Our Project: Empowerment, Social Inclusion and Participation

eScouts is aimed to develop an innovative intergenerational learning exchange between elderly and youth volunteers, centred on the development of the digital competences of the eldest and on the guidance to the youngest to better face their upcoming adult life challenges. This intergenerational experience will take place through a variety of local stakeholder organisations (LSO, e.g. public internet centres, youth and elderly associations, etc) with a view to produce a transversal impact over the communities they are serving.

Our actions:
ICT Learning, Internet and Community Service
1. Train youth people (16-25) to become ICT teachers of the digital excluded elderly, while developing autonomy and active citizenship.
2. Train the elderly (retired people over 55) to become mentors for the youth (their previous teachers) to better face work and life challenges with an ethic dimension and valuing youngest “digital capital”.
3. Train Facilitators of intergenerational learning of each country of the consortium to be the key actors and mediators of those two groups.

Our innovation:
Youth, Elderly and Intergenerational Exchange
The eScouts project aims to prove that innovative ways of communication and activism through ICT are strongly re-shaping social interaction, learning approach as well as general perspective of life’s expectations and values. Elderly facing the digital gap and assessing the youth can still feel useful and updated within the society, and youth can learn perspectives in values and can be inspired to discover their job preferences since they become teachers and get to know ICT from another point of view. In addition, the interaction itself hopes to be a great benefit for both target group and from a community vision, an important social improvement.

Our expected results:
Employability, Personal Development and e-Inclusion
Our expected results could be: Increase sense of social responsibility, increase in self-worth and confidence, provision of practical skills, school attendance and employability improvement, opportunities to keep learning, re-integration into community life, rebuilds social networks, developing community capacity and a more inclusive society, building of social cohesion, enhancing and building culture.

Our network
Most of the partners in the consortium have a large network of centres (cultural centres in Italy and UK, telecentres in Spain, Bulgaria and Poland, training centres in Germany). The consortium consists of eight partners who have different but complementary expertise, work experiences and in different areas of influence nationally and internationally.

Why join us
- Because: All participants will be involved in the pilot experience thanks to their own interest and motivation to explore new paths;
- Because: Youth will be prepared under the “Community Service – Learning” approach, having practical assessment and advising, while performing their task in reality. Elderly, once learned how to manage ICT, will take benefit from it addressing their expertise and vision of reality to their young teachers, complementing this process in face to face meeting to empower the emotional links between them.
- Because: Intergenerational practice can encourage the sharing of resources like knowledge, time, skills and services. Helping promote work between different community groups, breaking down barriers and stereotypes about the young and old, enhancing and building culture, and providing volunteers and workers to create community facilities and activities.

Who are e-Facilitators in Europe?
The e-Facilitators have a crucial task, not only as teachers of ICT, but also as socio-cultural mediators. The project partnership “eScouts” will conduct a comparison study of these profiles and about the available educational opportunities in their respective countries. The goal will be to create a common professional profile in Europe.