

**Newsletter**

**3rd Edition**

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### **Testing the Reboot online training provision in Finland, Belgium, Greece and the UK**

Starting from early March 2020 and up to the last week of June 2020, the Reboot partners carried out extended pilot testing sessions for unemployed and underemployed graduates, as well as trainers in all project countries. Originally, the sessions were planned to involve both face-to-face and online sessions. However, due to the Covid-19 pandemic measures taken, the sessions have been rescheduled to be done exclusively online. Despite that, graduates, trainers and project partners responded well to this challenge, coming up with very fruitful and productive online sessions.

The goal of the Reboot pilot testing sessions was to explore the appropriateness and usefulness of the training material on soft skills development as presented online. Graduates and trainers have been provided with extended information on how the pilot sessions were to be implemented, as well as specially designed questionnaires to evaluate content, technical aspects, tests as developed, overall methodology and more importantly to suggest improvements for us to optimize the training delivery.

#### ***The Reboot pilot test sessions***

- 51 unemployed and underemployed graduates including migrants, long-term unemployed, 50+
- 15 trainers
- 12 weeks of training
- 4 countries

#### *Pilot testing feedback from learners and trainers*

##### *Learners' feedback*

75% of the learners were satisfied from their experience with the Reboot training platform and material. Below are the main points of what was liked most by them, as well as their main suggestions for improvements:

##### What was liked more

- Good mix of theory and practical examples
- Facilitating knowledge, understanding and development of soft skills
- Boosting self-confidence to better respond to job interviews
- Variety of sources
- Prompting learners to reflect on themselves as job seekers or employees
- Acquisition of better understanding of own strengths

##### Suggestions for improvement

- Improvement of platform layout to become more attractive and user-friendly
- More challenging exercises

- More balanced mix of visual elements versus narrative parts

#### *Trainers' feedback*

The trainers demonstrated a higher level of satisfaction (85%) than that of the learners (75%). The respective main points of what was liked most by trainers, as well as their main suggestions for improvements are as follows:

#### What was liked more

- Good mix of theory and practical examples
- The training provided tools to help others develop soft skills and discover something new about themselves
- Availability of practical tools
- Training on how to detect soft skills at many levels of everyday life
- Easy to apply and adapt in further training

#### Suggestions for improvement

- Optimisation of navigation (more simple and user-friendly)
- Improvement of platform layout/more clear structure
- Shorter descriptions (e.g. in tests)

#### **The Reboot Trainer and Learner Handbooks**

While working on the suggested improvements for the Reboot training platform, we are exploiting the pilot test results for the development of two extended Handbooks. One to support unemployed/underemployed University graduates to benefit from the Reboot training platform in an independent online learning mode (Learner handbook), and the second, complementary to the handbook for the learners, providing trainers with tools, materials, examples of lesson plans and information for using Reboot training in blended and virtual trainer-led training. The final versions of both Handbooks will be soon available for free downloading in English, Finnish, French and Greek.

#### **Mainstreaming the project results: The Reboot Multiplier Events**

According to the original plan, there were four events scheduled to be carried out in Finland, Belgium, the UK and Greece, by the end of the project in late October, to mainstream and promote the project outputs to further audiences. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the events are rescheduled to take place as virtual, online events, retaining however their goal to engage stakeholders, graduates and trainers. Soon, there will be more information about the exact dates as well as the agendas of the events.

#### **Stay tuned for more news!**

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