



Erasmus+



Cultural Heritage
for the Future

Libraries for communities

A study for Erasmus project
Culture heritage for the future
Discover – share - learn

2018-09 – 2021-08



VILNIAUS APSKRITIES
ADOMO MICKEVIČIAUS
VIEŠOJI BIBLIOTEKA



VAGGERYDS
KOMMUN



Herning
Bibliotekerne
- tid til dig

MESTNA *knjižnica* KRANJ

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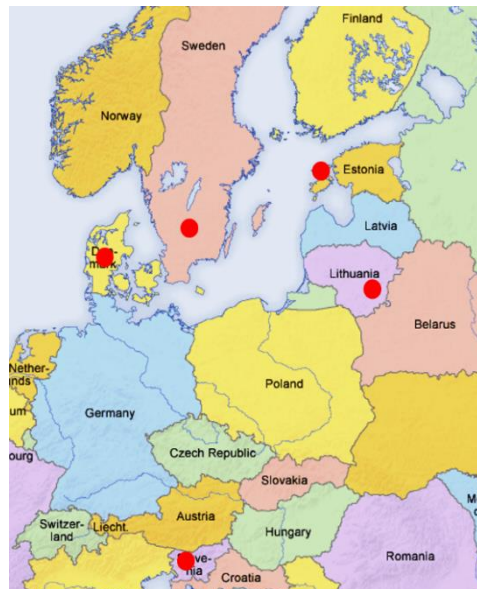
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Introduction

“Cultural Heritage for the Future: Discover, Share and Learn” is a strategic partnership and adult education project in which libraries from Lithuania, Sweden, Denmark, Slovenia, and Estonia share their experiences of working with cultural heritage, local history, and adult education. Study “Libraries for communities” is one of the outputs of this project.

Project connects five participating libraries:

- Herning public library in Denmark;
- Kranj public library in Slovenia;
- Public library of Hiiu municipality in Estonia;
- Vaggeryd public library in Sweden;
- Vilnius County Adomas Mickevicius Public Library in Lithuania.



The project was started in September, 2018.

The main aim of this project is to present national and foreign cultural heritage, to encourage members of communities and library visitors to share their stories and memories that bring together different cultures.

There are three goals of the project:

1. to use social and educational value of European cultural heritage in order to motivate adults to become involved into learning process and share their experiences;
2. to apply not yet used and innovative tools in the field of cultural heritage in order to motivate involvement and cooperation of the participants;
3. to strengthen the competences of librarians as educators and adragogues, to share international experience and to create international network of professionals.

Along with the study “Libraries for communities” two more outputs are created:

- A webpage: Honeycomb <https://bendruomeniukrastotyra.lt/>;
- Guidelines “8 steps how to get communities involved into cultural heritage” https://drive.google.com/file/d/1acrV_2s8Ek5II0cX_y76cNlnDc4D6Soz/view.

The idea behind this study “Libraries for communities” was to share experience between participating libraries: What happens today in the libraries in the field of cultural heritage? What activities are being implemented? What are the main differences between participating libraries and their working methods? And the most importantly what each library can learn from others?

Methodology

Although this is not a scientific study, a methodology was used. Each participating library received a standardized questionnaire. The questions were answered by email and some parts were discussed during live workshops. The aim of the questionnaire was for participating libraries to answer questions based on their own experience and knowledge.

The study is divided in two parts:

- In the first part of the study participating libraries are presenting their background: How cultural heritage and local history is understood in their country? What are the traditional working methods?
- In the second part of the study specific activities and projects of each participating library are presented: How it started? How much it costed? Why it was successful? What are the main guidelines and where to start?

Cultural heritage in the community

*“Cultural Heritage is an expression of the ways of living developed by a community and passed on from generation to generation, including customs, practices, places, objects, artistic expressions and values. Cultural Heritage is often expressed as either Intangible or Tangible”
Cultural Heritage (ICOMOS, 2002).*

Cultural heritage is a broad concept that has diverse significance and meaning for different people and in different countries. According to UNESCO, cultural heritage encompasses several main categories of heritage: tangible cultural heritage (movable, immovable, underwater), and intangible. Every nation strives to foster its identity for future generations by leaving memories known as culture, history or collective memory. One of the most important factors in fostering the local self-consciousness is to aid in people's search for their cultural, ethnic and national identity.

But not all history can be defined as cultural heritage. Some memories or stories are part of local identity. According to UNESCO, “The world's memory is composed of more than just kings and heroes, battles and conquests, great cathedrals and monumental undertakings”. Communities and everyday life is defined through local history.



Ethiopian coffee tasting. Cultural event for communities, Vilnius

"What constitutes local history can be a grey area. It includes, the history of your school, the history of the town or village in which you live, and the history of a particular county or region" (History Association).

Public libraries contribute to the preservation of cultural memory by collecting and presenting local history and its research. Databases for local research and digital libraries are created and further developed by the means of modern informational technologies. As informational technologies gain an ever-stronger foothold in our everyday lives, the information of local research becomes easily accessible to all users of the internet regardless of time or their physical location.

Also as the time changes libraries are trying to become part of participatory culture. "Participatory culture is one that shifts the focus from individual expression to community involvement" (E. Giaccardi). It means that members of communities are encouraged not only to be passive users of the information of local research, but to be creators as well. Public libraries all over Europe are creating online databases that are available to every member of the community, and everyone who are interested to share their memories, photos, etc. Everyone can upload their material from anywhere in the world.

Local history in public libraries

An important and essential mission of libraries is to work with local history and stories about specific region in different forms: books, newspapers, articles. Libraries are collecting books about local society and helping people to learn more about their history, heritage, and genealogy through databases, etc. Also many libraries are creating tools for the communities to let them present their view of local history, to present its traditions, customs, and other attributes of local uniqueness.

Many libraries have a good relationship with local cultural heritage organizations – museums, archives, various clubs for senior citizens, associations and so on.

