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www.support-the-ways-to-literacy.org

A II over Europe, there is widespread need to detect and react properly to basic skills deficiencies shown by clients during early stages of social, vocational or educational counselling.

Since practically all people who are affected by reading and writing problems hide their deficits due to a feeling of shame and embarrassment, advisers working in these fields need to

be trained to employ strategies and methods to carefully unveil these facts without offending the social and cultural integrity of their clients.

The project "Support the Ways to Literacy" develops "Guidelines for Counselling Disadvantaged Adults" that will sensitize and inform advisers working in several areas about different aspects and phenomena of illiteracy or borderline basic

skills and, above all, the sociological and cultural background of people affected by it. In this way their knowledge about and awareness of different aspects of "functional illiteracy" shall be increased.

The project also develops a Curriculum for Training Seminars for Social and Vocational Counsellors, working with disadvantaged persons.







Although our project will shortly come to an end, the basic skills issue will continue to play an important role at BEST. We have just recently started with a LEONARDO DA VINCI pilot project "Basic Skills for Work - Combined Basic Skills and Communication Training for Low-Skilled Workers in Five Different European

Work Sectors". There are specific training needs for certain work sectors, as demand for unskilled and low-skilled workers is declining. The increasing complexity of work processes requires higher literacy, numeracy and communication skills also at the lowest work levels, especially to meet quality and safety aspects.

The main products of the project will be **training materials and curricula for five sectors** where so far no workplace training concepts for basic skills and communication skills are available: hospital and care, construction and environment, tourism and leisure, cleaning and railway transport. The project **consortium comprises 28 partners from 11 countries.** Apart from the expert and development partners, 6 labour market administration organisations and 5 social partners take part in the project. **More information: www.best-training.com**

