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Dacssiltax
Developing Administration
and Customer Service
Skills in Local Taxation

“Developing Qualifications for Europe”

■ Leonardo da Vinci Project DACSSILTAX (Developing Administration and Customer Service Skills in Local Taxation)

Rapid change in local authority administration has raised the awareness across Europe of the need for new standards and working practices.

The need has been driven by fiscal decentralisation initiatives, internationalisation of the property market, making local taxation more responsive to local needs, and the need to develop qualifications in line with a workable and transparent training process.

It is against this background that the IRRV has taken the initiative to seek the establishment of a trans-European training system for local authority staff, suitably experienced and qualified to respond to taxpayers and service providers alike.

In this project, training modules will be developed, and the financing will come mainly from the EU Leonardo da Vinci fund for vocational training.

■ The Partnership

Three of the partners are organisations from Central and Eastern Europe, including Ovidius University, Constanza, Romania, the Ministry of Finance in Czech Republic Ceska Danova Sprava, and the Association of Municipalities based in Sofia, Bulgaria. Rapid changes in Government and Economic Policy make these organisations uniquely placed to make a contribution and benefit from the project. The two major existing EU partners, IRRV and SUMA of Spain have a vast amount of international experience between them, but have a different approach to local taxation. The project will be supported by other partners including University of Wales, Warrington Borough Council and Nelson Croom providing state of the art technical input.

The outcome of the project will be a set of 10 training modules delivering a mixture of academic study and practical experience. These modules will be designed, approved and tested initially in the languages of the partnership. They will form the major part of a training framework, designed specifically for use in local authorities, and produced in such a way that they can be updated as required.

■ Delivering an International Standard

A successful Leonardo partnership depends on full participation by all partners. The project has been structured so as to encourage participation at every level. Common ownership of the project will ensure a considerable commitment to ensuring that the results of the project will be implemented at a local level and local authorities will use the material for its own internal training programmes. Crucially, the material will be common to all participating partners who will be able to strengthen their domestic training programmes.

The project will continue beyond the period of EU financial support. It will be viable because it will be supported by subscriptions and payments for training modules.



Warrington Borough Council

