

Facilitating intergenerational
solidarity and learning through
building friendships between
youngsters and elderly



PR4

Piloting Report



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1. Introduction

INTRAS decided to conduct an online session to test the Befriending Networking Platform with young people to get their feedback about it. Calls for participants were launched through our networks and emails. Twelve people signed up for online session, although finally only ten took part in the session on the 20th of December. We choose this date because it was the International Human Solidarity Day.

We reached the target of testing the platform with ten young people and most of them enrolled on the platform in the following days. Among them there are eight women and two men. Four of the ten participants also took part in previous pilot/mentoring activities carried out in the framework of the project.

2. Methodology

The pilot activities were organised as follows. After launching the call, we contacted the people who had registered, gave them more information about the project and sent them the link to access the virtual session. The session lasted about an hour and a half. After a brief presentation of the project, its objectives and expected results, we presented the platform. We showed all the functionalities of the platform: the blog, the forum with its topics, the personal area that each user can customise as he/she wants, the possibility of creating groups and the learning tools developed for those interested in becoming befrienders or learning more about intergenerational activities.

We tried to present the contents in a dynamic way, making the attendees participate as much as possible, asking questions and giving space to share ideas and experiences. After the session, we asked participants to fill in an anonymous evaluation questionnaire via Google form.

3. Results

The evaluation questionnaire has been completed by all participants and these are the results:

ORGANIZATION AND STRUCTURE OF THE PLATFORM

1. The Platform is well-organised and easy to navigate: 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 4, 5, 5, 4 = average 4,8
2. The Platform effectively guided me through the information and resources it contains: 4, 4, 5, 3, 5, 5, 5, 5, 4, 5 = average 4,5

CONTENT

1. The information provided in the Platform was relevant and informative: 4, 5, 4, 4, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5 = average 4,7

2. The Platform included a variety of content types (blog posts and learning material/tools) that enhanced my understanding: 5, 4, 5, 5, 5, 4, 5, 5, 5, 4 = average 4,7
3. The Platform addressed key issues and challenges related to befriending services for youth and the elderly: 5, 4, 5, 4, 5, 4, 4, 5, 5, 5 = average 4,6
4. The Platform provided practical tips or steps for engaging in befriending services: 4, 4, 5, 4, 5, 4, 4, 5, 5, 5 = average 4,5

USER-FRIENDLINESS

1. The language used in the Platform was clear and easy to understand: 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 4, 5, 5, 5 = average 4,9
2. I found it easy to share information from the Platform with others: 4, 4, 4, 5, 5, 3, 4, 5, 5, 5 = average 4,4
3. I found the tools interesting and engaging: 5, 5, 5, 4, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5 = average 4,9

ACCESSIBILITY

1. The Platform was accessible on various devices (e.g., desktop, mobile, tablet): 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5 = average 5
2. The Platform was easy to access, with no technical difficulties or barriers: 5, 4, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 4 = average 4,8
3. The Platform provided contact information or support for individuals with accessibility needs (e.g., visual impairment, hearing impairment): 4, 4, 3, 3, 3, 4, 4, 3, 4, 3 = average 3,5

Suggestions:

- *It would be great if every user could submit posts to the blog, possibly undergoing moderation before publication.*
- *I look forward to seeing a larger user base in the future, making the platform a dynamic space for sharing experiences.*
- *It might be nice consider involving older people on the platform as well to create a new space for intergenerational dialogue. This initiative could also bridge the gap, introducing them to new technologies.*

4. Conclusions

The pilot phase of the platform has demonstrated its appeal among young individuals, serving as an engaging space for knowledge exchange, information sharing, networking and discussing about befriending. It has successfully captured the attention of young users, and has been highly appreciated as a space to provide them with a valuable avenue for interaction and dialogue.



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