Libraries can be a great asset for people or organizations that are looking for a place to meet, to discuss, or to organize events. Together with various partners, libraries are organizing presentations of local research publications, exhibitions of new books by famous locals, commemorations of noteworthy regional events



*Indian dances, Cultural Night, 2019 in
Vilnius County Adomas Mickevičius
Public library*

and jubilees, performances of local talented artists, educational programs, tours, meetings with the members of the community, trivia's, quizzes. Also through these partnerships libraries can reach much wider groups of people, to get them involved not only in local history but also in many other activities that are held in libraries.

Library activities can clearly increase communities' interest in their history. Local history used in various educational activities enriches user's knowledge of their birthplace, expands the learning environment and the possibilities for planning leisure time. In addition, it stimulates active personal research of the region, unknown locations, unique landscapes. Activities regarding local history fosters tolerance and respect for all sorts of people living in this region, their way of life and the variety of cultures. When informational technologies are applied, local history and cultural heritage can be used as a tool for adult education in media or computer literacy.

Local history in participating countries

Libraries are a politically controlled institutions, depending on laws, budgets and plans at both national, regional, and local levels. Due to that, there is a difference between libraries in different countries and their work practice with local history. In this part of the study each participating library is presenting their background and experience.

Lithuania - Vilnius

Vilnius County Adomas Mickevičius Public Library is the center of methodology, bibliography and regional studies for 5 public libraries of Alytus Municipality and 8 public libraries of Vilnius Municipality. The library provides informational and cultural services for the inhabitants of Vilnius and Vilnius region. The library was founded in 1950's and is very popular amongst the people of Vilnius and the temporary residents of the city. Every year around 200,000 visitors come to the library. The library prepares the programs for the development of culture in the region of Vilnius, provides methodical support to the libraries of Vilnius and Alytus municipalities. The most important mission of the library's work in local history is to provide comprehensive information about the regions – its locations and the people related to them. For this goal, gathering of various forms of resources related to the region, their preservation, searching for published materials, their description and dissemination, is of utmost importance to the library. The Library provides information about local history, gathers a versatile foundation of documents



related to it and to the regions of Vilnius and Alytus in Lithuanian and in the languages of local minorities.

Lithuanian libraries are compelled to perform such research and to accumulate literature, information and documents of regional research by the law of libraries of the Republic of Lithuania and the directives of public municipal libraries approved in 1996. Libraries are collecting and preserving various documents about particular region, its local history, famous places and people. The bibliographers of Lithuanian public libraries have prepared indexes of poets, active educators, artists, scientists and other famous locals alongside their bibliographic overviews. Also libraries organize exhibitions on regional studies, publish local history-related publications; bibliographies; organize cultural events, quizzes and contests on the topics of local history and even prepare educational programs based on regional studies.

In 2008 Vilnius County Adomas Mickevičius Public library has started webpage Vilnijos vartai. <http://www.vilnijosvartai.lt/> that reveals to the society, and remote users (Lithuanians abroad, students, everyone, who is interested in Vilnija), concentrated, systemized, and selected information of enduring value based on bibliographical lists about Vilnius County – a region with dramatic history, rich material and spiritual culture, as well as distinctive traditions.



From an embroidery workshop, Vilnius

Based on "Vilnijos vartai" two new websites were created. One is called "Dainavos kraštas", it's a website for local history of Alytus region. Other website is called "Honeycomb", which is dedicated to the regional research of communities. Its information is not local history research, but memories and stories that everyone can submit in the form of text, or photos, or video material.

Slovenia – Kranj

Kranj Public Library is one of ten Slovenian central regional libraries. It is responsible for the development of library services in Gorenjska region with 82.000 inhabitants. 25% of them are the Library members but the borrowed books reach more than twice as many readers. At least 1.500 people visit the library daily. The library's mission is to be a driving force of literacy, education, culture and social progress.



In Kranj Public Library, there is a long tradition of preserving written local heritage. There is a systematically collected written material about the Gorenjska region since the end of World War II. Today there are several special collections on the subject. Kranj Public Library regularly organizes exhibitions that speak about local history, thematic evenings, discussions and special events that represent people and the topic from the local environment. Each September is dedicated to the preservation of cultural heritage in the library. The library thematically links to the mission of the Days of European Cultural Heritage.

Kranj Public Library is also involved in many international projects regarding conservation of cultural heritage. These projects have resulted in forming collections of personal memories of important decades and events (World War I., industry in Kranj etc). Regarding online heritage display Kranj Public library has a web portal called "Kamra", where stories connected with local heritage are published. Also an online biographical lexicon "Gorenjci.si" were created, where important and famous people of the region are presented. Kranj Public Library contributes to the "Album of Slovenia", where memories of family events are kept. Also, library cooperates with the "Gorenjski muzej" (museum) in order to take special care of postcards and photos with a local history theme.

Denmark – Herning

Herning Libraries is the name of a public library system consisting of 6 libraries and 14 local archives in the municipality of Herning. Herning Libraries serve both, as a local and as a regional library in the central region of Jutland, Denmark. As a local library system, Herning Libraries serve a population of approximately 90.000 inhabitants. Libraries' vision is to be a vivid culture and community center and strive towards taking an active and relevant part of the development of the local society.



Herning Public Library offers traditional library services such as access to library funds, databases etc. but also new library services such as events, learning sessions, book and music clubs. Library places a strong emphasis on digital services: e-books, online inspiration, streaming of events on social media. The library has a strength in working with learning activities and events, especially reaching out to schools.

In Denmark many resources are used to preserve local history. The majority of this work is made by archives. There is a national platform for digitalized local history, (www.arkiv.dk), and all archives are working on digitizing their material. There is a national aim to make all local history in Denmark available for all Danes via the internet. Herning public library is also participating in digitizing. Variety of activities about local history, and projects are developed in order to make cultural heritage more available for more people.

