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### DOWN SYNDROME AND ICT TOOLS

#### The project DisFIT: the use of ICT of people with disabilities

(Source: WorkingTri21 Facebook page)



The project DisFIT (**F**ascinating **I**CT tools for people with **dis**abilities) – funded some years ago, in terms of the EC Lifelong Learning Programme “Leonardo da Vinci Partnership Action” – is a platform consisting of different modules that facilitate use of digital and ICT tools to improve social skills and knowledge of people with disabilities. The modules range through educational tasks and tutorials, interactive digital films, registered workshops on Art Therapy and Recording Reality and creating an internet magazine, all based on simple communication and in easy-to-read text.

DisFIT is a place where a community of therapists, teachers, students and learners is built with one aim – to help people with disabilities integrate in social life and the labour market by facilitating the use of digital and ICT tools to improve their social skills and knowledge, and to live their lives fully.

Behind DisFIT is a team of five different institutions from Poland, Bulgaria, Portugal, Italy and Latvia with different educational backgrounds, but a common goal – working for the well-being of people with special needs.

- Polskie Stowarzyszenie na Rzecz Osób z Upośledzeniem Umysłowym, Poland (NGO, [Website](#))
- Social Innovation Centre, Latvia (NGO, [Website](#))
- Zespół Szkół nr 6 w Rybniku, Poland (School, [Website](#))
- Initiatives for Civil Society, Bulgaria (NGO)
- Associazione VIAINDUSTRIAE, Italy (NGO, [Website](#))
- Instituto Politecnico de Santarem, Portugal (University, [Website](#))

For further information: <http://disfit.eu/>

**REGISTER TO SAFE SURFING ONLINE TRAINING**  
**Data protection for people with intellectual disabilities**  
**(Source: Inclusion Europe newsletter)**



[Safe Surfing](#) is an innovative project developed by Inclusion Europe and four of its members –Mencap, Anffas, Plena Inclusion and PSOUU – to train persons with intellectual disabilities on data protection and safe online behaviour.

The goal of this project is to provide persons with intellectual disabilities with personal support and knowledge to help them use the internet and share information with others in a safe way.

The Safe Surfing training consists of five interactive online sessions of around 30 minutes. Each session covers an important aspect of safe online behaviour, such as:

- What is a personal data and how to protect it
- The dangers of internet
- Mobile devices and apps
- How to protect yourself on Facebook
- What to share on the internet

Participants will receive information before and after each session, as well as tips and exercises. For each module, participants will be able to ask questions directly to the trainer during the session, and also contact the trainer before and after the session.

Project partners recommend having a support person present during the training. The support person can be, for instance, a family member or a friend; someone who also uses the internet. The exact dates of the training depend on the language you choose.

All the necessary information to register in each language of the project can be found here:

- To register to the training in English, please click [here](#).
- To register to the training in French, please click [here](#).
- To register to the training in Italian, please click [here](#).
- To register to the training in Polish, please click [here](#).
- To register to the training in Spanish, please click [here](#).

## NEWS FROM EDSA MEMBERS

### Visit Hungary's first café operated by people with special needs (Source: welovebudapest.com)

Serving multiple roles for the Budapest community, District VIII's recently opened Nem Adom Fel Café & Bar is the country's first eatery operated by people with special needs. While this welcoming place is appealing simply as a pleasant spot to have coffee, sandwiches, and cake, the café also provides its workers with valuable experience that can be difficult for them to attain otherwise, and functions as a public demonstration of the considerable capabilities of those with physical and mental challenges.



“Hungary's first eatery where almost all employees live with some kind of disability – mostly with mental challenges, Down's syndrome, and autism, but also some visually or hearing impaired or physically disabled workers – is the recently opened Nem Adom Fel (meaning “I Won't Give Up” in Hungarian) Café & Bar, found in a bustling area of District VIII.”



Nem Adom Fel offers its employees a rare opportunity to gain real-world work experience, and also gives them the chance to interact with mainstream society in an ordinary environment, allowing these workers to demonstrate their considerable capabilities, which is probably the café's most important mission. Naturally, this

works in reverse, as well: anyone can interact with people living with disabilities here, and recognize the valuable roles in society that can be held by many people with mental and physical challenges.

