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Lifelong Learning Programme

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Football – Learning - Integration

















Hattrick: Fußball – Lernen – Integration

Playing football in a team offers various opportunities of social learning and developing transversal competences — independent from cultural background. Migrants in Europe tend to have lower access to education institutions than the average population, they are much more often affected by unemployment and excluded from many social activities. Young male migrants in particular have a risk of becoming early school leavers and/or unemployed.

The football pitch, however, is one social location where integration seems to be successful in many cases. A lot of young migrant people show enthusiasm in (team) sports, with young men especially keen on football.

The basic idea of Hattrick is to use the potential which young migrant footballers display on the football pitch for re-entering education and vocational training and thus improving their social integration.



Hattrick project target group

The main target groups of the Hattrick project are:

- Young male migrants /young men with a migrational background
- Young male adults who are socio-economically disadvantaged with a low level of education or a risk of exclusion all aged 15-25 years and involved in a football club
- Football coaches working with this target group

Aims of the Hattrick project

Hattrick aims at

- Systematically expanding transversal competences acquired in football needed in professional life
- Opening a new informal pathway to education by exploring football clubs as new places of learning
- Engaging disadvantaged young men in lifelong learning activities

Better integration to the society

Football clubs will be explored as possible new places of learning through a two-fold training strategy:

- Hattrick will develop and test "FootbalLL" (Football and LifeLong Learning) workshops for 15-25 year old migrant football players
- 2. Enable football trainers to support their players in the process of integration into LifeLong Learning. To qualify them, a training programme called "Football Coach" will be developed

The close cooperation with football clubs throughout the project ensures the practical orientation in the project. The development of training and training materials is directly related to the needs of the football players and their coaches and will be tested at the football clubs.

Hattrick project activities

The main activities of the Hattrick project taking place between December 2009 and November 2011 are:

- Conducting a needs analysis in the football clubs to find out the educational needs of players and coaches
- On the basis of the results of the needs analysis a training programme for young migrant footballers will be developed by the project partners. In addition to that, a training programme especially for football coaches will be developed as well as training materials
- Both training programmes will be tested in the football clubs for a 6-month piloting phase
- The results of the piloting of the programmes for migrant footballers and their coaches will be gathered for the finalisation of the training design and the training materials
- The project will be presented at diverse European dissemination conferences

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