

## LINC – Outdoor Learning for Integration through Nature and Cultural Encounters

The ambition of giving newly arrived immigrants relevant information about the society they now live in has been handled in different ways in the European countries.

In the evaluation “Samhällsorientering på modersmål i Östergötland” ([www.squoosh.se/images/uploads/content/pdf/rapport\\_1\\_ver5.pdf](http://www.squoosh.se/images/uploads/content/pdf/rapport_1_ver5.pdf)), it was clear that it is very difficult to reach this group with social information. The evaluator emphasized that the teaching methods were mostly very traditional and poorly adapted to the target group.

There are many indications that the lack of integration causes social problems and high costs for both the individual and society. We understand that it is a problem that is not unique to Sweden, but these experiences are shared by the majority of EU countries that receive immigrants. Based on this, the idea of finding new ways of teaching and integrating newcomers was raised. The uniqueness of this project lies in the use of outdoor learning / teaching methods to reach goals and objectives.

All partners in the consortium have competencies and experience in Outdoor Learning and in further training of teachers. In the consortium, there is also experience from the VET sector.

### **The project aims to:**

- Develop methods to increase opportunities for integration for newly arrived immigrants through nature and cultural encounters.
- Educate the communicators in Outdoor Education to broaden their skills and give them the opportunity to reach this group in a more effective manner.

### **Expected outcomes / goals:**

- Through an international collaboration, we will create a training plan with concrete methods on how newcomers can best be integrated into society.
- We expect that the project will lead to a better integration in the long term, thereby creating greater equality among the population.
- The expected short term impact is to increase the competencies of the communicators of the local authorities or equivalent.
- The syllabus produced will be adaptable to different settings and will be able to be offered to relevant target groups in different countries.
- The course based on the new syllabus is expected to give the participants new perspectives on their work and new possibilities for cooperation.



- It is expected that the project result will be spread to other institutions in the VET sector.

The dissemination and exploitation plan is integrated in the project process. Dissemination activities are carried out continuously during the entire project period, starting as information about the project's aims and objectives and ending with dissemination of the result. The project website will hold continuous and updated information about the project and the final result will be downloadable.

The project partners will apply a proactive communication strategy to reach representatives of immigration authorities, provincial governments, local authorities and other relevant institutions.

The project will be conducted in English.

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