

Newsletter

IS003

Spring 2017



THE PUZZLE PROJECT PRODUCTION, TRIALS AND SYMPOSIUM PLANS

PUZZLE is a two year project that aims to facilitate the access to information, education and training of young people and adults with Intellectual Disabilities (ID) in three European countries: Lithuania, Poland and Greece.

After the completion of the second training that took place in Lithuania in November 2016, the partners of the project focused on combining text and multimedia in order to produce informative tools for people with ID. Through the use of images, sound and video clips, as well as text in Easy to Read, each partner was given the opportunity to create easy, accessible and understandable information and test the material produced.

Furthermore, during the production and testing phase, the partners used the RIX Wiki software created by RIX Research & Media. This is an application providing an easy and intriguing multimedia authoring tool which can be used by people with ID as well as professionals for communication and training purposes. Another important approach applied during this phase was the use of session plans. We worked with a Session Plan template to model different ways for professionals to co-develop Easy to Understand content together with people with ID. This method captures a range of ways to work inclusively to ensure that the material created meets the diverse needs and interests of people with ID.

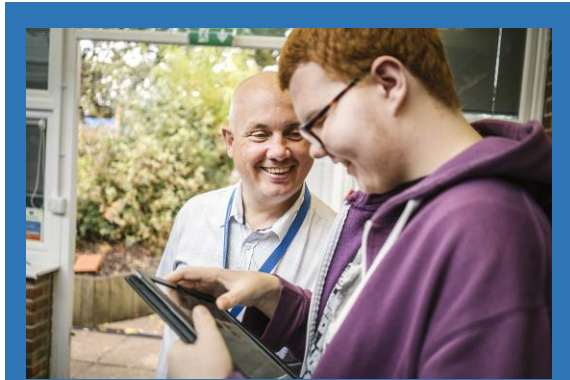


In addition, each partner developed a small community of practice in their countries. Our communities of practice gave us the opportunity to inform more service providers about this project and the importance of access to information. We shared our easy to read methodologies and materials produced on Project Puzzle. Our Communities of Practice will use and evaluate the project's materials and methods more widely and feedback their thoughts and ideas to help refine our outputs.

In Athens, a one day seminar for members of the local community of practice was arranged. During this seminar, the participants were introduced to the method of Easy to Read and the use of multimedia for making information more accessible for people with ID. The importance of making information both Easy to Read *and* Easy to Understand (for those who cannot read) was also discussed. The feedback from the participants was very positive and interest in a follow up seminar was expressed.

The planning and preparation of the final symposium was also executed during this period. The Symposium is entitled, **'Easy to Read becomes Easy to Understand!'** and will be held in **Heraklion (Crete, Greece) on June 8th 2017**. We will present and discuss the Puzzle project's results and launch a Europe-wide forum for the 'Easy to Understand' methods developed during this project. The event will showcase new ways to actively involve people with ID in creating information that is accessible for everyone. We will be sharing exciting ideas from across the EU on ways to use digital tools with Easy to Read approaches to make information that is genuinely **Easy to Understand** for people of all abilities.

For further information and to register for the Project Puzzle Symposium please visit: <http://www.puzzle-project.eu>



More information is available at:
<http://www.puzzle-project.eu/>

Learning Materials and Training Guides
can be freely downloaded from our site

The Puzzle Partnership

Foundation for Research and Technology-Hellas (FORTH), Greece

www.iacm.forth.gr

Association For People With Learning Disabilities "Śmiałek", Poland

www.smialek.org

Jaunuoliu dienos centras (JDC), Lithuania

www.pjdc.lt

RIX Research & Media, University of East London, England

www.rixresearchandmedia.org

Swedish Agency for Accessible Media – MTM, Sweden

www.mtm.se

