

Fondazione Padre Alberto Mileno Onlus

Centro Studi sulla Dislessia e le DSA

Viale Dalmazia 116

66054 Vasto Marina CH



Grundtvig Project

DESSDYS

Development of Study Skills For Dyslexic Individuals

FINAL EVALUATION REPORT

27 JUNE 2011

Vasto, ITALY

INTRODUCTION

The evaluation activities were carried out during the entire project period (24 months) and included interviews with the project partners, to see how far the aims, tasks and procedures were understood and accepted or which problems appeared among the partners (e.g. shortfalls in the communication etc.)

All technical results/contents were subjected to a Peer Review process in all partner countries, through partner schools as well as, where appropriate, government agencies, related professionals and NGOs. All WP leader were responsible for the quality of their deliverables. The team leader (Italy as coordinating institution) assisted all the partnership in the identification of any difficulties (e.g. time delays, quality, administrative management etc.) and helped resolve the issues.

Each partner was chosen due to their knowledge of the subject and their ability to work in this type of collaborative environment. However, there could be frequently unexpected events in any project which could influence the timeline of the project. The role of the coordinating institution was to support all the partnership, reallocating tasks when there was slippage for whatever reason, and assuring that the project continued unhindered.

REPORTS

The first report was completed in June 2010 in order to be able to identify start-up and related issues. The intermediate report was carried out with the aid of the M-Tool adapted to the specific needs of this project, as well as other standard evaluation practised relevant for this context.

The second evaluation, planned for January 2011, was held with partner interviews and confirmed the results of previous report because the partners were busy with study pilots activities and there were no critical aspects to manage. During these months, as well as the entire Project lyfe-cycle, the communication between the partnership was constant and high productive.

The most important aspects evaluated are:

- a) the achievements of the project compared to the aims and objectives as set out in the project proposal;
- b) satisfaction of the dyslexic individuals towards their needs and understanding;
- c) satisfaction of support workers that have contact with the dyslexic individual.

Concerning points b) and c) you can refer to our detailed pilot study report in which we show how the target group (both students and teachers/tutors) considered usefull each of the study material we produced.

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In this report we will focus the results concerning point a), in other words, the achievements of the project compared to the aims and objectives as set out in the project proposal. To do this we used a questionnaire submitted to each partner.

The questionnaire asks to answer to a set of questions divided into two groups:

- Organization
- Compliance

We provided three possible answers per each of the items reported on the form:

- Poor (value = 0)
- Satisfactory (value = 1)
- Good (value = 2)

For the organization section we have 15 questions (max score of 30 points).

Section 1 – Organization
Organisation of work plans, meetings, project activities, roles. (Preparation, planning, communication, appropriate selection of participants, etc)
Effectiveness of content (Appropriate content of ongoing project material, clearly related to the aims & objectives of the project)
Leadership – sharing (Active role for all partners)
Meetings: Agendas - appropriate range and balance of activities (Mixture of activities e.g. coffee breaks, didactic sessions, free time)
Meetings: Discipline (timekeeping, prioritisation, matching objectives)
Meetings: Venues and logistics (Meeting rooms, equipment & materials, ICT, catering, transportation, accommodation etc.)
Clarity of understanding (Clarity of materials prepared for partners, partner contracts, financial instructions, progress reports, etc)
Overall coordination (Informing of communication with funding agency, regularity of payment, guidance and advice)
Active listening and cooperation (Coordinator to partner, partner to partner)
Active participation and commitment (All partners participating, commitment matching original intent)
Using common language, avoiding vernacular (Clarity of contractual language and everyday project language)
Information sharing, mutual understanding amongst partners
Trust, confidentiality (Security of individual partner issues)
Tolerance, freedom to express, respect of views
“Joie de Vivre” (General enjoyment of the project)

