SEE-U Project Final Event: Empowering societies through Education and Skills for the Twin Transition





On October 9, in one of the European Commission buildings, **the final event of the SEE-U project Senior Explorers of the Urban Environments** took place. Co-led by the European Association of Regional & Local Authorities for Lifelong Learning and AGE Platform Europe, this event showcased two years of work promoting digital skills and empowerment of older adults from the creation of walking tour.



Neža Repanšek from Slovenia Third Age University kicked off the event, encouraging participants to introduce themselves and share their motivations, which set a collaborative and engaging tone. More than 40 participants expressed interest in learning about the involvement of older generations in demographic transitions, replicating initiatives like Cork's Lifelong Learning city, and understanding how cities can drive ecological transitions. The participants were mainly academic and research institutions, governmental bodies, adult support associations, vocational training institutes, and cooperation organisations.

The event began with Andrea Bernert-Bürkle introducing the <u>SMALEI</u> project, highlighting sustainable practices in adult education, including installing solar panels and raising environmental awareness.





Next, Susanne Dobner from queraum, Vienna, shared the results of SEE-U, emphasizing the impact of digital workshops in three cities, where older adults explore their neighborhoods through the creation of digital walking tours, empowering a group which is often put aside or the

digital transition and therefore is more at risk of social isolation.

Finally, Kieran McCarthy presented Cork's Learning City model, focusing on intergenerational learning and community participation. Participants of the workshop, including one from Ukraine, were eager to learn how to replicate these initiatives in their own cities.

A highlight of the event was the release of the SEE-U handbook, which underscores the importance of digital literacy for older adults. It provides practical tools and strategies developed through collaboration with partners from Austria, Czechia, and Slovenia, aimed at closing the digital gap. The handbook includes insights into creating engaging learning environments that encourage older adults to explore their neighborhoods using digital tools.



"We would like to inspire older people and adult educators to organise their own digital walks in their neighbourhood. To this end you might want to read the following chapters that describe the learning process we developed for the older learners in the SEE U project, the possibilities of adapting our "ideal" or model process to the needs of the different contexts and people (i.e. learners, adult educators, organisations), the results of our

learning and training events (walks), examples of the digital competences the older learners acquired, and our own learning as adult educators." said Susanne Dobner from queraum to invite participants to explore the Handbook developed by the project.

This closing event opened the door to future collaborations at the intersection of lifelong learning and major trends like digitalization and demographic change.

Access the SEE-U handbook here.

For more information visit the project page https://www.see-u-project.eu/

SEE U was carried out by five partner organisations in Austria, Slovenia, Czech Republic, Switzerland and Belgium.



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Slovenian Third Age University

Slovenia



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