Library has created a website where citizens are encouraged to write down their memories. The website is created in a way that different memories appear homogeneous in structure, and the page functions as an inspiration to remember and to recall one's own memories. In addition, these memories are stored and communicated on the website "herninghistorie.dk". The idea of this project is to encourage more people to write down their memories, both for their own family's sake and for society's sake. By having a structure and framework, people, who are less familiar with a computer, will have the courage to get started. Hopefully, people will know more about their local history, the stories of people who normally do not get to tell their story, and this will give a lot people a wider and better understanding of present society as well.

Sweden – Vaggeryd

Vaggeryd municipality is located on a countryside, with a population of 14 000 people. As one might notice, by the population number, the municipality is of the smaller sort. The largest town in the region is Vaggeryd with 5300 residents. The municipality is known for the industries and a well-used motto of Vaggeryd, which is “where the wheels are spinning”. The municipality has 4 libraries, which are open 76 hours per week. Vaggeryd public library is located in the local high school. In this public library a Makerspace is located as well.



Swedish public libraries lack a national official mission to work with cultural heritage. The libraries all over Sweden have only a mission to work with the dissemination of knowledge and formation of free opinion. However, majority of the public libraries have many material, books and documents about local history, but there is a big difference how much they do beyond the local history shelf. Most of the public libraries have also access to databases about genealogy, searching for ancestors, or for local history, and family history. In Sweden, most of the church books of people birth and death are digitalized and searchable online. However, there is no regional cooperation regarding cultural heritage. Only in some regional or local plans, public libraries have mission to work with cultural heritage.

Vaggeryd public library has been involved in some local history projects before. One of them was about collecting legends around the area, to have events and walks to spread the stories. The library also cooperated with Miliseum, a national military museum in the municipality. Vaggeryd has a large scale of military history.



Soldier croft in Skillingaryd, Vaggeryd

Estonia – Hiiumaa

In Estonia, there are 901 libraries: 532 public libraries, 329 school libraries and 40 science and specialty library. Estonia have 15 counties and every county has one county library and many smaller libraries.

Hiiumaa is the second largest island in Estonia. There are eight libraries in Hiiumaa.



Public Library of Kärddla is the main library in Kärddla city. It serves as local library and also as central library of Hiiumaa municipality. It has the largest depository of the municipality, serves all residents of the municipality and its quests, also coordinates the work in all the libraries of the municipality.

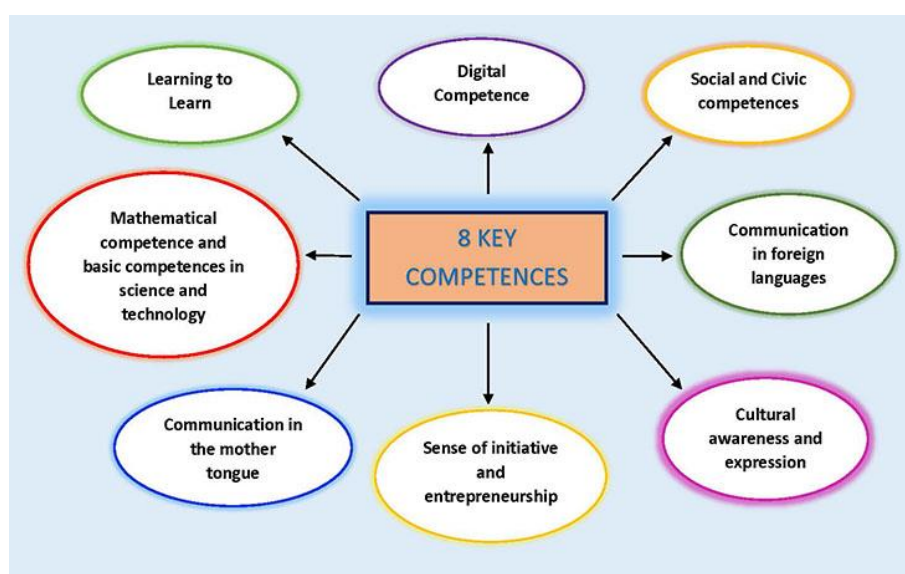
The vision of the library is to be local community center, where visitors could have a free access to all sorts of knowledge. To achieve this, library cooperates on local, regional and international level. It organizes events and trainings on current important topics, introduces and encourages lifelong learning, provides access to the Internet and computers, teaches digital literacy, encourages reading promotion etc.

The library has experience in working with collecting and digitizing materials connected to the local history and culture of the community and has a web-based database of books and articles connected with Hiiumaa municipality and its residents. Library regularly organizes exhibitions that speak about local history, thematic evenings and special events that represent local people and local environment. Library is also collecting and preserving various documents about particular region, its local history, famous places and people.

Adult education

One of the aspects of libraries mission in different countries is to work with lifelong learning and adult education. Local history can be used as a tool for teaching communities' media, information or computer literacy. It is of great importance to learn about local history and cultural heritage, both for people who have lived in the area for long time and for newcomers. But also through cultural heritage libraries can help adults to get other competences.

EU has chosen eight key competences that are going to be valuable in the coming future: 1. Learning to learn; 2. Digital competence; 3. Social and Civic competences; 4. Communication in foreign languages; 5. Cultural awareness and expression; 6. Sense of initiative and entrepreneurship; 7. Communication in the mother tongue; 8. Mathematical competence and basic competences in science and technologyⁱⁱⁱ. Libraries have to work with these competences and assist people in their lifelong learning process.



From: eursc.eu/en/European-Schools/studies/marking-scale

One of the goals of the project "Cultural Heritage for the Future: discover, share and learn" is to strengthen librarians as adult educators and present examples how librarians can use libraries' local history collection in order to teach adults computer or media literacy.

It's important that librarians would have knowledge about what lifelong learning is and how to work with adults, especially the people who need it most. For example, people who do not have the digital skills or immigrants who need to

learn a new language. It can also be lonely people who do not have a work or an occupation at daytime. These groups of people are common visitors in many libraries in Europe.



