

The Sudmobil Project 2002 -2005

1 Ladies and gentlemen, dear audience, thank you for giving me the opportunity to present the Sudmobil project results in this special conference.

Maybe you already have asked in your mind: what is this, what are people taking about, this Sudmobil?

I want to tell you, what this Sudmobil is exactly and what can be your benefit out of it.

Sudmobil means: Self and direct mobile in Europe!

Who wants this and why?

Sudmobil deals with the approach of people with learning disabilities who like to face a vocational training abroad in another country, like many not disabled do so. They want to enhance their knowledge and flexibility, to get more self confidence and endurance. Who ever had made such an experience knows: To learn abroad has double outcome and is really learning for life.

But who ever has tried to organise a vocational training abroad for people with learning disabilities knows, that this is a task full with difficulties and barriers which are by far harder to overcome than difficulties that people without disabilities have to face. Starting to find solutions and how to work on the reduction of barriers was the aim of Sudmobil.

2 Seven partners have been working together in the Project Sudmobil. It had been various organisations, authorities to work on legal framework and financial basics, organisations providing services for people with disabilities, educational institutions, representative bodies and „people first“ groups. The project leader was atempo, situated in Graz, Austria and atempo is an educational organisation for people with learning disabilities. Each organisation had a special sight, different experiences and made thus their special contribution. For the common task to work on a accessible Europe for all. Sudmobil was funded by the European program Leonardo da Vinci.

3 We had begun in 2002 with an analysis of the existing hindrances and barriers for mobility in the different European countries.

In a second step we developed materials for people with learning- disabilities, for sending and welcoming organisations, who are going to prepare a mobility project.

Then we tested these materials in a pilot-mobility-project, where people with learning- disabilities went to Bruxelles for three weeks to work with Inclusion Europe an got to know the European Parliament and parts of European Administration. These practical experiences did influence the following work on the materials like the Learning CD and the Manual which we packed in a Sudmobil-Suit-Case.

4 Don't be afraid, the products are not that big like the suit-case makes you assuming

5 In the Sudmobil-Case you will find all the materials which can be useful to make mobility a little bit easier to organize and ease also the preparation. You will find the Handbook, models of easy to read contracts, a folder and the CD Rom in it.

The Sudmobil objective is to overcome constraints and to make the planning and realisation of a stay abroad easier through two tools of information and self training: CD-ROM "INTO EUROPE" for users A HANDBOOK for organisers.

6 At first I want to introduce the Sudmobil Manual

7 This manual is addressed to the following target-groups:

- 1st people with disabilities who wants to get experiences in vocational training in an other EU-country

- 2nd sending organisations
- 3rd hosting organisations
- 4th assisting persons, who are accompanying people with disabilities
- 5th Official, who are responsible to facilitate a mobility approach

8 I will give you now a short overview about the key features of the handbook: In part one you will find general Information. This part deals with the existing obstacles to mobility. It gives a brief overview about the legal situation and legal hindrances. And finally you can read some suggestion, how a greater and better mobility can be developed and how it can work.

9 In part 2 you will find the procedural part for all target groups:
 You will get information about crucial points in preparations like trainings for participants, organisational steps and hints and so on.
 You also will find accessibility-aspects, all topics around the trips and journey, what you will have to take in account when you plan the visit and important things at departure.
 The manual will give you useful tips, you will get explanations and important information.

10 A very useful part are detailed checklists, and here you can see for example a checklist for the sending organisation.

11 In the manual you can also find an example, how an easy to read contract can be formulated and designed

12 Part 3 contents the appendix, which gives you an brief overview about disabilities, about the educational systems, about the main obstacles to mobility and a report about the pilot – mobility project in Bruxelles.

13 The handbook will
 ...inform about opportunities to improve Mobility, also to inform about obstacles to Mobility.
 ...help to influence and ease the process of planning.
 ... improve and save time in preparation of Mobility projects.
 Is available on the Internet in German, English, Italian and Slovenian

14 The CD-Rom INTO EUROPE has been developed by experts with disabilities and members of organisations and associations coming from seven European countries involved in the Project.

This CD-Rom INTO EUROPE has been made ACCESSIBLE FOR ALL taking into consideration the needs of different people with disabilities:

- People with learning difficulties
- People with visual impairments
- People with hearing impairments
- People with physical impairments

15 The CD-Rom INTO EUROPE is for training and preparation, helps in planning and aims at preparing people with disabilities and learning difficulties to plan and realize a vocational stage or a study visit abroad

16 The CD-Rom INTO EUROPE has considered many different factors such as:

- Language – means of Transport – Workplace -Travel. What do I need?
- Hints to reach a place, Accessibility problems – being a foreigner

- Homesickness
- Emergency. Who can help me and how?

Sections with blue frames help to study and do exercises

Sections with green frames help to prepare the stay abroad

Sections with yellow frames contain information

- 17 In the "**Instruction**" section the use of some equipment is described: For example a Cash Machine or a self ticketing machine
- 18 On step into the next level you learn for instance about how to handle a cash-machine
- 19 In the section "**Checklists**" there are useful lists to help remember important things.
- 20 Here you can see here inside the checklist section and some items are: Money, Medicines, Documents, Post Office, Work place. You can also find the button for printing
- 21 In the section "**Foreign language**" there is a language course. It is possible to learn to face different situations in a foreign language.
- 22 A first sight into the language-section
- 23 In the section "**Being a stranger**" there are many suggestions to help to prevent homesickness, or what you can do to overcome homesickness.
- 24 To understand homesickness, what feelings can describe homesickness?
- 25 In the section "Orientation" there are suggestions on how to orientate when you are abroad. Or on how to leave and reach your destination. Or to what paying attention when using public transport.
- 26 Here you can see the topics for Orientation
- 27 In the section "Workplace" there is the example of a workplace in the destination country. Various types of information on the workplace.
- 28 What are important topics for the section workplace
- 29 In the section "Europe" there is information on the European Union. For example: The European Commission, etc.
- 30 For example: The European Commission, history, the countries, about money etc.
- 31 In the last section "Sudmobil" there is information on "Sudmobil – Unhindered access to Europe". CD-Rom "Into Europe" is one of the products of this project.
- 32 As a result out of Sudmobil atempo is now acknowledged to work together with the main – players in Austria to improve Mobility in an ongoing project named "Pro Mobility" to enforce the work on Mobility-barriers and raise the quality aspects of mobility in Europe. I hope, my presentation was not too long and enough interesting, so that you had not to fight against falling to sleep too much. Thanks for giving me your attention