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Welcome to the 6th 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 25 and 26 May, the DDSkills project consortium gathered in Lithuania for its last coordination meeting and the project final Conference.

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countries (Ireland, Italy, Germany, Greece and Lithuania) as well as the e-learning platform, where all the materials for the online training are available. The e-learning platform will be publicly open for registration soon.

The training provides **new knowledge, skills and competences on the use of new technological devices** for professionals supporting persons with disabilities and mental health disorders. It gives adequate knowledge to use the DDSkills toolkit and cutting-edge technologies, which includes a [Virtual Reality](#) and [Augmented Reality](#) application, promoting self-advocacy through role-playing, and a [telepresence robot](#). The toolkits are ICT-based training tools, such as smart sensors and applications, that facilitate complex problem-solving, increase trainees' engagement and foster deep learning.

The pilots training obtained very positive impressions from its participants, that had a varied profile – from recent graduated students on nursery, to experienced care professionals in search of a flexible alternative for upskilling and update on digital tools applied to caregiving and health support of Persons with Disabilities.

There is an increasing need to integrate existing skills and develop new ones with new approaches and digital competences, to deliver high-quality and person centred services. Assistive technologies play a relevant role in bridging accessibility gaps and empowering individuals to overcome barriers to independent living.

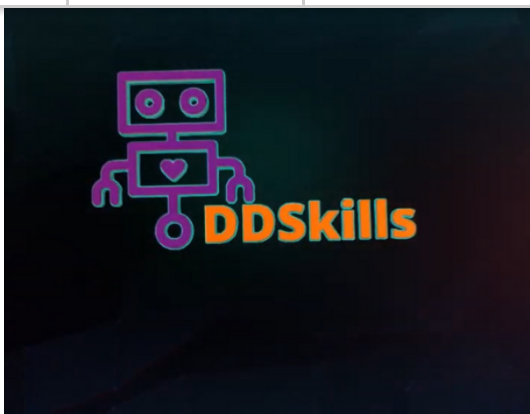
Developing skills and training is one of the priorities of the EU Commission agenda. Initiatives such as the European Skills Agenda and the [2023 European Year of Skills](#) highlight the EU's commitment to promoting skills development and recognition across Member States.

With kind regards,
The DDSkills consortium

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DDSkills promotional video. It includes the main objectives and deliverables of the project.

Do not miss it! Access the video [here](#).



DDSkills Conference: Social Work - Creating Changes

On 22 March, the DDSkills project partner [Jaunuolių dienos centras](#) held a Conference in Lithuania to discuss the importance of the social services sector, the employment opportunities and exchange good practices.



DDSkills Meeting & Conference in Ireland – innovative technologies to support individuals with autism spectrum disorder

On 9 January, the DDSkills consortium held a transnational project meeting in Ireland to discuss the state of play of the pilot training in each country, the content of the toolkit, and the certification process.

On 10 January, the project partner from Ireland [National University of Ireland \(NUI\)](#) organised an hybrid Conference on innovative technologies to support individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

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Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



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