Photo: Vilnius County Adomas Mickevičius public library

Public libraries are open for everyone. Anyone who need a place to spend their free time may visit the library. One does not need to explain why they visit the library: no reason is needed. The library is a safe place and everyone is invited to attend events or activities. This make the public library the most open public place in our communities.

Activities for promoting local history

In the second part of the study, the participating libraries present different ways they or other libraries in their region or country have worked with cultural heritage and local history. The presented activities were chosen from each participating library. The main aim was that each activity would differ from other in the means of cost, time and type. Some activities are quite expensive and take a long time to present, while others are the opposite.

The goal of this part of the study is to share experience and inspire libraries or similar organizations to work with cultural heritage.



Lithuania

Preservation of cultural heritage - education and dissemination via innovative technologies.

Public Library of the municipality in Elektrėnai

Public library of the municipality in Elektrėnai and 11 of its branches gather information regarding famous citizens of the municipality, its history, and interesting locations. One of the projects organized in 2017, was called "Preservation of cultural heritage - education and dissemination via innovative technologies". The project was financed by the Lithuanian Council of Culture.

During this project an educational map of cultural heritage in the municipality of Elektrėnai was created. When finished the map was put online. Partners of the project were the Department of Architecture and Landscaping of Elektrėnai and representatives from individual creative industries. This digital map presents gathered material of cultural importance of the municipality of Elektrėnai. The map holds general information on cultural heritage, as well as photography and literary references.

Also based on the historical material used for this map a game was created which consists of relevant historical and cultural questions. As an addition to the digital map an educational program was created.

GET STARTED!

Target group

Everyone who is interested in the cultural heritage.

Timeline

1 year.

Budget

3550€

Method

Collecting relevant material, preparing the project and cooperating with culture institutions.

Background

The public library of Elektrėnai actively engages in regional research. The digital map created during this project is highly valuable for the development of cultural and historic tourism in the region of Elektrėnai. It also supports the preservation of cultural heritage and the dissemination of information concerning material and immaterial objects of culture.

Description of activity

1. Creating and installing digital educational map of cultural heritage in the municipality of Elektrėnai.
 2. Creating an educational program with the focus on cultural heritage in the region of Elektrėnai.
 3. Preparing questions for the game.
 4. Advertising the project.
 5. Presenting created products to the public by organizing an event: "Preservation of cultural heritage - education and dissemination via innovative technologies".
 6. Creating educational activities for children and young adults based of the gathered cultural material.
-

Results

There were three main results of the project “Preservation of cultural heritage - education and dissemination via innovative technologies”:

1. An interactive map of cultural heritage in the region of Elektrėnai;
2. Dissemination of information about cultural heritage via presentations and educational events;
3. A game and educational program for children and young adults about cultural heritage.

These products can be used for research of local cultural heritage, as well as for educational purposes. Also these new products can be used as a new possible tool to inform visitors of the municipality about its history and cultural heritage.

Know more!

- paveldas.elektrenai.mvb.lt
- visit-elektrenai.lt
- **The map:** paveldas.elektrenai.mvb.lt
- **The website of the library:** elektrenai.mvb.lt/lt
- **Facebook account of the library:** facebook.com/EleSVB/

Lithuania

“Stories of the Šventupė manor – regional research and dissemination”

Šventupė village office of the Ukmergė region municipality public library of Vladas Šlaitas.

Šventupė manor located in Ukmergė region is included in the list of tourist attractions of Ukmergė region and belongs to the “Ring of Six Manors”. Lately, an increased interest in the manor can be seen – there’s an abundance of visiting tourists. The cultural workers of Šventupė present the manor to the visitors, speak of its history and legends. The visitors are interested in stories that are presented, but they lack some kind of visual material. For this reason, it was decided to prepare an educational calendar called *Stories of the Šventupė manor*. The calendar holds educational information and illustrations on the manor of Šventupė.

Another part of the project was meant to commemorate the oldest living natives of Šventupė village, of which 31 were born in pre-world war Lithuania and 19 during the war. They are part of the history of Šventupė village. 50 portrait photographs of the elders of Šventupė village were made that were also included in the calendar. An exhibition of the portraits named “Elders of Šventupė” was held.

The calendar and the exhibition of the portraits commemorates the past of Šventupė manor, attracts more tourists to the town and region and creates opportunities for them to get acquainted with the cultural heritage of the region. The project was dedicated to the commemoration of the centenary of the Restoration of the Lithuanian State.

GET STARTED!

Target group

National citizens and tourists.

Timeline

2 years.

Budget

500€

Method

Collecting of regional history material, organizing events, and cultural workshops.

Background

Šventupė village is a part of Ukmergė region, district of Vidiškiai. The village has a population of 848 inhabitants. The inhabitants are actively participating in cultural activities – Šventupė holds a traditional Joninės celebration, closing of the summer and autumn-harvest festivals. The library of Šventupė is located in the building of Šventupė manor in which the culture center resides as well. Employees of the library, together with the workers of the culture center actively cooperate while organizing cultural activities, acquainting guests with the history of Šventupė manor and its cultural heritage.

Description of the activity

The calendar “*Stories of Šventupė manor*”:

1. Preparation of the project.
2. Systemization of the materials of regional research and selection of information for the calendar.
3. Production of the calendar.

The exhibition “*Elders of Šventupė*”:

1. Visiting elders.
 2. Taking pictures.
 3. Production of portraits.
 4. Preparation of the exposition.
 5. Organization of the presentation of the exhibition.
 6. Presentation of the results of the project to the community.
-

Results

The elders were excited by this project, its results and the attention to their generation. The calendar was evaluated very positively especially because it can be renewed every year by changing the topics of the illustrations.

The activities were relevant to the entire community. It is believed that such means are best used in the hopes to bring more attention to the region and its cultural heritage. In addition to that, it provides attention to a certain group of citizens, the elders. Such attention brings all citizens together for other projects and activities.

Know more!

