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- Linguapolis (University of Antwerp)
Belgium www.linguapolis.eu



www.language-for-caregivers.eu



Contact information

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Providing language and
intercultural support to
migrant caregivers

About the TLC Pack project

The project focuses on 'occupational specific language resources' to support migrants already working in, or with aspirations to work in, the care giving sector. It has been determined that this is one of the primary employment opportunities for migrant workers across Europe.



In addition to supporting the acquisition of occupational specific language, the project also recognises the importance of developing complementary intercultural knowledge and insights, to be included within the final resource package. This aspect of the resource pack seeks to highlight the intersection of caregiving duties and a range of cultural conventions to take into account the cultural values, beliefs and attitudes of both caregivers and those receiving care.



Strategy

The strategy of learning specific occupational language along with intercultural understanding is to be achieved via a combination of video resources (available via a dedicated YouTube channel) and companion resources in the form of guides for teachers and guides for learners (working independently). Online interactive tests will also be provided for learners to be able to evaluate their progress. An additional facility will be made available for teachers and learners to communicate and facilitate assessment of learning via the use of web-based audio and video capture tools.



The TLC Pack will be developed for levels A2 to B1/B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). It is an appropriate resource to complement and support Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL), in foreign language courses addressed to migrants. This assumes a basic understanding and level of competence in the target language, though for those without the pre-requisite skills other resources are available.

The TLC Pack will be developed in six languages (Dutch, English, German, Greek, Italian & Spanish) with national versions reflecting specific national needs, within a largely consistent topic and content framework.

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Materials

The TLC Pack materials will:

- enhance the language skills of migrant caregivers and those planning to work abroad;
- raise the awareness of cultural differences while promoting cultural understanding;
- provide the user with online and offline learning resources and opportunities;
- be applicable for language courses offered by language institutions, staffing firms and other types of caregiver organisations;
- identify cultural differences of treatments and tasks within the caregiving sector;
- offer learners various modes of exercises, videos and audio files.

TLC Pack can be used in various settings. For example at the workplace, in VET courses, in language courses specifically for caregivers, general language courses and in an informal setting where the learner is practicing self-learning.

Open seminar

A TLC Pack 'open seminar' will be held in Germany in early 2016. It is designed to bring together key experts, policy makers, local authorities and language teachers from across Europe. This is in addition to a wide range of dissemination activities existing throughout the project.