Originally, this space was meant to be a venue for meetings of the Nem Adom Fel Foundation, since it was often difficult to find a gathering place for this organization aimed to assist Hungary's special-needs community. However, the facility quickly developed into a café where everyone is welcome to chat, work, study, eat a sandwich, or drink a coffee – and naturally, Nem Adom Fel Café & Bar is wheelchair friendly, and welcomes guide dogs (and all other dogs).

For further information:

<http://nemadomfelkavezo.hu/>

<https://www.facebook.com/nemadomfelkavezo>

**Down Syndrome Albania Foundation (DSA) is searching for an occupational therapist to train its staff**



Down Syndrome Albania Foundation (DSA) is searching for an occupational therapist which can come to Albania and train the staff or our DSA Achievement and Development Center where we offer therapies to children with Down syndrome (0-10 years old).

We need a long time experienced occupational therapist which:

- Speaks English
- Can come and stay in Albania for at least one week
- Train/orient our staff in the occupational area including sensory development issues, fine motor skills issues.
- See and evaluate some of the children at our center and help the center develop some basic programs with the focus on the occupational therapy.

We would be able to cover accommodation, food cost and flights ticket (we can cover up to 350-400 euros maximum, thus the OT is preferred to fly from a country near to Albania/Europe) , but are not able to pay for any other professional fee.

Any volunteer? If yes, please write to us at:

[info@dsalbania.org](mailto:info@dsalbania.org) and [e.zaimi@dsalbania.org](mailto:e.zaimi@dsalbania.org)

Many thanks!

P.s.: please share with your colleagues!

Down Syndrome Albania Foundation Team

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### BECOME ADULTS IN AN INCLUSIVE SOCIETY 18TH – 19TH MARCH 2016 MARSEILLE



AFRT, UNAPEI, Trisomie 21 France and other associations join their efforts through « Alliance for Trisomy 21 » to organize in Marseille WDS-2016 (JMT-2016) on Friday-Saturday March 18th-19th. The aim of these days is to show the various ways for a person with T21 to be part as anyone, from childhood to adult, in an inclusive society. On Friday late afternoon, a large place will be given to the practice of various arts.

On Saturday, the main talks will be on:

- The Easy Reading and Comprehension as a tool for inclusion
- The EU program on easy tourism by P. Vulterini from AIPD
- A talk on one aspect of the very large consultation performed by Inserm on the various aspects of « The intellectual deficiency »
- A talk on « A better dentition for a better smile »
- A summary of the various on-going trials for Down syndrome

Most of the summaries will be given also in Easy Reading and Comprehension

We hope a large participation from French speaking persons all around the world.

For more information: [www.afrt.fr](http://www.afrt.fr)

**IV Ibero-American Congress on Down Syndrome 2016**  
**“Right to the future, a future of Rights”**  
**Salamanca, 16th -18th March 2016**



Organised by FIADOWN, DOWN ESPAÑA and INICO of Salamanca University, the IV Ibero-American congress on Down syndrome will take place in Salamanca (Spain) on 16th – 18th March 2016. Some leading specialists in Ds from Spain, United States, Mexico or Argentina, among other countries, will be involved in this event.

This event is particularly recommended for people with Down syndrome with a good level of autonomy; professionals, managers, program managers of organizations and institutions, supporting people with Ds and their families in Latin America, relatives of people with Down syndrome, students and people interested in research, innovation and improving the support of people with Ds.

The congress aims to cover five objectives:

- Provide an overview of current developments in research on Down syndrome.
- Define the current challenges and priorities for people with Down syndrome in Latin America, consistent with the ideal defined by the UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities.
- Help in detecting specific aspects regarding Down syndrome (compared to the other intellectual disabilities and the rest of disability in general).
- Guide and specify actions, programmes and lines of action that should be implemented in the coming years in relation to people with Down syndrome and their families.
- Define an agenda for Latin American research on Down syndrome.

For information about registration, costs and the programme:

<http://down-inico2016.usal.es/>

## MAKE THIS NEWSLETTER REALLY YOURS!

Have you got any news that we could publish in EDSA newsletter?  
Please send us any information you would like to announce and we shall be happy to disseminate it all over Europe!

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