e-Protect 1st Newsletter

Safety Toolkit for Consumer and Personal Data Protection for the Elderly during Internet Use

Introduction to e-protect project

Studies estimate that by 2060 at least one in three Europeans will be over 65. The European Commission argues that digital technology can help older people to stay healthy, independent, and active at work or in their community for longer and it helps to improve our quality of life. Since the Digital Single Market strategy has been adopted, several studies have identified the lack of digital skills among the elderly.

Therefore, there is a strong need to educate EU citizens and the elderly on how to access and engage in online activities by experiencing high level of consumer and personal data protection. Specifically, the elderly generally lacks awareness of current security threats, and remain under-educated in terms of applying appropriate controls and safeguards to their computers and networking devices.

The e-Protect project aims to address the consumer and data protection needs during internet use of the elderly people through their familiarization with the use of ICT tools, by providing them tailored training opportunities that will meet the modern society challenges.

The primary target group of e-Protect project which is elderly people (people aged 65+) will be empowered and develop their self-confidence when using the internet and thus support the improved integration in the labour market and society.

Project objectives

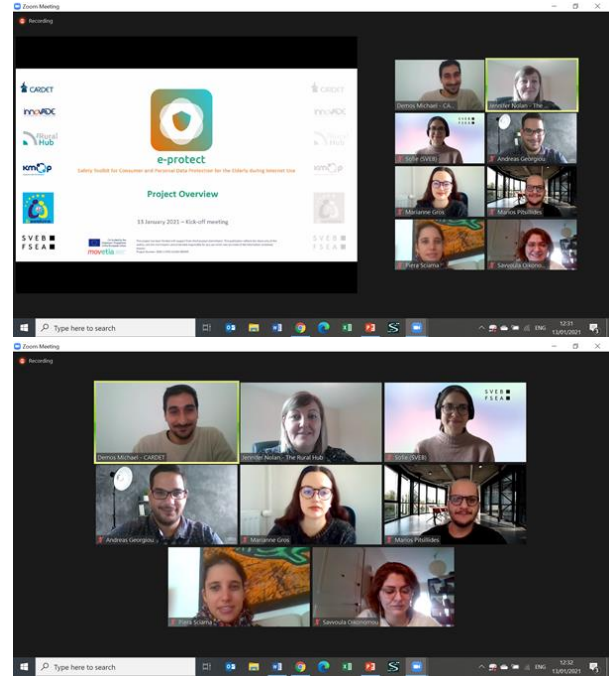Specifically, the project focuses in four main objectives:

- Enhance capacity building and professionalization of adult educators regarding training elderly people for consumer and data protection during online activities.
- Address the consumer and data protection needs during internet use of the elderly people through their familiarization with ICT tools, by providing them tailored training opportunities.
- Improve the overall quality of adult education and specifically of the elderly in the participating countries informed by educational, cognitive, and technological research.
- Strengthen the educational practices and reduce inequalities in access to education services for the elderly.

Kick-off meeting

The kick-off meeting of the e-Protect project took place online on the 13th of January 2021 and coordinated by CARDET. During the meeting representatives from all European

partner organisations had the chance to meet and discuss the project's plan. Apart from a detailed explanation on the deliverables and the implementation steps of the project, particular emphasis was given to the current situation about the digital consumer and data protection skills of the elderly societies in each country. Partners realised that the early identification of gaps and needs with accurate and reliable data is essential to guide the overall process of the project outputs in the future.

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The online kick-off meeting!

Meet the partners

CARDET

www.cardet.org

CARDET (Centre for Advancement of Research and Development in Educational Technology) is one of the leading research and development centre in the Euro-Mediterranean region, with global expertise in project design and implementation, capacity building, and e-learning.

INNOVADE LI

www.innovade.eu

INNOVADE is a social innovation organisation with extensive expertise in designing and implementing projects and solutions in diverse settings around the globe. INNOVADE is interested in the healthy and sustainable development of organisations, new businesses, start-ups, social enterprises and it is involved in various local and regional initiatives that promote entrepreneurship, innovation, and Information and Communication Technologies.

	The Rural Hub	www.theruralhub.ie

The Rural Hub is an association that specializes in community development and local initiatives to support the social inclusion of disadvantaged rural youth, migrant communities and isolated older residents, by providing a wide range of training and capacity development programmes.

	KMOP	www.kmop.gr

KMOP is a non-profit organization aiming to drive solution-oriented, knowledge-based interventions that are crucial to foster resilience and make the world a better place to live. KMOP's main areas of expertise include social welfare and health, employability and human rights protection, scientific research and development of know-how in social policy and social protection issues.

	eSeniors	www.eseniors.eu

E-Seniors is a non-profit non-governmental organization that aims at fighting e-exclusion by offering ICT training to seniors (people aged 55 and over). It strives to bridge the digital gap between generations, foster seniors' social participation, and propose activities encouraging seniors to spend actively their free time.

	SVEB	www.alice.ch

SVEB is the Swiss national umbrella organization for adult education and operates as a professional association and pressure group. It also manages the national training-of-trainers system and is responsible for eduQua, the national quality label for adult learning providers.