

Guidance and outreach activities in Slovenia: Reaching adults in their work and living space

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Tanja Vilič Klenovšek, Msc, SIAE



CONTENT

1. GUIDANCE IN ADULT EDUCATION
2. 17 GUIDANCE CENTRES IN SLOVENIA AND GUIDANCE FOR EMPLOYEES (ESF project)
3. DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF OUTREACH: HOW TO REACH ADULTS IN THEIR WORK AND LIVING SPACE?
4. GUIDANCE DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC



GUIDANCE IN ADULT EDUCATION IN SLOVENIA

Definition of guidance in adult education as public service (new Guidelines for Guidance in EA, 2020):

As part of guidance in AE adult education counsellors **offer professional support to adults who plan to enter into education or continue** their previously-started education. They help adults decide by giving them comprehensive information regarding their education possibilities in the primary school programme for adults, in secondary and higher vocational education programmes for adults, in verified education programmes for adults that do not grant an officially recognised educational qualification and in non-formal education programmes for adults. Adult education counsellors also **encourage and motivate adults to participate in LLL**, they support them before, during and after their education and learning. They also **support adults in their career development**. And they are **connecting guidance and validation** of prior learning.



2001-2020:

- 17 regional guidance centres in AE

2016-2022:

- ESF project „Guidance for employees“



SLOVENIAN GUIDANCE CENTRES (ISIO centres): from 2001 to 2020

2 main goals:

1. **The main goal** is to provide free of charge high quality level of information and guidance for all adults in regional/local environment
2. **The second goal** is to connect different partners in „regional guidance network“

➤ **Financed** by the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport

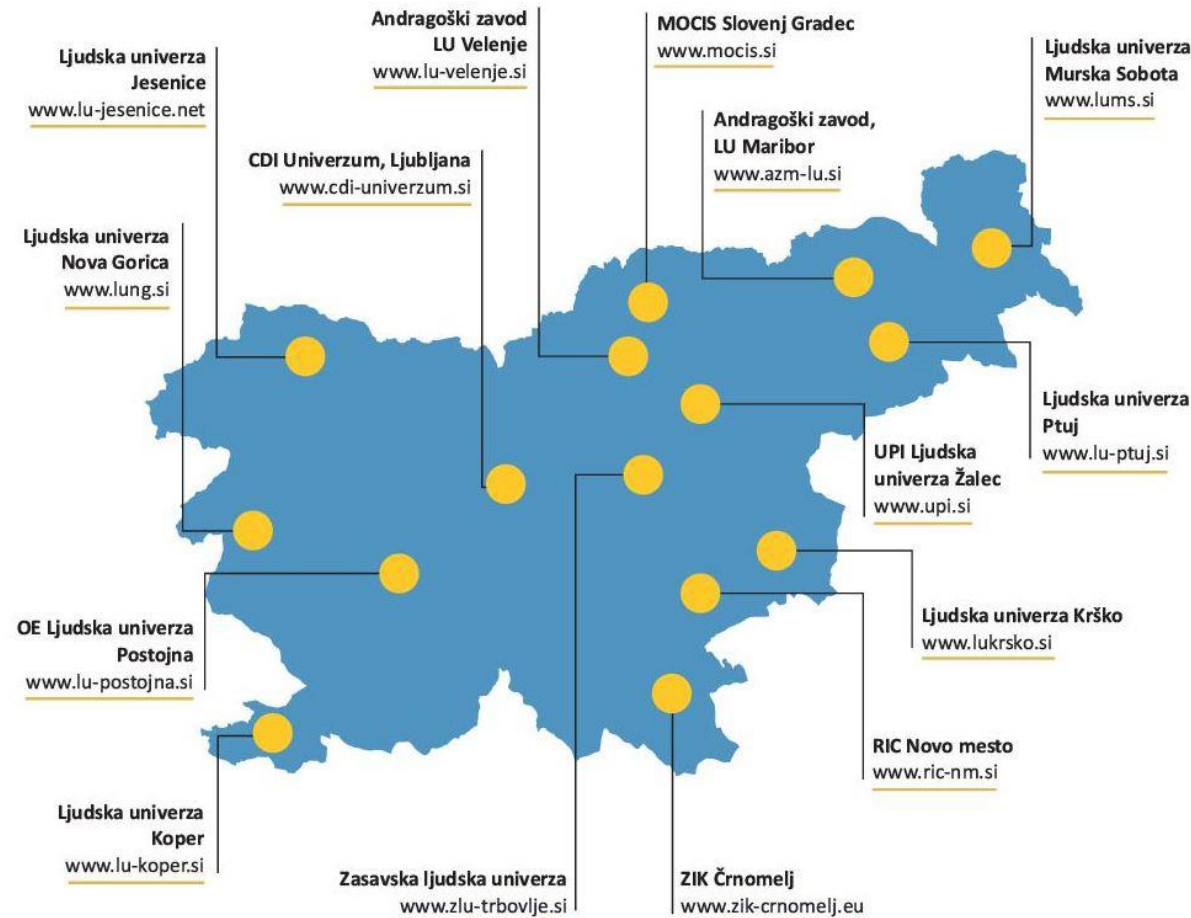


2001-2020:

