

netbox news

issue 3, 2013

WELCOME

Welcome to the third edition of NetBox News. In this newsletter, we will present our Community Learning Social Network – a key technological innovation at the heart of NetBox.

In order to support rural communities to create enduring learning partnerships, through the community audit process, which featured in Issue 2 of Netbox News, we began to categorise the learning assets that were readily available at community level and animate them for the benefit of local residents.

We found learning assets and needs under the following themes:






| 3 Sectors | 3 Realms of Learning | Themes |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Residents•Businesses•Service Providers | <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Community Skills•Professional Development•Personal Development | <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Inclusion•Diversity•Intergenerational•Wellbeing•Livelihood... |

Given the nature and challenges faced by rural communities in terms of the availability, range and access to education and training services, NetBox created community-specific social networks that allowed residents, businesses and service providers to share information, knowledge and skills in a way that was previously not available.

Whilst a major element of the NetBox Project was supported by ICT, significant success was achieved in the creation of face-to-face learning exchanges also.

Community Learning Social Networks

NetBox developed six dedicated Community Learning Social Networks, one in each partner country namely Ireland, United Kingdom, Romania, Lithuania, Portugal and Poland and they can be accessed at the following web addresses:

| | |
|---|--|
|  | netbox-oldcastle.ie |
|  | wiveliscombe-netbox.org |
|  | netbox-vfigueirasvpaul.pt |
|  | stefancelmare-netbox.ro |
|  | kulautuva.lt |
|  | netbox-ryki.pl |

As a registered member of the local community learning social network, you have the possibility to do many individual and shared activities:



NEWS

Create, share and view local news and updates



SOCIAL

Connect with neighbours online and build your social network



DIRECTORY

Access the directory of local businesses and services



KNOWLEDGE

Create or take a course or training programme offered by people in your local community



MARKET

Exchange skills and assets through the Netbox Market

Many of the acting partners within the project also provided free ICT training courses to residents in their communities with low digital literacy skills to encourage membership and engagement with the local NetBox sites. To date we have more than 300 Europeans signed up to the local sites and interacting and sharing their skills, views and ideas.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the NetBox Project, a step-by-step user guide, titled *The NetBox* has been produced in each partner language and is available to support your activities on the Community Learning Social Networking Sites.

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Breaking News

NetBox at Online Educa Berlin

NetBox has been invited by the Executive Agency of the EU Commission to participate in the 19th International Conference on technology supported learning and training: the largest global e-learning conference for the corporate, education and public service sectors *Online Educa Berlin 2013*. This invitation will afford the project an invaluable opportunity to disseminate its activities, exchange experiences and insights with projects from across the globe and to contribute to shaping the future of ICT for learning policies in Europe.

For more information on the conference, visit <http://www.online-educa.com/>

Save the Date

We are delighted to announce that the date for the Netbox Final Conference has been agreed. The final closing conference of the project will take place:

Date: Thursday, 23rd January 2014

Venue: Wyspa Wisła Conference Centre, Ryki, Poland

The purpose of the conference is to present the results and tools of the project, disseminate the policy findings and to showcase the experience and learning from the six local communities active in the project over the past 24 months. It will be a celebration of project and we will have a number of special invited guests in attendance...



Lifelong
Learning
Programme