- **After the event an article appeared in a regional newspapers “Gimtoji Žemė” and “Ukmergės žinios”:**
ukzinios.lt/kultura/bendruomenes/20497-linksminosi-sventupes-ilgaamziai

Lithuania

“Gates of Vilnija” – a full text data base of regional research

Vilniaus County Adomas Mickevičius Public Library

The website “Gates of Vilnija” was created in 2008 for all Vilnius region libraries. It is dedicated to the spreading of regional research from the libraries of Vilnius district.

Even though the internet is full of various information about local cultural heritage, the information is not always reliable, and the given information does not always have a reference. The information on this website is systemized, selected and holds enduring value, it's based on bibliographic lists on the district of Vilnius. “Gates of Vilnija” holds dramatic stories, rich with material and spiritual culture and presents a region of distinct traditions. This information is relevant for the public and distant users such as Lithuanians abroad or students. The website has more than 3500 texts units and about 100 thousands of virtual visitors annually. Database is continuously updated with new texts and corrections are made to older publications.

Vilnius County Adomas Mickevičius public library is also trying to involve Vilnius region citizens into active research of local history: photo contests, expeditions, education programs were provided. Also based on local history collections a book about Vilnius city micro-districts and a board game about Vilnius was created as well. All material for these products were based on information from the web page.

GET STARTED!

Target group

All members of the community.

Timeline

2 years.

Budget

About 13 000€

Method

Searching and selecting information, processing materials and spreading of selected materials of regional research, writing publications and organising events.

Background

The creation of the website “Gates of Vilnija” began in 2008 while implementing the project “Dissemination of the Information of Regional Research of the District of Vilnius”. In 2016 following other project “*#OURREGION: Fostering of Communal Identities of Alytus and Vilnius in libraries*” a new version of the website was created. New features were installed; an advanced search, a section for news and a calendar. The website was adapted considering people with impaired vision and users of mobile devices. The Lithuanian Library for the Blind contributed to the contents of the database with material adapted for users with impaired vision regularly. On the basis of this website an identical website was created for the dissemination of information of regional research of Alytus region called “Region of Dainava”.

All public libraries of municipalities in Vilnius district perform regional research. They collect information on the territory they serve, as well as information about its people. Libraries also prepare and save works of regional research. But the purpose of bibliographic regional research is not only to collect information on local history, but also to spread it. The internet serves that purpose perfectly. A lot of libraries are glad to be able to share the resources they have gathered with the users of the website.

The website “Gates of Vilnija” provides the possibility to make valuable historic bibliographic material held in the public libraries accessible to the public. It is important to note that part of the information presented on the website is unpublished and available only to the users of the website.

Description of the activity

Vilniaus County Adomas Mickevičius Public Library cooperated with the public libraries of Elektrėnai, Šalčininkai, Trakai, Vilnius central library, and Vilnius region public library to create this website. The website consists of three parts: locations, personalities and works of regional research.

“Locations” is part of the website where information about the district of Vilnius and territories belonging to it is saved, alongside with reviews of literature and historic references on the same topic.

In “Personalities” one can read biographies of famous people. These people are nominees of various awards, their achievements are commemorated around the district of Vilnius. Every text is followed by the lists of literature and references used.

In "Works of regional research" lists of works by regional researchers of Vilnius district and their most valued works are presented (manuscripts and works published in smaller quantities) in a digital format.

Results

The attendance of the website "Gates of Vilnija" keeps increasing every year. The information on the website is relevant to everyone who is interested in the region of Vilnija. The website is appreciated as a source of valuable and interesting information and also its input is valued when organizing educational programs for children, youth and adults. The use of this information for the purposes of education assists the community to accomplish their goals of education and life-long learning and ads to the patriotic, cultural and ethnic education of various groups within the community.

Know more!

- <http://www.vilnijosvartai.lt/>
- The updates of the website and other news related to the region of Vilnija can be followed in the Facebook account of the libraries regional research department:
<https://www.facebook.com/vilnijosvartai/?ref=bookmarks>
- https://lt.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vilniaus_apskritis_Adomo_Mickevi%C4%8Diaus_vie%C5%A1oji_biblioteka#Vilnijos_vartai
- <https://www.15min.lt/kultura/naujiena/literatura/musukrastas-alytaus-ir-vilniaus-bendruomeniu-tapatumo-ugdymas-bibliotekose-286-708881>

Slovenia

Sharing European Memories at School SEM@s

Kranj City Library

SEM@s is a multilateral and international project. Partners working with the project are from Spain, Italy, Norway, England, Poland and Slovenia (Kranj City Library). The idea behind the project is that Europe's historical memory needs to be rebuilt and shared with young people in order to understand Europe in which they live.

The main goal of the project was to present memories of historical events to schooling young people. Also to processes and develop a learning methodology that will enable teachers to easily link the prescribed learning topic with historical memory. In addition, the plan was also the production of a final group product, which will be independently developed by students.

GET STARTED!

Target group

Secondary school students.

Timeline

2 years.

Budget

900€

Method the Sharing European Memories methodology introduce the concept of historical memory into history teaching. Through exploring and analysing the difference between history and memory, students gain a different perspective on historical sources and explore how and why history is relevant to the present.

Background

It is through historical memory we remember our past. The terms *history* and *memory* have different meanings. History is a record of significant past events but is not a neutral record. This record will always be incomplete and problematic. Memories are constantly being made and forgotten. They can be manipulated and changed. There are individual memories, and social memories. Social memory, where one shares a common history with a specific group of people, is crucial in creating and maintaining a sense of individual and community identity. The field of historical memory is often linked to commemoration, by way of events, places, texts, artefacts, and symbols that remain significant to the group.