- **17 guidance centres** are settled in 17 folk high schools in 14 different regions: focusing on local needs of various target groups of adults: <http://isio.acs.si>
- 2 in the 5 major regions and 1 in each of other 7 regions
- **Outreach approach:** from 2004
- **100 counsellors** were trained for ISIO centres
- **190.000 individual** adults and **3.500 group** sessions
- **17 networks:** 330 partners

SIAE monitor and support their work and development

Co-financing by ESF and Ministry of Education, Science and Sport: Public tender for financing guidance and validation of non-formal knowledge and skills of employees 2016 – 2022



WHAT DOES OUTREACH GUIDANCE MEAN?

/.../outreach as a range of activities outside formal educational institutions designed to identify and attract non-learners, in order to encourage them to enroll in education and training programmes /.../ (Eurydice Report on Adult Education, 2015:p. 58)

/.../outreach guidance as a range of activities outside the guidance centre, at different places, in other institutions, public places etc. With a main goal to reach different target groups of adults (especially vulnerable groups of adults) and encourage them to enroll in education and training /.../ (V.Klenovšek, SIAE, 2004)



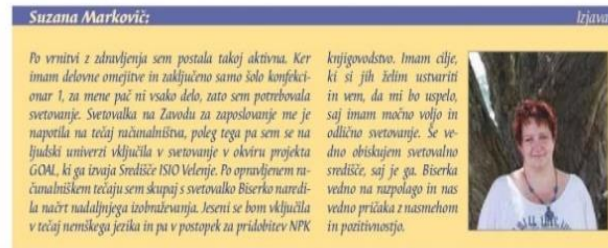
DIFFERENT APPROACHES TO OUTREACH

Directly to reach the target group/s which want to be involved in counselling and in LLL:

- 1- Promotional activities (awareness raising)
- 2- Informing and counselling outside of the guidance centre

In collaboration with partners in partnership/networks:

- 3-cooperation with an organization/s through which it can be reached the desired target group of adults (also partners as referral)



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OUTREACH FOR BETTER ACCESS TO LLL FOR VULNERABLE TARGET GROUPS

We have developed:

- **Outreach units of guidance centre:** so called »permanent outdoor locations«
- **Mobile guidance service:** *guidance at the workplace*, in Roma villages, in prisons etc.
- **Special promotional campaigns:** at the national level **Days of guidance centres** - each year in September; this year we will organise on 24 September also the „**KNOWLEDGE DAY**“ *in collaboration with the trade unions* (to promote LLL for employees)
- **The presence of the counsellors at the events in the local community:** different in different communities
- **Info points in public places:** permanent or occasional



CONDITIONS FOR EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE OUTREACH

(at SIAE we prepared a Professional Manual about outreach work, as result of collaboration in Erasmus+ project GOAL 2015-2018: <https://adultguidance.eu/>)

- **Planned approach**
 - As a part of work in guidance centre, planning the % of work hours
 - Different approaches for different target groups and goals
- Sufficient number of counsellors
- Trained counsellors for outreach work
- Financial resources
- Partnership and cooperation in local community
- Monitoring and evaluation



OUTREACH DURING THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC

- ✓ **Online Counselling (c. from a distance) as an approach of outreach:** promotion and informing (with information on web pages, fb, instagram, etc.) and counselling (through digital media)
- ✓ **There's multiple aspects important to this:**
 - **environment in which the counsellor is working:** counsellor from his work organization or his home gaining access to adults through digital tools, either at their workplace or at home
 - **type of digital tool:** through smartphone or web applications like Microsoft Teams, Zoom, WebEx, Webinar, which are used by the counsellor who has the competence to use these (and the qualification to lead the online counselling process/at a distance)
 - **readiness of the adult for counselling** in the counselling process with the use of selected digital media
 - **advance preparation, note-taking and evaluation** of the counselling process
 - **being aware of the pros and cons** of online counselling/ coounselling at a distance



zoom



OUTREACH DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC: experiences of counsellor Maja Rotar, Cene Štupar – Ljubljana Public Education Centre



Questions for counsellor Maja:

1. *Which activities from the side of the counsellor as preparation for online counselling were taking place during the time of the Covid-19 pandemic to reach out to employees?*
2. *How did online counselling take place (especially, which digital media was used) and how did the counselees respond to it?*
3. *What are in your experience the pros and cons of online counselling (counselling at a distance)?*

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

Contacts:

Tanja Vilič Klenovšek: tanja.vilic.klenovsek@acs.si

Maja Rotar: maja.rotar@cene-stupar.si

