

Information sheet

Leonardo da Vinci innovation project „QualiProSH II - Qualification profile "Second Hand" based on work process standards“

Within the project "QualiProSH II" will be transferred in 6 European countries (Germany, Austria, Belgium, Finland, Slovenia and Bulgaria) the existing qualification profile that was developed in a previous project "QuliProSecondHand". And selected sector-specific qualification modules that are the outcome of this will be tested with the target group "employees / qualifier in the second hand sector", adapted, implemented and optimized. This will involve the transfer and implementation of especially for the sector developed instruments to identify the need of qualification of employees and of an instrument to check the quality of the implemented training measures. Furthermore, work process-related quality standards will be adapted and implemented against the background of the project objective to establish a sector-specific qualification. For this, the qualification profile will be transformed in country-specific concepts and a testing network that will be adapted to the different country-specific frameworks will be built in the participating project partner counties together with partners from the field "SecondHand" or Vocational Education and Training (VET). The testing is carried out in total of three testing phases that extend over the project period of 2009 to 2011.

The implementation, the testing and optimization of the above products take place against the background that the analyses that are carried out by the previous Leonardo project "QualiProSecondHand" within the European second hand sector have clearly demonstrated that (especially in the fields textile, CD / books, furniture, electronic equipment) the second hand sector will grow in the future because of changes in the consumer behaviour and the environmental awareness. Even today, this sector offers plenty of potential for employees, especially for the group of the disadvantaged people. Rising quality standards entail inevitably a need of qualification. Only through appropriate qualification initiatives and learning methods and concepts that are adapted to the specifics of the sector and that can give people the necessary know-how, the future and increasing requirements can be handled. The current available, mostly punctual and not sector-specific qualification measures cannot meet these requirements. The basis to improve the quality could be uniform European-wide and wok process-related quality standards, which can be obtained from the empirical results of the project "QualiProSecondHand". Furthermore, through the implementation of sector-specific and on work process-related quality standards basing qualification modules the employment possibilities can grow in the labour market and the mobility of employees can be improved, because their competencies and know-how is European-wide comparable.

The described measures are a significant contribution to more professionalization in the second hand sector as well as to the qualification of the employed people of the sector. Sector actors are given the sustainable products by the hand, which make it possible to carry out sector-specific and European-wide uniform qualifications and ensure their quality by their own. Detailed information about the project and its products can we find on www.QualiProSH.eu.

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General information about the test network and the test procedure in Germany:

The network is formed from members of a network partnership in eastern Saxony, which are an ideal combination of the active partners of the former Equal subproject "Second Chance Ost". Be involved are:

- The QAD Dresden with its social service workshops
- The SAQ Zwickau with its department store "Zwickaus gute Geist"
- The GAB Weißwasser with its offer "The Gebrauchtartikelbörse"
- The Network Mittweida with its furniture exchange / Second Hand Clothes Shop

Who carries out the qualification/the testing period (theory/practice)? Where do they take part?

The qualifications carry out the respective supervisors of the partners. For the module "repair and cleaning of textiles" that is created by us, we will include an external expert in the preparation and implementation during the testing period. For the module "sale" we will clarify the question about external teachers in the second testing period. The testing periods phase will take place in the workshops or social department stores of the named partner and for their local staff.

When take the testing periods place and how long are they?

The module "cleaning and repair of textiles" will start approximately March 2010. The module "sale" will likely take place in September. The testing periods will span about 4 months and include about approximately 30 teaching days. The objective is to test each module twice per testing period after evaluating the first test)

Who can participate and are any requirements necessary? From whom can interested people get information?

Participation is open to all employees of the named network partners and who are involved in the repairing and cleaning of textiles or in the selling/ the customer consulting. For section sewing knowledge is required. Those who are interested can contact their supervisors.

Which module will be tested? Some informations about the transferred contents.

Within the module „repair and cleaning of textiles“ will be taught skills and competencies about following contents:

- Assessing the quality of textiles in order to decide whether a cleaning / repair is necessary and meaningful.
- Use of different machines, such as e.g. washing machines, rotary iron, iron to use them safely and professional.
- Transfer of textile and product knowledge to carry out properly the cleaning and maintenance.
- Use and handling of cleaning and maintenance products.
- Transfer of knowledge about sorting goods seasonal and in a kind of assortment of goods.
- Proper handling of donations – documentation of the processes to understand them.
- Training of existing sewing skills to do simple repairs.

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