spanish students. Unfortunately, no participants from Valladolid could be present. An interesting program was proposed to the participants : theoretical lectures on data collection, needs assessment and program development alternated with visits to local facilities for people with blindness and visual impairment. For example the participants were able to visit the library and braille printing service, the department for IT counseling and the premises for the low vision counseling of ONCE and meet with the owner of a guide dog and learn about his experiences.

VALLADOLID'S MOBILITY

The third international seminar was held from March 10 to 13 in Valladolid, Spain, located at IOBA. The theme was Visual Function and Diagnostic Methods. A total of 14 people participated in the Mobility; it was the largest of the four seminars. The biggest group came from France; nine future rehabilitation teachers for O & M from FAF had travelled to Spain. Then there were three participants from Germany and two Spanish students from Tenerife. On the first day, the group visited a training and education centre for visual impaired, multiply disabled children and young people and was able to gain insights into practice. On the following two days, the participants were given to five subjects, a theoretical introduction and in-depth explanations based on case studies. The topics were: visual field, colour vision, contrast sensitivity, visual acuity and microperimetry. Particularly interesting was the tour of the clinical department of IOBA, in which the participants received explanations of all devices used to measure visual function and were also allowed to try them out for themselves. The afternoon of the last day served the evaluation of the seminar, consisting of a knowledge test and a competence test via the analysis of case studies. The knowledge was very extensive, everybody has learned a great deal and was able to refresh and deepen already acquired knowledge.



MARBURG'S MOBILITY

The 4th International Mobility in Marburg took place from 7th to 10th of April the 4th international seminar of the E OM ADL Network Project took place at Blista, Marburg, Germany.

The topic of the seminar was "Task analysis: A method to plan teaching lessons in daily living skills for visually impaired learners". The six participants came from four different European countries: France (2), Spain (2), Switzerland (1) and Germany (1).

On the first day the participants were shown around the different institutions on Blista campus, such as the Workshop for Tactile Media, the German Library for the Blind (DBB) and the Rehabilitation and Counseling Center. At the next morning the seminar started with a breakfast under the blindfold for the international guests. This simulation experience created the basis for the development of a categorical system of difficulties and possible strategies in dealing with visual loss. In the second phase of the seminar the learners were introduced to general principals of developmental support for visual impaired persons and the theoretical model of task analysis as a device for preparing ADL teaching lessons.

On the third day the participants developed their own task analysis and teaching plan for a specific task of everyday living such as closing a button, tying a knot or spreading butter on bread. This practical task helped to further understand the theoretical implications and gain practical experience in learning the method of task analysis.

The last day was designated to test the knowledge and the competences taught and gained during the first three days. For this the learners had to prove their knowledge in a written test and prove their competencies by a applying them to an ADL problem shown on video. They had to develop a task analysis, propose how to teach the task and prove this by teaching it to the two seminar teachers.

Everybody did really well and passed the exam. All participants found the central problem and a suitable solution for it. The evaluation of the seminar showed that the participants valued the contents and methods of the seminar and enjoyed the atmosphere and the international exchange with their colleagues.



WHAT'S NEW FOR THE PARTNERS ?



On the 12th of May 2014 ten new students will start their course as a rehabilitation teacher at the state recognized school for rehabilitation teachers at Blista, Marburg, Germany.

After one and a half years of training and the successful completion of their course, they will be qualified to plan and conduct lessons in the rehabilitative fields of Orientation and Mobility (O&M) and Activities of Daily Living (ADL) on their own.

The participants come from all over Germany. During their fulltime training, they will work on a wide spectrum of theoretical concepts and gain broad practical experiences in all key activities and tasks related to both fields. The aim of their professional training is enabling them to work as rehabilitation teachers and provide though their teaching support for visually impaired persons in order to gain more autonomy and independence in the participation in social as well as in vocational life.

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