



# ***ACM for young LGTB adults***

*(Artistic and Cultural Media  
for young Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender adults)*



**Programme**

**LIFELONG LEARNING**

**Sub-Programme**

**GRUNDTVIG**

**Action Category**

**PARTNERSHIPS**

**Action**

**GRUNDTVIG Learning Partnerships**

***August 2012 – July 2014***

**Coordinating Partner**



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## Rationale & Background



- Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people continue to face **discrimination and exclusion** across Europe in all spheres of life.
- Although tackling social exclusion in the Member States of the European Union (EU) has been an objective since the launch of the Lisbon Strategy in 2000, little attention has been paid to the exclusion that LGBT people experience in the context of European social policy, and in particular the EU **social inclusion strategies**.
- There is a real need to **bring equality and non-discrimination** considerations into the core of European social policy-making and especially the EU social inclusion process, for discrimination remains one of the main causes of exclusion.
  - **Diversity** is both a reality and a necessity in European societies. European societies are multicultural and diverse. In this Project we will focus on the **diversity in terms of sexual orientation** and we consider it an asset rather than a threat to our democracies.
- The way in which sexual minorities and the most vulnerable groups in our societies are portrayed in the media, the **dissemination of information** about them and their presence on screen, magazine, newspapers, movies etc.. are all of the utmost importance for the way in which we perceive ourselves and their and our environments and hence for the way we structure our societies and establish means of living together.
- If the **utilization of media** was more correct and adequate all of the people across the EU could benefit from a better understanding of LGBT issues in order to report them in a representative and balanced way.
- There is a real need to foster and reinforce this **positive path and getting a presence of visible positive LGBT role models** within communication and information across EU. We consider that Artistic and Cultural Media (ACM) can surprisingly be an incredible tool for spreading a positive message out amongst the masses/into society. *These forms of ACM include cinema, theatre, pictures, television, radio, internet, newspapers and magazines.*



# Aims



- The ACM can be a very useful, if not to say invaluable tool for LGBT activists to **gain publicity, spread awareness and achieve social acceptance**. Moreover, they can also, especially in some countries, **play an active part** in crossing social alienation and exclusion of LGBT, the utter ignorance or misrepresentation of the issues, or simply the blatant homophobia. In the latter case, the ACM not only constitutes a vehicle for the continuation and even escalation for a stronger LGTB rights advocacy .
- The Project will strategically engage and improve the knowledge of relevant **young LGTB adults (as trainees)** across the EU in effective action to change anti-LGBT sentiment in society through ACM.
- The Project recognizes the institutional discrimination against LGTB people in the most of EU States and accepts that this discrimination takes different forms. It is committed to the elimination of this discrimination and will use a **combination of education, academic research, and activism** .
- This Project will also try to be a channel to ask questions and to receive informed answers about different political viewpoints on LGTB people: this is essential to a democratic society. Provided that ACM for LGTB in Europe fully embrace this responsibility, and respond to the information needs of an increasingly diverse population, they can greatly **contribute to social cohesion in European Societies**.

# Activities



- This Educational Partnership is an **exchange of practices and reflections** through the implementation, by some European Partners of an informal education project called “ACM for LGTB” . This partnership will enable organizations to evaluate how ***an INFORMAL educational common program*** takes place in different contexts. As for learners, they will be involved in a process of change: this project will allow them to explore an educational path to get new skills, means and opportunities for a very positive impact into society and for a self-esteem and self-understanding benefits.
  
- The Project will **encourage** fair, accurate, inclusive and sensitive ACM initiatives in order to promote understanding between different groups and cultures (LGTB people) as:
  - **Educate** young LGTB adults sharing tools, documents/materials and strategies on how to work with ACM for LGTB.
  - **Do** pieces of research and search data about the new ACM and their roles in different European States about LGTB
  - **Use and share** ACM (movies; theatre plays; novels; pictures; internet; magazines; newspapers etc...) between the partners.
  - **Systematically address, analyze, and conduct** research on, for, and by LGTB people.
  - **Improve** knowledge for learners/trainees LGTB about the power of ACM and how to use and work with them to communicate and inform society about LGTB’s world and to establish contacts with other organizations or individuals sharing similar objectives to building a sense of community.
  - **Review and use** existing information on LGTB system such as research, statistical information and other available data and make relevant recommendations on policy and practices in related areas.
  - **Give** new ideas and means to learners to produce newspapers, magazines, journals, newsletters or free sheets to set out the impact on different equality groups and to be as representative as possible and to challenge existing stereotypes. Publications emanating from a representative organization are an opportunity for that organization’s analysis of situations to reach an audience wider than its members. This is important as it fosters debate and differences of approach and therefore allows more diverse and subtle arguments to evolve in LGBT society e.g. on question of marriage vs. civil partnership; pride demonstrations vs. other advocacy.
  - **Develop** information and **exchange** of experience, good practice and educational material in a ***web-based reporting platform*** for the use of all of civil society organizations and promote diversity through the website contents. The reporting platform will be implemented and a mid-term assessment will take place including follow-up on the implementation process and collection of documents and reports.
  - **Organize** meetings, workshops and seminars between the Partners – LGTB Associations and Local Authorities at national and European level.
  - **Organize a Final Conference** on Project’s results and ACM for LGTB with the participation of LGBT NGOs representatives from National and European Level; Local and National Authorities; Media’s representatives.

# Participants



## Pupils/ learners/trainees

**Young LGTB Adults** (*people who have finished compulsory education or University*) from LGTB Associations, NGO's, Institutions, Volunteers, etc...

## Teachers/trainers/staff

**Member/Staff** from each Partner

# Description of Partnership



- Partnership will be composed of all kinds of institutions and organizations working in adult learning, whether formal, non-formal or informal.
- Partners will have a large-scale of activities targeted at professional training and orientation.
- Partners will have a large experience in promoting activities and services for people from disadvantaged social groups specially through: training courses, meetings, seminars etc...(cultural, language, business, ICT, law, etc..).
- Partners will be able to provide services of lobbying and advocacy for business and they'll reflect their philosophy with policies and practices referring to management, staffing and service provision and delivery.
- Partners will be specialize in the development, evaluation and implementation of innovative pilot projects and programmes in the fields of vocational education, skills and learning, enterprise, regeneration and social inclusion for adults.
- Partners should be realizing educational, cultural, media, public awareness and other projects, especially the projects aiming on integration of disadvantage people and working with young-adults.



# ENFAP-TOSCANA



## *Description*

- ENFAP Toscana is the Regional Professional Training Agency linked to Trade Union U.I.L., a non-profit organization which has been operating since 1964 in all of Tuscany with a large-scale of activities targeted at professional training and orientation. It develops studies, research, information and documenting material as well as professional career counseling for young and adult people. It has a large experience in promoting activities and services for disadvantage people , specially through: training courses (cultural, language, business, ICT, law, etc..). It can provide services of lobbying and advocacy for business and it reflects this philosophy in its policies and practices referring to management, staffing and service provision and delivery. ENFAP has a large experience with ESF projects and activities. ENFAP has a large vision of best practice for promoting the cross-cultural skills and expertise across Europe. It promotes too close links between NQF, the EQF and existing or future European systems for credit transfer and accumulation in higher education and VET. It promotes the European Credit system for Vocational Education and Training ('ECVET') at all levels of the EQF with reference to VET qualifications, in order to facilitate trans-national mobility and the recognition of learning outcomes in VET and borderless lifelong learning. Its programmes are all concerned with the creation of new initiatives to support disadvantaged learners to progress to mainstream education and employment opportunities and to develop not-formal and informal education for adults.

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