Regarding young participants this project can help to:

- develop students' cross-curricular skills, particularly critical thinking, analysis, interpersonal skills and team work,
 - engage disaffected students and those who struggle with finding information,
 - explore one subject in depth, and in a new way,
 - understand that there is not one definitive version of history,
 - bring living witnesses into the classroom,
 - bring intergenerational learning into school,
 - develop multi-curricular approaches to teaching history,
 - make the most of external resources, such as museum and site visits.
-

The Kranj City Library therefore joined the Gymnasium Kranj. After cooperation with professors and students, library has carried out the practical part of the project.

The time frame of the project covered two years. From January to June 2011 the concept of historical memory and its involvement in the set of courses was examined. A list of good practices and experiences was prepared. In the period from June 2011 to the end of the year, a methodology for integrating new forms of historical memory at schools was developed. Later in June 2012, the project was practically introduced in classes at the Grammar School Kranj. By December 2012, the experience and evaluate the whole work was analyzed. The project was implemented throughout the entire school year, usually not during regular school hours but as a part of the history club or young researchers' club. They devoted 10 regular school hours and 60 hours of history club to the project.

Description of the activity

The concept:

1. Interviewing eyewitnesses or their descendants.
2. Using multimedia technology to record memories as a result of the learning process.
3. Identifying key ideas and historical theories of the chosen topic.
4. Using additional materials to determine how a social memory occurred about a particular topic.
5. Comparing official history with a memory from an individual of a particular topic.
6. Describing the period of history and memories of this period.
7. Combining historical data with memories (objective and subjective views of the same period), analyzing the data and preparing a creative product.
8. Sharing your experience, creative products and personal experiences and learning about the experiences of other schools.

The project is based on a five-stage methodology:

Phase 1: Students explore the concepts of history and memory and how they differ.

Phase 2: Students are interviewing living witnesses.

Phase 3: Students analyze their interviews in their historical context and explore how and why the subject is remembered in the present day.

Phase 4: Students develop a creative product that combine historical information with the memories they uncovered, this from a critical point of view.

Phase 5: Students share and learn about other schools' experiences through their material, creative outputs and personal experiences on memory.

Concrete concept

Interviews

A group of 5 students performed 15 interviews with persons of different ages and conducted an opinion poll with 60 people. The interviews were carried out after school hours and outside of school while the poll took place in the school. Some of the interviews can be seen in the documentary film *Industrijska zgodovina Kranja* (The Industrial History of Kranj) made by students with some help from the Kranj City Library, Gimnazija Kranj, OpenLab, Museum of Gorenjska, Historical Archive Ljubljana, Gorenjska Unit, Kranj.

Students' involvement

The students extended their history, computer literacy, and media literacy skills: the use of ICT; making a movie (script writing, the use of film technology, montage); working with different history sources (materials, written, audio-visual, oral); team work; active use of the English language (video conference with students from Spain); the knowledge of present history; the understanding of settlement, national and social structure of Kranj's inhabitants.

Additional information

The students used literal works, articles in magazines, newspapers and webpages, old documents and photographs available at the Kranj City Library, Museum of Gorenjska, and Historical Archive Ljubljana, Gorenjska Unit, Kranj.

Kranj City Library opened its doors and assisted in search of literature on recent history of Kranj. The Museum of Gorenjska prepared a lecture on the industrialization of Kranj for the students and presented materials regarding that time period. The Historical Archive Ljubljana, Gorenjska Unit prepared a lecture and presented written sources and photographs. "OpenLab" introduced students to the new film making technology and offered assistance in making the documentary.

Results

Interviews are a recommended technique for collecting memories. The main result of the project is cooperation and understanding between the generations. Feedback from teachers and students after the pilot phase was positive: teachers believe that the methodology is useful in the development of key competences. The students were very enthusiastic and motivated for work, because they enjoyed such an approach.

The new method my students adore!
Teacher from Norway

An interesting aspect of the methodology is that students learned about other historical events from all over Europe.

I was most fond of interviewing members of our family, because I got to know life better parents and grandparents
Student from Spain

No special, significant differences were found between oral sources or historical memory and the official history. The interviewees had excellent recollection of the historical events and their consequences.

Know more!

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Slovenia

Key Competences & Historical Memory

Kranj City Library

The "Key Competences & Historical Memory (KC-MEM)" project started in January 2014 with the aim to develop an attractive educational setting for non-formal adult education based on the memories of the locals. Based on the previous experience of the Sharing Memories at School project, KC-MEM is an educational project delivered by cultural organizations (museums, libraries), local authorities, and civil society organizations. The idea of this project is that through gathering of memories from locals, adult learners develop media literacy and other competences. During the project people have narrated their memory of local history in different forms to be shared with the rest of the community.

Traditionally people relate the lessons of the past to the youngest, as if having a critical vision of history were a question of age. Memory in adult education has generally been used to promote intergenerational dialogue and to value the knowledge and experience of the eldest.

KC-MEM project aimed to make adults participate in the process of gathering relevant memories from locals, as well as to use historical memory for educational purposes, linking it to local identity and community involvement.

GET STARTED!

Target group

Secondary school students.

Timeline

2 years.

Budget

900€ - for equipment rental

Method

The Sharing European Memories methodology introduce the concept of historical memory into history teaching. Through exploring and analysing the difference between history and memory, students gain a different perspective on historical sources and explore how and why history is relevant to the present.

Background

Historical memory is the study of how groups and individuals in the societies remember the past: What do we collectively remember, and what do we choose to forget? How do these collective memories shape our understanding of the present and the way we wish to shape our future? Historical memory is an important part of how individuals, communities and nations construct their identities and understand their relationship to one another.

KC-MEM project outputs are aimed at cultural organizations (museums, libraries), local authorities and civil society (cultural, history or local associations) which are delivering innovative competency-based adult education, recovering, identifying or gathering local memories.

Educational activities were organized on the basis of the Project Based Learning methodology. Most popular approaches such as learning by doing, dialogic learning or object based learning were used. The participants were identifying and gathering local memories on a relevant topic in the history of their community. From collected memories local narrative around historical events or processes was created, producing a creative output to be shared with the rest of the community: an exhibition, a newspaper, a webpage, etc.

