



**TLC PACK**

Teaching Languages to Caregivers

Newsletter June 2016



## Project Seminar - Cham, Germany

### A very positive event

On the 20th April 2016 the TLCPack project team came together with a group of esteemed guests from around Europe, to showcase the outputs of the project and to discuss the potential of the resources within a range of learning and training contexts.

Presenters and attendees represented the fields of health care, social care, migrant support and foreign languages, with an emphasis on professional development and training.

The seminar provided valuable information relating to the interdependent aspects of the various fields, all of which are potentially supported via the TLCPack project outcomes, with the focus of the day being on the provision of a platform for discussion and the exchange ideas.

A series of thematic round table discussions took place during the afternoon, enabling all attendees to contribute ideas and responses within a lively and supportive forum.



Head of the Volkshochschule im Landkreis Cham e.V., Winfried Ellwanger, welcoming the national and international guests.



Attendees in discussion during a thematic round table session

The seminar delivered specific presentations on:

- The challenges facing the health sector and European initiatives to address these challenges
- Training of adult health care workers in Germany
- Occupational specific language learning

With key-note speakers Dr. Hubert Zahnweh, Peter Fleckenstein (the health academy of East Bavaria) and Dr. Hans Rohrer f (TELC).

The three round table discussions focused on:

- Implementation of TLC Pack within national contexts, including the deployment of TLC Pack resources within the workplace
- Language profiling in the work place, along with sector specific topics
- Multi-sectoral approaches to vocational training, to include language acquisition and use

## TLC Pack inspires academic thesis



Bachelors student Nena Maksan of AP University College in Antwerp, decided to use the TLC Pack project as the vehicle for her bachelors

thesis. The thesis, focusing on the TLC Pack project and its relevance and/or impact, is formally titled 'To what extent can TLC-Pack contribute to the language development of migrant caregivers?'. In order to answer this academic question, it has been necessary to conduct a survey amongst stakeholders associated with residential care centres across the Flanders region.

Of the 90 regional respondents that have participated in the survey, there is a consensus that the ideal language levels to commence language support through the TLC Pack project are B1 and B2 of the CEFR (framework for languages). This notion was supported when communication was limited to peers and care receivers, though for higher level communication with supervisors and managers, it was generally considered that level C1 is more appropriate. According to Nene Maskin, this subsequent notion is based on a belief that a higher level of language competence is required for such dialogues to avoid the possibility of miscommunication and to ensure that continuity of care is provided.

The survey has revealed that currently only limited language support is being offered to foreign caregivers. Those care centres that do offer support, are mostly located in larger cities, while more provincial facilities often persist with limited or no language support.

Current support for language learning is being offered in the form of both individual language coaching in the workplace (37%) as in the form of an external language course (34%). The TLC Pack resources can be used for both types of language support, with individual language learners having the option to learn online, while teachers in language schools can use the PDF materials.

Finally, the survey has revealed a great deal of interest in the TLC Pack resources. Over two-thirds of the respondents believe that TLC-Pack can contribute positively to the language development of foreign language caregivers.

## TLC Pack resources available NOW!

Start using the TLC Pack resources right away, with all videos, sound files and unit manuals available from:

[uk.language-for-caregivers.eu](http://uk.language-for-caregivers.eu)

Whether you work in the care sector as a manager or supervisor, are responsible for staff training, a committed or aspiring care worker needing lanaguage support or an English language teacher, you will see that the TLC Pack resources have something of benefit for you.

Based on levels A2 to B2 of the CEFR language framework, the TLC Pack project provides language support within a



vocational context. It's completely free to use, doesn't require a log in and it can be used straight 'out of the box' or adapted and/or modified to suit your specific needs.

## Partners

- Volkshochschule im Landkreis Cham, (coordinator) Germany [www.vhs-cham.de](http://www.vhs-cham.de)
- ASEV (Agenzia per lo Sviluppo Empoese Valdelsa) Italy [www.asev.it](http://www.asev.it)
- IDEC (AINTEK A.E.) Greece [www.idec.gr](http://www.idec.gr)
- IFI (Instituto de Formación Integral, S.L.U.) Spain [www.ifionline.com](http://www.ifionline.com)
- LEAP (Language Education & Partnerships Ltd) UK [www.leaponline.eu](http://www.leaponline.eu)
- Linguapolis (University of Antwerp) Belgium [www.linguapolis.eu](http://www.linguapolis.eu)



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