

VALMOPRIS

**Internal evaluation report of the training course C1
“Train-the-trainer course for validating informal learning in prison”**

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1. Background

The training activity C1 is linked to the IO3, the creation of a train-the-trainer course for the validation informal learning in prison. The project consortium will create a structured, modular teacher training programme with a blended learning application to train prison teachers, how to effectively design informal competence oriented learning activities in the context of prison. In a first step of the development of the IO, the project team designed a training programme for a 5-days face-to-face training course which included the core elements of:

- Theory of informally and competence oriented learning
- Validation approaches with a focus on the approach used in the project “LEVEL5”
- Designing informal competence oriented learning projects and how to embed validation in the didactic process

The training course for prison educators was also the starting point for the piloting. The training course was evaluated, the feedback results are used to support the finalisation of the blended learning train the trainer programme which will be established in the second half of the project period.

2. Training data

The evaluated training course was organised from the 3rd -7th October 2016 in Rotterdam /NL. 20 persons (14 prison teachers, 6 representatives from the VALMPRIOS partnership) prison participated in the training course. The training sessions were delivered by the VALMOPRIS project partners.

3. Scope and method of evaluation

The evaluation of the training course is an integrative part of the quality assurance within the project and the results will be an important base for the finalisation of the whole blended

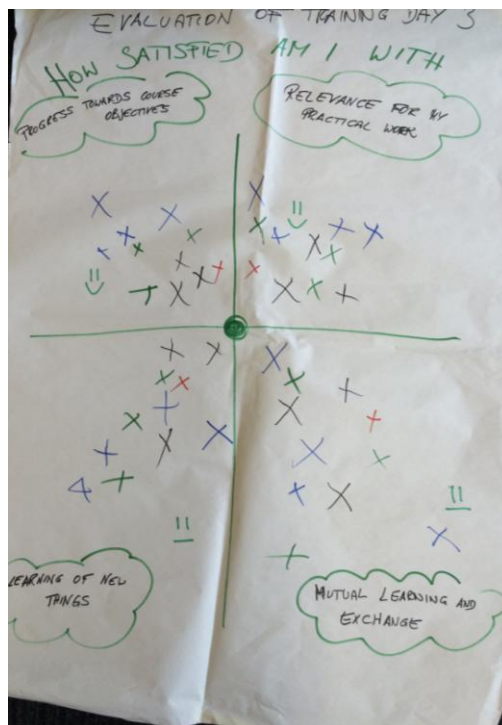
learning training course. The overall evaluation of the training aimed at assessing the quality of the delivery of the training sessions in general, the structure and clarity of content.

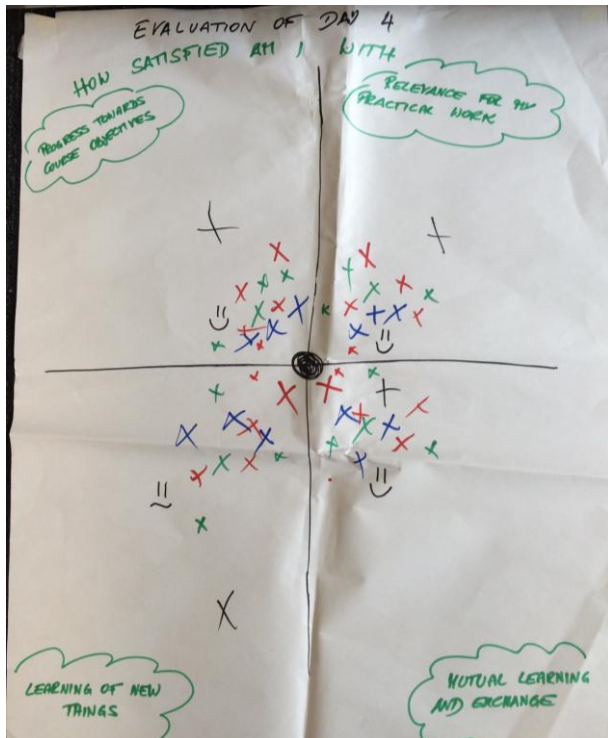
The training course was evaluated with the help of a **written questionnaire** which was distributed at the end of the training. Participants were asked to fill it in anonymously. In addition to that, each training day (starting on the second day) was finished with a short evaluation activity – **the bull’s eye**. Participants were asked to rate their feelings about:

- Progress towards course objectives
- Relevance of the content for their practical work
- Aspects of new learning
- Mutual learning and exchange

3. Evaluation results

3.1. The **bulls eye evaluation** at the end of the training days:





The closer the ratings are to the middle (the target) - the higher is the satisfaction of the participants. So it can be seen that the bull's eye evaluation reflects a very positive development. While at the second and third day of the training course some participants set their marks more in the middle of the rating fields, it seems that the level of satisfaction is very high in the end of the training – as it can be seen from the chart of the 5th training day!