Each partner developed a local version of the educational project taking into account the profile of the participants, the topic chosen and local context. In some cases, the partners collaborated with local stakeholders (education providers, local authorities, etc.) in order to build synergies with on-going adult education initiatives.

Description of the activity

The first part of the project aimed to identify the relationship between the core pillars of the KC-MEM project and its target groups (adult learners and education providers). A report on target groups needs and interests had been produced.

First, adults' perception of adult education programmes in general was analyzed, but with a focus on history and memory. Overall respondents felt that historical knowledge, and the values linked to it, were useful and valuable for contemporary life. Also most of the respondents declared their interested in learning about the history of their family and community.

In the second part of the research, 31 interviews were conducted with institutions with different educational objectives in the field of adult education (schools, local museums, local libraries, associations, cultural and social organizations). They were questioned about what type of participants they target, their

methods of work, the issue of memory and the problems they face as organizations.

Finally, an analysis of best practice was carried out. Partners identified different non-formal adult education regional projects aimed at interpreting the past. The best projects were focused on both historical knowledge and folk tradition, which were successfully combined and complemented each other.

The teaching plan consisted of five main stages:

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- Phase 1: Introduction of the topic.
 - Phase 2: Identification of memories.
 - Phase 3: Analysis and narrative building.
 - Phase 4: Creative output.
 - Phase 5: Sharing with the community.
-

The main outcome was to educate learners about history, collecting historical materials and doing research along with IT knowledge development. They gathered the stories and objects about that topic using interviews, research in the library and visiting several cultural organizations with expertise in the field. Then they put everything together into a newspaper, gaining new IT knowledge along the way. In September 2015 there was an exhibition in Kranj City Library along with many relevant events in collaboration with cultural organizations of the region.

Project participants wrote articles in which they shared memories in combination with historical facts. Those articles were printed in form of a newsletter, which was then printed on posters. Next to exhibition there were showcases with objects, which were collected during their research.



Results

KC-MEM project outputs were aimed at cultural organizations, local authorities and civil society (cultural, history or local associations) helping them to:

1. improve the existing adult education in terms of quality and innovation;
2. provide attractive and innovative learning settings for adult learners;
3. start new educational programmes based on memory and local identity;
4. strengthen the links with community and contribute towards building up local identity;
5. foster local partnerships between cultural, political and civil organizations.

A guide is a user-friendly document which helps any kind of organization, familiar or not with the concept of memory, to start a process of recovering local memories and using it as a learning environment in adult learning. An education framework, including the teaching plan as well as guidelines and recommendations for implementing it was created. A guide aims to assist adult learning organizations to use historical memory as an educational tool. It contains definitions, practical suggestions and examples of good practices for using historical memory to support history teaching, uncover local and community memory and help learners discover and communicate their individual and shared identities.

Challenges:

- Leaving participates: several partners experienced week by week fluctuations in the numbers of participate attending the course.
 - In some cases, older participants in particular did not perceive themselves as 'learners'.
 - In all the pilot's tutors had to deal with 'dominating' individuals – those who were happy to talk.
 - All partners found time management an issue at some stage in the process.
 - Some partners found that participants prepared to gather memories or learn 'facts' rather than analyzing or interpreting them.
 - Some of the participant groups were unwilling to create permanent or semi-permanent products from their memories, or did not want to share their memories with the wider community.
-

Know more!

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- kc-mem.eu/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/EN_Using-Historical-Memory_a-guide-for-organizing-an-educational-project.pdf
- kc-mem.eu/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/validationKit_EN.pdf
- kc-mem.eu/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/ManualOrgEduProj_EN.pdf
- issuu.com/mkkranj/docs/__asopis_luk

Sweden

VingRot (WingRooth)- See the story with new eyes

Vaggeryd public library

The idea of the project "VingRot" was to present local history in a new modern form, to create short videos with 360 cameras and work with 360 films and VR technology in different ways. The aim of the project was to get more people interested in local history through this new technology and spread information about local historical places and events in and outside the municipality.

Participating organizations for "VingRot" has been the Vaggeryd public library, the municipality's military museum Miliseum and the open youth farms in the municipality.



Photo from Vaggeryd, taken with 360 camera

GET STARTED!

Target group

Individuals who are interested in filming and gaining increased knowledge of local history.

Timeline

1-6 months. Depends on the scale of the project and if equipment and knowledge already exist.

Budget

Technology costs: 400-2000 euros, depending on standard. Possibly more for a computer which allows decent editing programs and VR programs. A VR equipment is needed.

Number of staff

Approximately 2-5 people, depending on the number of groups, films and knowledge of filming already.

Background

Participants of the project “VingRot” are Vaggeryd's public library, the municipality's Military museum and the open youth farms. Miliseum is a military history museum in Skillingaryd. In Miliseum one may discover the story of local soldiers and engineering troops. The youth business has, among other things, two leisure centers and is aimed at young people aged 7-18.

The purpose of the project was to raise awareness of local history by filming locations, environments and stories from the municipality with a 360 camera. The goal was to attract younger audiences who are interested in the technology, and older people who have the knowledge of local history.

The library is able to spread the stories to the public. The youth center contributed attracting young people who want to learn about historical sites and environments. Miliseum has the knowledge of the stories that have taken place in the municipality and wants to spread the knowledge about them in new ways. Museum has also provided clothing suitable for historical films to make it all more authentic.

The reason 360 film and VR were chosen is because technology give stories a new life in an incredible way, suitable for our modern world. By putting on the helmet and headphones, it feels like you are in the movie and visiting the places where the movies take place. The 360 technology also enables a new way of storytelling by getting the viewer to participate by talking directly to the camera or choosing experience by recording multiple events at once. The person wearing the helmet can choose which direction they want to look at.

The target groups for this activity were young adults, people who work with local history in the municipality and students at Lärvox.

