DIGITAL FACILITATOR FOR ADULTS 55+

DIFA is an Erasmus partnership for cooperation aiming to develop, test and implement an innovative digital education ecosystem to let educators create and share attractive learning activities for adult learners.

Thanks to expertise of „Saricam Halk Eğitimi Merkezi" from Turkey, "Formative Footprint" from Spain and „Voluntariat Pentru Viata" from Marasesti, leaded by "Team4Excellence" Association from Constanta, Romania, educators and staff involved in adult education staff develop digital skills and use appropriate teaching methods to support adult learners on their path to digital transformation.

Everyday Digital Skills Assessment - Web App

The Project Result 2 is a Web App that allows adults to identify the level of understanding of the use of digital technology, providing advice for improving their online behaviour.

The Web App was designed in collaboration with educators and other adult education staff, which can be used to assess the level of understanding of technology and internet use by adult learners aged 55+.

The Web App is a formative objective assessment designed around the DigComp framework that provides situational questions, answers and advice on everyday digital competences. Questions have the role of assessing skills as well as raising awareness about potential use of technology that can improve adult life (e.g. online banking, paying bills, scheduling medical appointments, using Google Calendar for reminders). The app offers advice on how to improve their online behaviour, stay safe online and become more digitally competent. Users are also informed about the risks associated with being online, such as cyberbullying, trolling, isolation, inappropriate content or relationships.

The app addresses the 5 areas of DigComp (The European Digital Competence Framework for Citizens) digital competence and consists of a series of questions about everyday digital skills. The design of the questions was tailored to the learning characteristics of adult people, making the app more interactive and attractive. The questions not only provide a result, but also link the result to an advice on improving the 5 areas of DigComp. Upon completion, a certificate is generated in the 5 DigComp main areas.These include:

Information and Data Literacy
- Browsing, searching and filtering data, information and digital content
- Evaluating data, information and digital content
- Managing data, information and digital content

Communication and Collaboration
- Interacting through digital technologies
- Sharing through digital technologies
- Engaging in citizenship through digital technologies
- Collaborating through digital technologies
- Netiquette
- Managing digital identity

Digital Content Creation
- Developing digital content
- Integrating and re-elaborating digital content
- Copyright and licences
- Programming

Safety
- Protecting devices
- Protecting personal data and privacy
- Protecting health and well-being
- Protecting the environment

Problem Solving
- Solving technical problems
- Identifying needs and technological responses
- Creatively using digital technologies
- Identifying digital competence gaps

Web App Development Process

Each partner organization delegated educators, adult education staff to participate in a 5-day Co-creation lab (LTTA). 16 participants were directly involved in the creation of PR2 by participation in Co-creation lab. The app's sections were developed in collaboration with educators, with a focus on User Experience and User Interface. These elements were crucial for the App, as the goal was to provide the user with simple, efficient, relevant, and overall pleasant experiences.

SHEM developed a framework and requirements checklist for developing Questions and Advice. The partners collaborated in creating the questions and advice based on real-life situations that generate specific results according to the answers. This phase was based on previous information gathered during preparation surveys with the Target Group, ensuring the relevance of the advice to a real-life problem. The consortium developed a question bank for each area and subarea of Digcomp, consisting of 50 questions based on possible digital situations and multiple choice answers, each associated with an advice.

SHEM was in charge of creating the app. SHEM collected the questions and advice and incorporated them into the app.

The App was internally tested by all partners to ensure the highest quality. Each partner invited adults from different areas of knowledge to ensure multidisciplinary feedback. The content and the design of the app were piloted by the target group to obtain their validation. To achieve this, Google forms in different languages were created and 150+ respondents used the platform and completed our survey questionnaire. The validation results were used to improve and validate the work. In seminars hosted by partners, the Web App was discussed and reviewed collaboratively with educators and other adult education staff.

Web App Validation Seminars

DIFA Project Consortium organized validation seminars to introduce the **PR2 'Everyday Digital Skills Assessment - Web App '**. The purpose of the event was to share the **'Web App'** and have educators and other adult education staff discuss and review it. The main aim was to raise the awareness of the participants about the need to improve the online behavior of adults in order to become more digitally competent in the 5 areas of DigComp.

The DIFA Project was presented at the start of the seminars, and the Web App was then introduced. Following the Web App presentation, discussions and feedback were encouraged to help improve the Web App and integrate it into adult education. 80+ educators, adult education staff participated in seminars to review the App for validation.

15th March, Spain

5th April, Türkiye

21st April, Romania

27th April, Romania

What's next?

DIFA digital education ecosystem will be an online learning platform designed with and for educators and other adult education staff, with information, tools and resources to support and enhance the delivery and management of educational programs.
DIFA digital education ecosystem aims to enhance digital transformation in adult education organizations by providing easy to use and customizable e-courses to empower adults 55+ to be active technology users.

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