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#### Welcome to the 5th DDSkills newsletter

An initiative of the project consortium to provide information on DDSkills activities and deliverables.

The DDSkills project, launched in January 2020, aims to develop training courses to enhance digital competences of professional caregivers, so they can make better use of new technologies, and support persons with disabilities & their families in the use of those technologies.



On 3rd October, the DDSkills project consortium met in Rome to discuss the last details to start the national training pilots courses. Those will target 20 professionals in each

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The training will provide **new knowledge**, **skills and competences on the use of new technological devices** for professionals supporting persons with disabilities and mental health disorders. It targets all kind of professional caregivers (occupational therapists, psychologists, social workers, special education teachers, nurses, gerontologists and rehabilitation experts).

The trainings will follow the DDSkills Curriculum, focusing on 4 main units:

- New Technologies / VR and AR technologies
- Self-Advocacy
- Social Networks' Development
- Therapeutic Role-Playing

In addition to the manual, the project provides presential lessons and a MOOC platform with multimedia and multilingual training content and resources, including videos, presentations, tutorials and a final exam to receive a certification EQF level 5. The pilot trainings will also serve to certificate the materials developed during the project.

During the in-presence sessions, theoretical content will be complemented by practical exercises including simulations and role-playing but also the opportunity to use some of the technological devices made available in the project toolkit. The toolkit includes among others, **augmented and virtual reality devices** designed to improve the autonomy of people with intellectual disabilities.

The trainers who offer the training course, followed a four-day training on the DDSkills curriculum content, in Greece this summer.

With kind regards, The DDSkills consortium

#### For more information, please contact:

Penny Sergi, Project Manager, To Ergastiri penny.sergi@ergastiri.org

### Related news & highlights



# Project Conference: New technologies and new paths for the inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities

On 4 October, the DDSkills partner from Italy, Tandem Integrated Social Cooperative, hosted a Conference in Rome to present the DDSkills project training course.

After the presentation of the training course by the consortium, the meeting continued exploring different

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#### **Learning World Congress 2022**

On 29 and 30 October, the DDSkills partner from Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences presented the project content, including a Youtube Video on DDSkills robotic arm. Many participants from the field of pedagogy of health attended professions the two-day Congress held in XUND Health Educational Center in Luzern. Switzerland.



#### **ABA** international conference in Dublin

In September, the National University of Ireland (NUI) presented an overview of the DDskills project during a session on exploring the use of Applied Behaviour Analysis in Virtual Reality. In this occasion, participants showed high interest on the project outcomes and on future involvement.



#### **Train the trainers Event**

In June, the DDSkills partners gathered in Greece a four-day training on the DDSkills course main units. The training was addressed to the trainers who will deliver the pilot trainings in the six target countries: Greece, Italy, Ireland, Lithuania, Germany and Cyprus.



## International Conference on Social Skills and Disabilities

On 1st July, the project consortium hosted an international Conference in Greece. The conference was divided in two panels, the first one on the **importance of social skills in disability** and the second one **self-advocacy for people with disabilities**.

The Conference Brought together professional caregivers and university researchers from different EU

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countries, with a focus on the field

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