Description of the activity

Project partners divided different areas of responsibility. The library has been responsible for planning the project and has been in contact with Lärvox as the libraries are integrated with the municipality's high school and adult education. The Miliseum has collected materials such as anecdotes and stories from the military history of the municipality. Leisure farms have been in contact with young people that have knowledge of filming. Project partners have also collaborated with the municipality's home-town associations to get information and stories from them as well as to get them interested and increase their knowledge of the new technology.

1. Target groups

Project aimed for suitable target groups who want to learn more about local history and participate in filming. Cooperation between different age groups were not a problem. Children at the age of 10 years and onwards were invited in the making of films. It is important to establish what the films will be used for and the legal rights surrounding the filming, especially regard children and young people.

2. Purchase of technology

The technology doesn't have to be expensive. You do not have to have the most expensive or the latest. However, it is good to get help with the purchase of someone skilled if you are unsure or if you have the opportunity to test different technologies to know that it works. All that is needed is a 360 camera and VR helmet. The best way to learn the technique is by trying it.

4. Find places, stories and environment to film

It might be challenging to find places, stories and environment to film. Contact your local museums, community associations and library users for this kind of questions. They most likely have this kind of information as well as information about famous people and events.



Staff from the library, trying VR

5. Sample Film

An easy way to learn how to work new equipment is by “trial and error”. By using the equipment, you’ll learn how to set the camera, height, light, sound and more. You can be the actor of these films. A way of testing audio and video is to put the camera outdoors in a typical environment for the municipality.



Staff from the library and the museum, in a soldier craft

6. Record movies with the target audience

Record short films, 2-5 minutes long, at least initially. It is difficult to shoot longer films with a 360 camera. The idea is not to get professional films, but to attract the interest of local history and dare to try new technology in an easy way.

7. Edit movies

Cut error sayings, add title text and a small intro melody, downloaded from free audio library.

8. View the movies

Think about to make the films visible based on the rights you have to show them. It could be with VR equipment in the library and museum, on the Internet (YouTube), and more. Everyone who participated in the films had to write an agreement on paper that the films may be shown, as well as custodians to anyone under the age of 18.

Method

1. Select one or more target groups.
2. Tell about the local history in collaboration with the local community associations and museums that are in the municipality.
3. Record movies inspired by local history with the target audience through a 360 camera.
4. Use the films as inspiration for others and to encourage more people to try new technology.
5. Advertise your local history through media channels.

Results

The films in this project are not the results for itself. The most important results are involvement of the community, their interest in the pasts; The ability to teach people new computer and media literacy skills; The collaboration between different cultural institutions can be very beneficial to the whole community, not only institutions themselves.



Props from one of the film lessons

Know more!

- Vingrot.wordpress.com
- Bibliotek.vaggeryd.se
- Miliseum.com

Denmark

My life

Herning public library

Herning public library wanted to create a website that will help people write down their memoirs or selected memories from their lives. A website "My life" was created. Memories can be published on this site and on site www.herninghistorie.dk. In addition, the memories can be printed so that they can be given to children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, etc.

Background

The history of everyday life is an important new approach that complements formal academic research and the history of "known" local people, i.e. local celebrities. Many older people are like "private curators" of interesting local stories that would never find a place in official history. If we do not collect them now, they will be lost.

The goal of this project was to make a collection of ordinary people's memories. At the same time, Herning public library tried to add more content to the website "herninghistorie.dk".



GET STARTED!

Target group

The website addresses all age groups, but special attentions was paid 'ordinary citizens'

Timeline

13 months

Method

Website combined with personal communication, as well as dissemination on various platforms.

Budget

Payroll expenses, as well as care costs.

Number of staff needed

1

Description of the activity

1. Collection and examination of various kinds of collections of memories and stories, then preparation of requirement specifications for the website. Among other things regarding the Personal Data Act (GDPR), uploading of images and the target audience.
2. Preparation of the "My life" website. Publication of the site. A large event when the site officially aired was organized. Flyers were distributed, posters were displayed and the page was presented to interested guests. There was also advertising on the archive's Facebook page and the Facebook page "Herningnostalgi" ("Herning nostalgia").
3. Promotion of the page on relevant websites (Facebook pages), the daily press, and via Herning Municipality's other 13 archives.
4. "Memory workshops" – writing workshops in collaboration with the municipality's archives and the library.



Results

The website www.herninghistorie.dk/mitliv has been launched and has been presented at a large open house event in "The House of History" in Herning. There were approx. 700 visitors. Next, advertising is planned on Facebook pages, and roll out to the municipality's other 13 archives, which will also disseminate the site. Later, workshops, exhibitions and history cafés are planned at the main and local libraries in the municipality.



Know more!

- Herninghistorie.dk/mitliv
- Herninghistorie.dk

Conclusions

Each library participating in the project “Cultural Heritage for the Future: Discover, Share and Learn” has unique experience working with local history and is presenting it through both traditional and innovative forms of communication: creating virtual exhibitions, 360 movies with VR technology, organizing study tours, creating board games, databases and websites where everyone can share fragments of their memories.

In all countries libraries are trying to involve its' users in creative workshops and educational activities. Teaching and learning programs are developed in collaboration with museums, archives and other cultural institutions. By sharing practices and experiences of working with cultural heritage, the participating libraries aim to promote the cultural heritage and local history of each country. One of the main goals of all libraries is to engage communities, to encourage them to share their memories, their own version of history. Some libraries use academic approach and work with schools, others try to present local history and its' research as a fun leisure time activity. However, there is not one right to way get in touch with the community. But all presented projects and activities from each participating libraries show that people are willing to participate in adult education, to learn new skills, try out new technology.

Projects of different sorts is a great tool for librarians to get to know each other as well as be acquainted with libraries and other cultural organizations around the world. It is through various projects that librarians are introduced to participating partner's cultures and societies. But the main goal of this study “Libraries for communities” is to inspire other librarians and professionals who work with cultural heritage and local history to try something new in their work, to use different methods, involve new target groups. And hopefully new people will find their way to libraries.

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