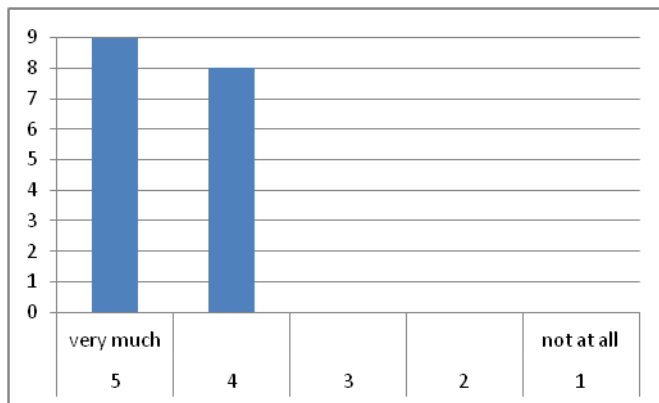
3.2. Evaluation results from the written questionnaire:

17 questionnaires were completed by the participating prison teachers

Here is a summary of the most important results:

3.2.1. General Feedback

Did you enjoy your participation in the training course?							
	5	4	3	2	1		
	<i>very much</i>				<i>not at all</i>	average	NA
	9	8				4,53	0



3.2.2 Organisation

How would you rate the quality of:							
	5	4	3	2	1		
	<i>excellent</i>				<i>low</i>	average	NA
Information and material in advance	7	7	3			4,24	0
Implementation of the course	5	12				4,29	0
Quality of the training material	6	9	2			4,24	0
Support of the trainer	16	1				4,94	0
Outside the training course, how do you rate:							
Accommodation, meals	11	6				4,65	0
Training venue	11	5	1			4,59	0
Social activities	10	5	1			4,56	1

Comments on the named aspects

Accommodation practical perfectly placed 3 mins from venue; loved the learning environment of the venue; fantastic trip on the boats/great host/informative visit to LAST CHANCE; excellent meals were all amazing

3.2.3 Structure, content and delivery of the VALMOPRIS training course

Please let us know if you agree or disagree with the following statements							
	5	4	3	2	1		
	<i>fully agree</i>				<i>disagree</i>	average	NA
The selection of topics addressed in the training course was appropriate	8	8	1			4,41	0
The aim of the VALMOPRIS training course was clear for me	9	8				4,53	0
I benefited from the transnational approach in the training course	6	10	1			4,29	0
Participants were encouraged to get involved actively	12	5				4,71	0
There was a good balance between theoretical input and workshops	3	9	4			3,94	1
The training content was provided in a clear and structured way	6	10				4,38	1
Training gave me the opportunity to exchange with colleagues from other countries	10	5	1	1		4,41	0
What I learned in the training is relevant for my professional practice	10	6	1			4,53	0
Training gave me the chance to learn about new tools	8	8	1			4,41	0
The time schedule of the training was appropriate	5	11		1		4,18	0
The training materials are clear and easy to use/understand	5	12				4,29	0

Comments on the named aspects
<i>It's been great to exchange knowledge and learn a new way to assess VINFL.</i>
<i>I think each partner was really involved in how they will pilot the experimentation in their own country so to find time to exchange with other partners</i>
<i>could have been done over fewer days</i>

3.2.4. Learning process and experiences

Did you enjoy your participation in the training course?							
	5	4	3	2	1		
					<i>nothing was new for me</i>	average	NA
<i>I learned a lot of new things</i>							
	2	10	4	1		3,76	0

Comments (If you choose 2 or 1 please explain the reason)
<i>I already was informed in Bordeaux Meeting of Valmopriss</i>

3.2.5 Clarity about next steps

Please let us know if you agree or disagree with the following statements							
	5	4	3	2	1		
	<i>fully agree</i>				<i>disagree</i>	average	NA
The aims of the piloting projects are clear to me	10	5	1			4,56	1
I know how to carry out the next steps for my piloting projects	12	4				4,75	1
I think I will need support to develop my piloting project	2	4	3	3	3	2,93	2

For the general delivery and organisation of the training course, the feedback was very positive. **The support given by the training team was highlighted.** Apart from this, participants had a clear idea of the training course and its aims and agreed that the training content was relevant for their professional practice. Positive comments were made on the great experience for participants to get to know colleagues from other countries and the fact that they will have the opportunity to practice the trained input during their piloting projects. It also seems that participants were quite confident on the learned aspects, since the feedback to the statement *“I think I will need support to develop my piloting project”* was balanced and only 6 persons in total are absolutely sure, that they will need support.

Most participants agreed that they were encouraged to contribute actively to the training session, but **the balance between theoretical input and workshops could have been better.** Another feeling of the participants was, that five days was a very long duration for the training content.

3.2.6 What participants liked most in the training

Summarising the mentioned aspects, people like most in the training, it was the

- Interactive and practical sessions
- Good atmosphere
- The transnational aspect of the training course - the exchange with other colleagues

3.2.7 Aspects that could be improved

As it was already mentioned in the general feedback to the training course, participants would have appreciated more interactive and practical exercises. There were some other single comments about the training room (a little too small for that number of people), the duration of breaks and the duration of the training course in total (5 days too long).

4. Conclusions and recommendations

Almost all aspects of the training course were rated “positive” or “very positive”. Only the category “balance between theoretical input and practical work” were rated more neutral. The overall satisfaction with the meeting is rated with 4,53 which can be seen as a very positive feedback.

Partners highlighted the good atmosphere in the training course and they liked that fact, that people from different prison settings took part in the training course so there was an exchange of experiences and they could learn from each other.

Proposals for the improvement of a further training course refer to the balance between theoretical input and practical workshops. For the further development of the training course concept, this aspect will be taken into consideration.