



MUNICIPAL URBAN CLEANERS ON HEALTH AND SAFETY FOR BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE AND WELL-BEING

2nd Newsletter of MUC Training for Health, Erasmus+ Project 2020-2023



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Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

THE EU PROJECT – UPDATES TWO YEARS IN:

This project was introduced in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic , and aims to address the health and safety training needs of a particularly vulnerable group that of Municipal Urban Cleaners.

Following two years of implementation, this project has already created the training material in the form of five modules which will become available through an online platform. Trainees and trainers will have the opportunity to access the online platform for free while the platform will be available up to five years after the end of the project. The objectives of the MUC training curriculum are the following:

1. Identify common workplace hazards;
2. Understand how to reduce/control risks;
3. Increase the health and digital literacy of urban cleaners
4. Cope with everyday stressors to their mental health
5. Increase their health and digital literacy and know where and how to look for health-related information

KEY ACTIVITIES DURING THE PAST YEAR:

Despite the ongoing pandemic, the consortium held multiple events, conferences, workshops and meetings in order to disseminate information on the project. Especially the partners of the consortium, representing three European municipalities; ADDMA, VEDA and ADRANO have made extraordinary efforts to disseminate the purpose of the project and reach the Target Group.

On April 13th 2022, the Municipality of Andrano, in association with ARO7/LE - Ambito di Raccolta Ottimale N. 7 of the Province of Lecce, Municipality of Botrugno and Azienda ERCAV (the company responsible for the waste collection of waste on behalf of Municipality of Andrano) organized an event entitled “L’educazione ecologica per bambini che vogliono salvare il mondo” (Ecological education for children who want to save the world). Students of the schools in the area, cultural associations and citizens joined the event.



Information stands were set up and conference delegates explained the importance of separating garbage collection for the protection and respect of the environment. The event also addressed issues related to risk prevention in the MUC workplace. The MUC project, objectives, results to date and future plans were presented.



VEDA presented the MUC project goals, activities, and partners to local stakeholders during an informational event, held at the Varna Regional Information Center for EU Funding on June 22nd, 2022.



The presentation has stressed on the outputs and results, achieved by the members of the MUC project consortium so far as well as on the e-training program, currently in preparation by the consortium's members. Participants from the Economic University-Varna showed interest towards the MUC training contents and the Erasmus+ Program to be further explored as an additional opportunities for their students. Other participants in the event came from the City Region Odessos, Varna Municipality, "To Preserve the Women" Association, Regional Agency for Entrepreneurship and Innovation Varna, National Alliance for Social Responsibility.

Another informational event was scheduled and held on June the 27th, 2022, at the VEDA meeting room in Varna. It was organized with the aim to disseminate MUC project-related information to representatives of the Vocational Training Center Victoria, National Service Advices in Agriculture, and several other private companies with interest in waste management.



Prolepsis Institute will present the MUC project at the 15th European Public Health conference that will be held in Berlin, between the 9th and 12th of November 2022. The scientific poster presented will be titled "Occupational Health and Safety of Municipal Urban Cleaners: Identifying their training needs and gaps". The abstract presents the results of the qualitative study concerning the main barriers in occupational health and safety training of MUCs, as collected during the first phase of the project. Prolepsis is one of the three partners that has contributed to the content of the modules, along with IKM Pro and CSI.

First in-person Transnational Partners Meeting:



Due to the ongoing pandemic since the beginning of the project, the consortium has not managed to have an in-person meeting for almost two years. This past June however, the first hybrid TPM was held in Nicosia, Cyprus, hosted by CSI. This meeting was a great opportunity for the partners to update the consortium of their latest activities that have to do with the project, illustrate a first draft of the modules they've been making, give and receive feedback and organize the upcoming training event in Bulgaria, hosted by VEDA.

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT NEXT:

Finalization of the module content, including interactive exercises and videos with real-life scenarios.

The MUC e-learning platform will include all the training modules, as well as assessment tools to evaluate user performance. The platform will also include communication and networking tools that will allow members to register their profiles and to identify other participants to create thematic community groups.

The implementation and evaluation of the developed training course will take place through a short-term joint staff training event (CI) in Varna, Bulgaria this coming January. This will be organized over 3 days and will involve key staff members of partner organizations.

For more information please go to our website <https://muc-trainingforhealth.eu/> and “like” us on Facebook: @MUCtrainingforhealth



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