



SPECIAL TRAINING EDITION

Newsletter

Januari 2015

VITAL VILLAGES 30/10 -4/11 2015 SNEEK (NL)

**Vital Villages: planning and development
for a sustainable and inclusive rural area**

Your in-service Training in Sneek, The Netherlands

Dates:

**Friday evening 30 October – Wednesday morning 4 November
2015**

This is your opportunity to learn about successful models for Village Visions, to share your experiences in this matter and to obtain useful skills and tools for community development.

Vital Villages is highly relevant for paid and voluntary staff of rural development organisations and institutes for adult education.

Background

Since the 70 of the last century, the situation in many rural areas in Europe has dramatically changed. A process of accelerated decline took place: a severe decrease of inhabitants and facilities, weak infrastructure, less employment, unoccupied houses and buildings, increased poverty, groups suffering from social exclusion, etc. This was also the situation in Fryslân, the province where the training takes place. Inhabitants and provincial government, both wanting a liveable rural area, looked for ways to stop the above-mentioned process. Together with community development workers, they searched for suitable actions in this situation. This was the start of the Village Visions. First the plans were rather rudimentary, but with the years we see a development towards almost professional Village Visions, made by the inhabitants themselves. Actual Village Visions cover a broad range of issues that are essential for the vitality of the village and suppose an active contribution of the inhabitants, including marginalised groups. Similar processes took place in other European countries, like UK and Denmark. As participation in village development requires a whole set of skills, education plays a key role in this process. This training will focus especially on Village Visions that promote a sustainable and inclusive rural area.

The training

Vital Villages consists of participatory lectures, study visits, practical exercises and peer consultation. Our staff has many years of experience in education and rural development.

After the training you will have insight in new tendencies and challenges in the rural area in Europe, in several models of Village Visions, in strategies leading to sustainable villages and to involve also the ageing population. You will experience that it is possible to stop the process of decline, to discover new perspectives for villages and their inhabitants and to realize new plans to increase liveability. You

will learn from the strong involvement of volunteers. You will have trained a set of relevant skills and tools. You will have insight in the role of municipalities, rural support organisations and public society. You have experienced 'the making of a Village Vision' and finally, you will be part of a growing network of persons and organisations active in Village Visions.

Venue

Participants will be hosted in single rooms in the friendly basic accommodation Stayokay Sneek, in the province of Fryslân, www.stayokay.com/sneek. The venue is wheelchair friendly.

Information and registration via info@platformlearnforlife.nl

Learn for Life delivers this training in cooperation with Welzijn Midden Drenthe and Doarpswurk (NL).

Our PIC code is 948412748.



HEADLINES PROGRAMME TRAINING VITAL VILLAGES

Friday 30 October

During the day: Arrival of participants
18.00 Welcome meeting and dinner, practical arrangements and finances

Saturday 1 November

Morning:
Opening ceremony Vital Villages, presentation programme
Presentation of participants, their expectations and their organisations



Personal learning objectives,
bottlenecks and pride
The province of Fryslân, village
organisations and community
centres, provincial policy on rural
development and active ageing
Village Visions – The Model(s)

Afternoon:
Village Visions – The Practice

Sunday 2 November

Morning:
Lectures & presentations on
innovation and challenges in the
rural area

Afternoon:
Study visit #1 to a village that
made a Village Vision
Citizens' participation in Village
Visions

Evening:
Village enterprises and the
ageing population
Input of participants.

Monday 3 November

Morning:
Peer learning
Useful tools in Vital Villages
work

Afternoon:
Study visit #2 to a village that
made a Village Vision

Tuesday 4 November

Morning:
Peer learning
Group work: assignments where
the learning outcomes are
applied

Afternoon:
Key principles for VV work & how
to translate this to your own
practice

Evening:
Evaluation workshop and future
steps
Closing ceremony
Bye bye dinner

Wednesday 5 November





Morning:
Departure

Information and registration
via info@platformlearnforlife.nl

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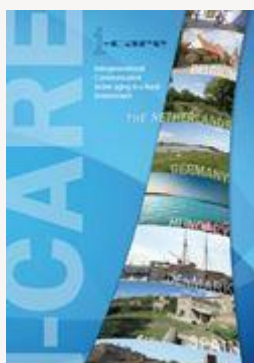
Financial support is possible following Erasmus+ KA1 mobility projects. Contact your National Agency.
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Project I-CARE

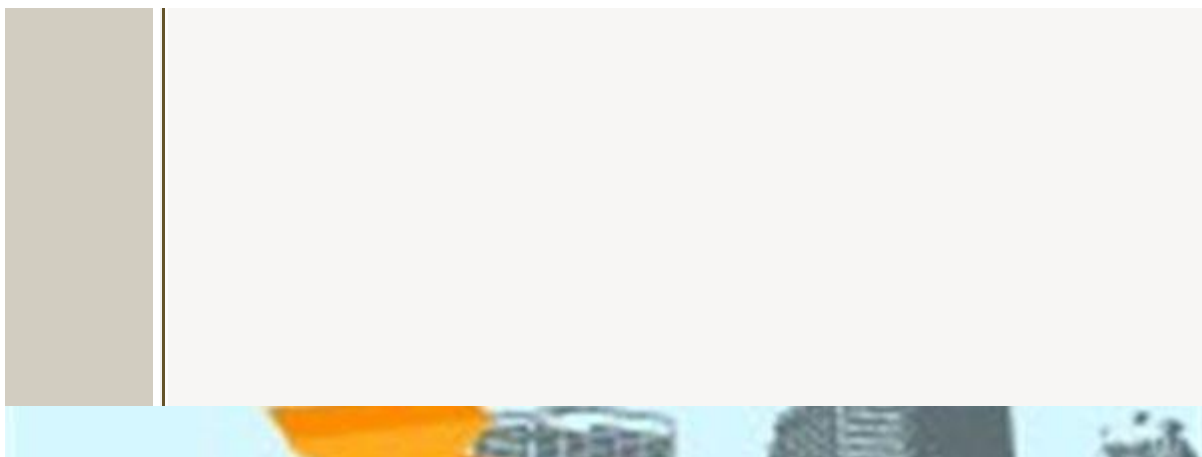
This is a Grundtvig Learning Partnership of Learn for Life in collaboration with Welzijn Midden-Drenthe. It is a project about intergenerational strategies on learning and ageing in rural communities.

The final brochure is available in English language.



**LEARN FOR LIFE WISH YOU
NEW LEARNING EXPERIENCES IN 2015**





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