



ICF-Train Project

ICT-based Team Learning in ICF-CY

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What is the ICF-Train?

- ICF-Train is a LLP (Lifelong Learning Project) funded by the European Union to be carried out by 12 European partners.
- The main project goal is the development of a combined Web2.0 online tool to support team assessment and a real-time online skill training tool.
- These tools shall facilitate the usage of the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health for Children and Youth (ICF-CY; WHO, 2007) as "common language" for professionals and clients in service delivery and training in ECI – Early Childhood Intervention.

Project Aims

- To integrate ICF-CY training into selected mainstream training courses for professionals working in ECI, taking into account national diversity.
- To increase the quality of ICT-based professional training and service-delivery in prevention and rehabilitation for children with special education needs (SEN), by using ICT-learning tools in transdisciplinary teams.
- To promote the empowerment of parents as equal partners in the assessment-intervention process.
- To initiate processes of comparable data collection (based on the ICF alpha-numeric code) related to the comparability of services and of quality.
- To contribute to the higher participation of children with SEN and their parents focusing on strengths and resources and by parental access to professional assessment procedures in ECI.

The online Platform: <http://www.icf-training.eu>

Results / Tangible Outcomes

1. Online team assessment using ICF-CY as a language for professionals and clients.

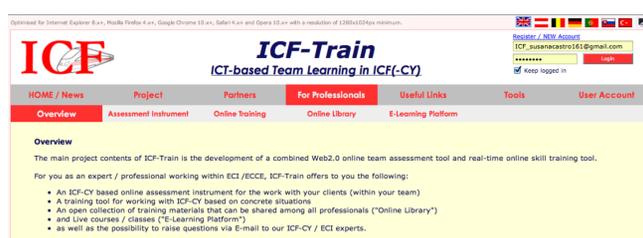
An online, systematic tool was developed to support ECI teams in documenting the assessment-intervention process for each children receiving their services. Specific online tabs were defined, encompassing all phases of the assessment-intervention cycle. The ICF-CY was introduced electronically into the platform so that each phase of this cycle may be coded using ICF-CY as a common language.



ONLINE TABS:

- ✓ Basic Data and Persons
- ✓ Journal / Observation
- ✓ Status Quo / Assessment
- ✓ Hypothesis / Process
- ✓ Functional Goals definition
- ✓ Evaluation / Documentation

2. Real-time online skill training tool in a community of practice (web2.0 based)



The online platform includes an interactive training tool on how to use the ICF-CY classification system. Each country has an ICF-CY specialist assigned, who will receive questions from professionals using this tool directly on his/her email account. The expert may respond to the trainees questions on the platform, so as to develop a forum of Frequently asked Questions on the ICF-CY coding system applied to the documentation of the assessment-intervention process with young children being served by ECI pluridisciplinary teams.

3. Customized tool kit for individualized learning

The platform also comprises a tab for individual training/study, through e-learning technology. Specific courses related with the ICF-CY and other subjects of interest for ECI professionals, will be uploaded. A demo e-learning course is available for beginner users and as a tutorial.



Implications for professional practice

By using this online platform, ECI pluridisciplinary teams across countries may find: 1) a systematic way of documenting the assessment-intervention process of young children being supported by them, using a common language (the ICF-CY classification system), which is internationally recognized as a valuable classification tool; 2) a common theoretical model which conceives disability as a multidimensional concept, mainly related with the functional status of each child and focused on participation outcomes, as recommended by the World Health Organization (2001; 2007).