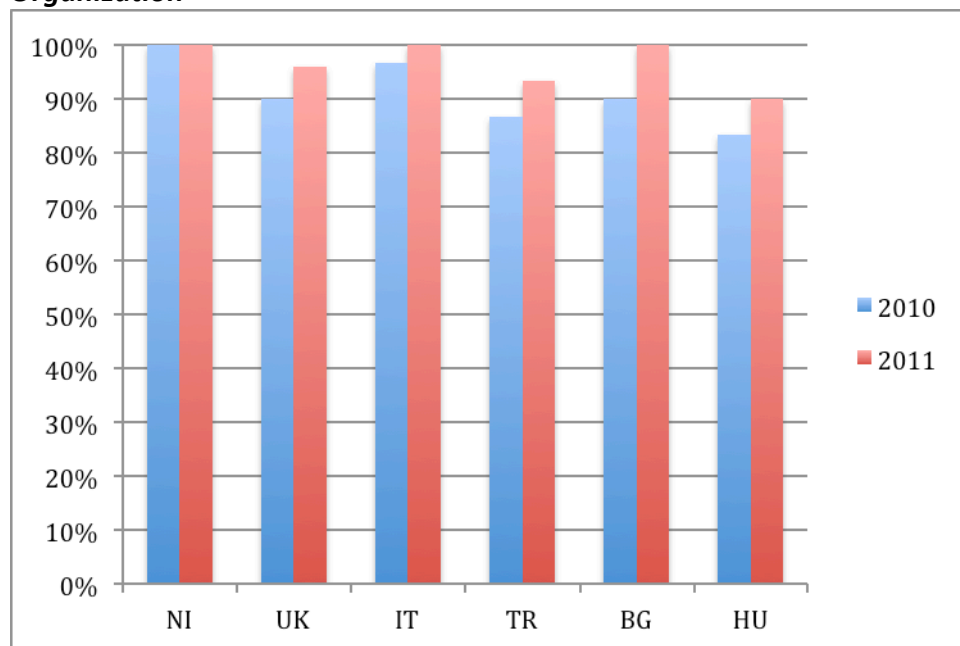
For the compliance section we have 8 questions (max score of 8 points).

Section 2 – Compliance
How was the respect of deadlines?
How would you rate the quality of work done by other partners?
How would you rate the quality of your work?
How would you rate the dissemination activities carried out so far?
What is your opinion on the proposed content to the target?
How would you rate the use of technology to achieve the objectives of the project?
How would you rate the overall quality of work taking into account the specificities of persons to whom it is addressed?
How would you rate the performance of assets over deadlines and objectives?

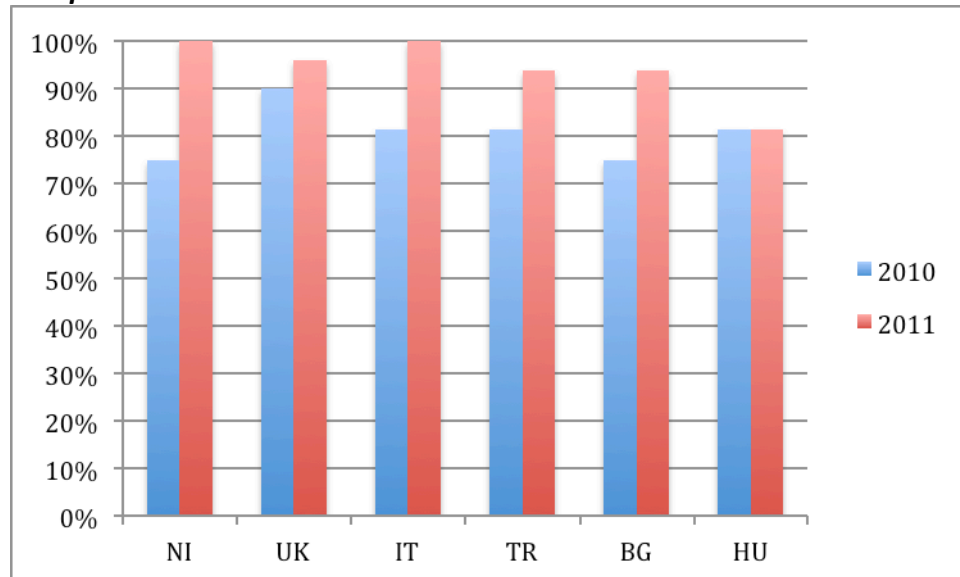
Furthermore we provided a section 3 to let each partner write anomalies or other problems that may have slowed or prevented the activities.

The graph below shows and compares the results (%) for organization and compliance between June 2010 and June 2011.

Organization



Compliance



RESULTS

As reported in both the above graph you can observe an increased percentage score for both “organization” and “compliance”. This means that partners are satisfied of their work and the cooperation was really good.

The final average result for organization is: **97%**

The final average result for compliance is: **94%**

These final results from the point of view of partners combined with the good results obtained during the pilot studies let us to conclude that the Dessdys project completely meets the objectives in the proposal, both in terms of target users satisfaction using the produced outcomes and in terms of general quality of all the activities in which partners were involved.