Mobile Learning App

Newsletter 2 - January 2015

M_APP IN PROGRESS

Targeting adults and organisations involved in different kinds of mobility actions across Europe, we are progressing towards our aim of creating a mobile device application which supports the capturing of skills gained during trips abroad whilst also developing a recognition and accreditation procedure for the two European lifelong learning key competences; *learning to learn competences* and *social and civic competences*.

Our second newsletter gives you a quick overview of the past six months of the project's activities, including the findings of the research study, an overview of our second project meeting, round tables held and a first insight into the beta version of the mobile application currently under development, which will be available for a pilot testing soon.

RESULTS OF RESEARCH STUDY

In favor of developing a mobile application which is user-friendly, relevant, practical and verifiable, research was implemented, taking into account questionnaires completed by 160 adult learners in total. In addition, interviews were conducted with a total of 14 professional experts in all partner countries. This task, led by *Meath Partnership* from Ireland, brought valuable findings for our further project work.

Adult learners underlined strongly the importance of creating the possibility to upload files for documenting the situations, with a total of 70 % indicating their frequent use photographs in this regard. Of those surveyed, learning through cultural and social exchanges was the most frequent response compared with learning through formal courses. This supports the rationale behind the M_APP project.

Experts gave positive feedback within the interviews related to
§ the innovativeness of the project and its application
§ the tool being designed for a wide cohort of people, encouraging them to develop and reflect their competences.

Their concerns raised and suggestions led to the application
§ giving the opportunity to add own learning situations
§ developing a user guide and
§ linking the validation procedure to existing transparency instruments.

For further and more in depth information have a look into the M_APP European Research Report.

SECOND PROJECT MEETING

The second meeting of our M_APP project was held in Izmir, Turkey from the 16th until the 17th of September 2014. The entire consortium consisting of seven partners from Austria, Germany, Ireland, Spain, Sweden, Romania and Turkey, had the chance to discuss research findings, a draft of the structure and content of the application as well as first design suggestions. Also the developed folders and posters in all languages were introduced to partners by *Soros Educational Center Foundation* from Romania, with them also bringing along some examples for everybody to enable visibly distributing the M_APP project. Space was given as well to first considerations for the evaluation of the pilot phase and the validation and accreditation procedure, which will prominently be on the agenda for the upcoming meeting as well as on the next newsletter.

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APPLICATION DEVELOPEMENT

Bringing together the structure and content while defining the 'user story' and implementing the design of the mobile application, a bilateral meeting was held in Schwerin, Germany in October 2014 between *Auxilium* from Austria and the application development partner *Rapidrabbit* from Germany. The meeting also focused on the web application and the embedded implemented procedure for the validation and accreditation process. Achieving major steps forward, we are proud to present the first screen shots of the mobile application for both, iOS as well as Android operating systems, showing the menu for trips, the implemented map and statistics according to learning situations added during trips.
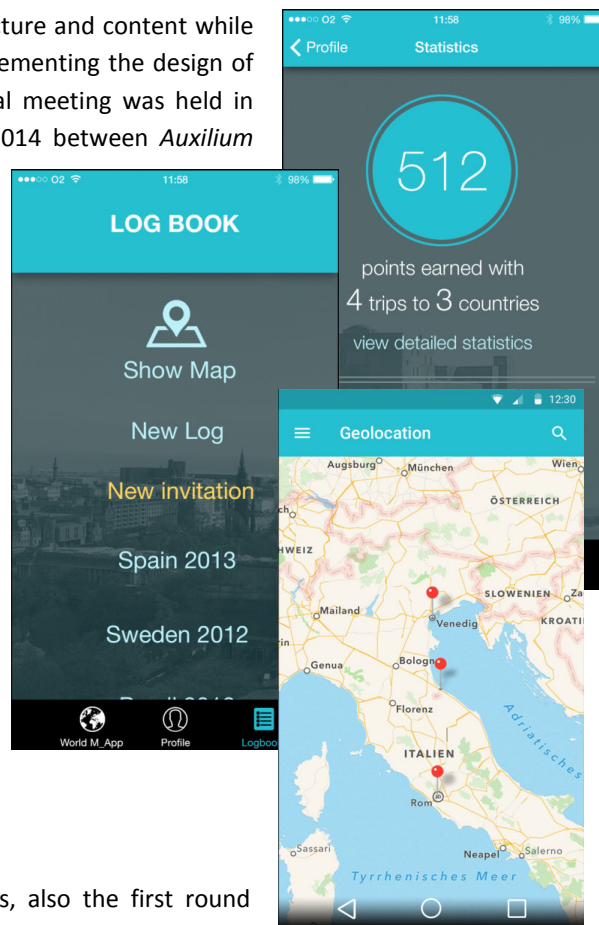
ROUND TABLE

Within the last six months, also the first round table was established in all partner countries. With the leading partner *Fondo Formacion Euskadi* from Spain, further information was gained concerning the application.

Moreover, potential stakeholders got the chance for a deeper insight into the M_APP project. Another two round tables will take place during the next project months, giving the chance to present the beta version of the application, discussing the product and its dissemination.

WHAT'S NEXT?

We are now in the phase of finishing the beta version development of the mobile and server application and setting up a recognition and accreditation procedure. Our next project meeting in Bilbao, Spain in February 2015 will allow us to have final discussions regarding the piloting phase, gaining valuable feedback from pilot users for the finishing touches of the application. The final conference will take place in November/December 2015 in Graz.

Are you interested in testing the application for free yourself or want to learn more about the M_APP project? Visit our webpage www.mapp-project.eu and get in contact with us.

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