

Planning & workpackages

The project was launched on 1st November 2007 and runs until the end of October 2009.

November 2007 – September 2008

- Planning and positioning of the project in relation to European and national policies concerning the assessment of prior learning (APL) and LLL.
- Exploration of existing APL-tools and instruments.
- Selection and analysis of relevant profession's and training profiles.
- Start of dissemination: development of website & newsletter.
- Development of methodology and 1st draft of instrument.

October 2008 – October 2009

- Testing of 1st draft in several settings.
- Feedback, design of 2nd draft and testing of 2nd draft.
- Final editing of the FamCompass and its user's manual and translation in English and in the languages of all partner countries.
- Further dissemination of the FamCompass and valorisation of the project's outcomes.

Partners & contacts

Most of the participating organisations have a very broad experience in working on international projects and/or in APL:

- Comenius University, Philosophical Faculty, Department of Andragogy (SK)
staryweb.uniba.sk/e_index.htm
- Deutsches Jugend Institut (DE)
www.dji.de
- Higher Institute for Family Sciences (BE) (coordinating partner)
www.hig.be
- Institute for Creative Proceedings (PL)
www.ipt.pl
- Romanian Institute for Adult Education (IREA) (RO)
www.irea.uvt.ro
- Västra Nylands folkhögskola (FI)
www.vnf.fi
- Vilnius College of Higher Education (LT)
www.viko.lt

PROJECT WEBSITE
www.famcompass.eu

Assessing and validating
skills and competences
obtained in family life:

FAMILY COMPETENCES PORTFOLIO

Multilateral Cooperation Project in the
'Lifelong Learning Programme'
of the European Commission – Grundtvig I

2007-2009



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Editor:
Gaby Jennes, HIG, Huart Hamoiriaan 136, 1030 Brussel



Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme

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Why family competences?

Faced with the problems and challenges of an ageing society and convinced of the importance to fully validate the knowledge, competences and skills adult learners have developed in non-formal training and/or work settings, this project will

develop an instrument to assess and validate the competences men and women have obtained in family life: the Family Competences Portfolio (FamCompass).

In the near future skills and competences obtained in family life will be in great demand considering the growing need for physical, as well as social and educational care. With a shrinking labour market supply and the pressure for longer careers, it becomes very important that the quality of the skills and competences men and women have obtained in family life, in their roles as educators, homemakers and care workers, can be validated.



How will the FamCompass work?

The FamCompass will take the form of a paper-portfolio and a computer programme, available in English and the official languages of the participating countries.

It will be tested in different settings.

The FamCompass will assess and validate the knowledge, skills and attitudes men and women have obtained in family life, in their roles as educators, home makers and care workers.

The portfolio methodology allows for a well documented and objective basis for the individual planning of training and/or work careers. Such a tool can be the basis for the official certification of knowledge, skills and competences acquired in family life and care.

The portfolio methodology is a process that strongly stimulates selfreflexion on one's own strong/weak points and is very much empowering: it learns applicants to reflect on their own possibilities and to identify ways to improve them, e.g. via schooling and training.

Where will the FamCompass be used?

The FamCompass will be used on several levels:

- ◆ to coach the intake for relevant education and training programmes;
- ◆ to grant exemption from exams and facilitate shorter schooling careers;
- ◆ to allow the validation of these skills and competences on the labour market in the sectors of care and childcare.

The FamCompass can be of particular use for:

- ◆ Institutes offering training programmes that seek to attract more adult learners in several fields, e.g. education/orthopedagogica, social work/psychosocial work, family coaching and assistance, foster care, teacher assistance, family learning, street corner work, etc...
- ◆ Adult learners who want to apply for these training programmes, in view of possible employment in these professions.
- ◆ Employers in these sectors.
- ◆ Centres for job coaching.

Meeting European goals in lifelong learning policy

The FamCompass will help lower the barriers to lifelong learning programmes for target groups that currently face a low participation in formal schooling programmes, e.g. women, elder citizens and immigrants, and increase their employability and career opportunities.

Interested in cooperation?

- ◆ Do you want to be informed about the project?
- ◆ Do you see areas in which the FamCompass can be of interest to your organisation or your target groups?
- ◆ Are you interested in testing the first drafts of the instrument?
- ◆ Do you want to help disseminate the FamCompass and the outcomes of the project?

Please don't hesitate to contact us:
Higher Institute for Family Sciences
tel. ++32 (2) 240 68 40
fax ++32 (2) 240 68 49
www.hig.be – europa@hig.be