



Dementia in Cultural Mediation

How can cultural activities improve social inclusion of people with dementia?

Dementia in Cultural Mediation (DCUM) is a transnational project motivated by the increasing number of people suffering from dementia in Europe. The project is based on the great potential in the use of culture and cultural activities as a new approach to create social inclusion of people with dementia in local communities. Cultural activities create a framework for new communities of literature, art, creativity and culture which will increase the joy of life and the perception of social inclusion for people with dementia.

Project goal

To reach the overall purpose the DCUM project will increase the competencies of Cultural Mediators working in cultural institutions such as libraries, museums and civil society organizations through exchange of tools and learning of new ways to practice cultural mediation aimed at people with dementia. The project also develops an easily accessible toolkit, not only for

the participating partners but for all organizations and Cultural Mediators who are interested in inspiration and practical methods for cultural mediation aimed at people with dementia.

A digital toolkit for Cultural Mediators

The project develops an opensource digital toolkit containing methods, tools and training material for cultural mediation targeted people with dementia.

Cultural Mediators exchange practical methods and tools across national borders during 3 exchange periods within the project timeline. During the project period the tools are continuously collected into a final toolkit.

The digital toolkit consists of presentation and instructional videos and pictures as well as guides to support the use of each method.

In addition, the toolkit is supported by a specially developed training material based on a didactic approach. The purpose of the training material is to sup-

port and advice the Cultural Mediators in planning and completing the cultural activities aimed especially at people with dementia.

What are the prospects and initiatives?

In conclusion the project develops a number of recommendations to contribute to future European efforts in the fields of dementia and culture. The recommendations will be based on the project experiences and results as well as the outcomes from the dialogues and meetings in the reference group.

A European reference group

In addition to the partners, the project consists of a European reference group constellated of highly recognized experts in the fields of dementia and culture, representatives of interest groups and representative

of the end user group eg. professors, informal caregivers, activity coordinators and dementia advisors etc.

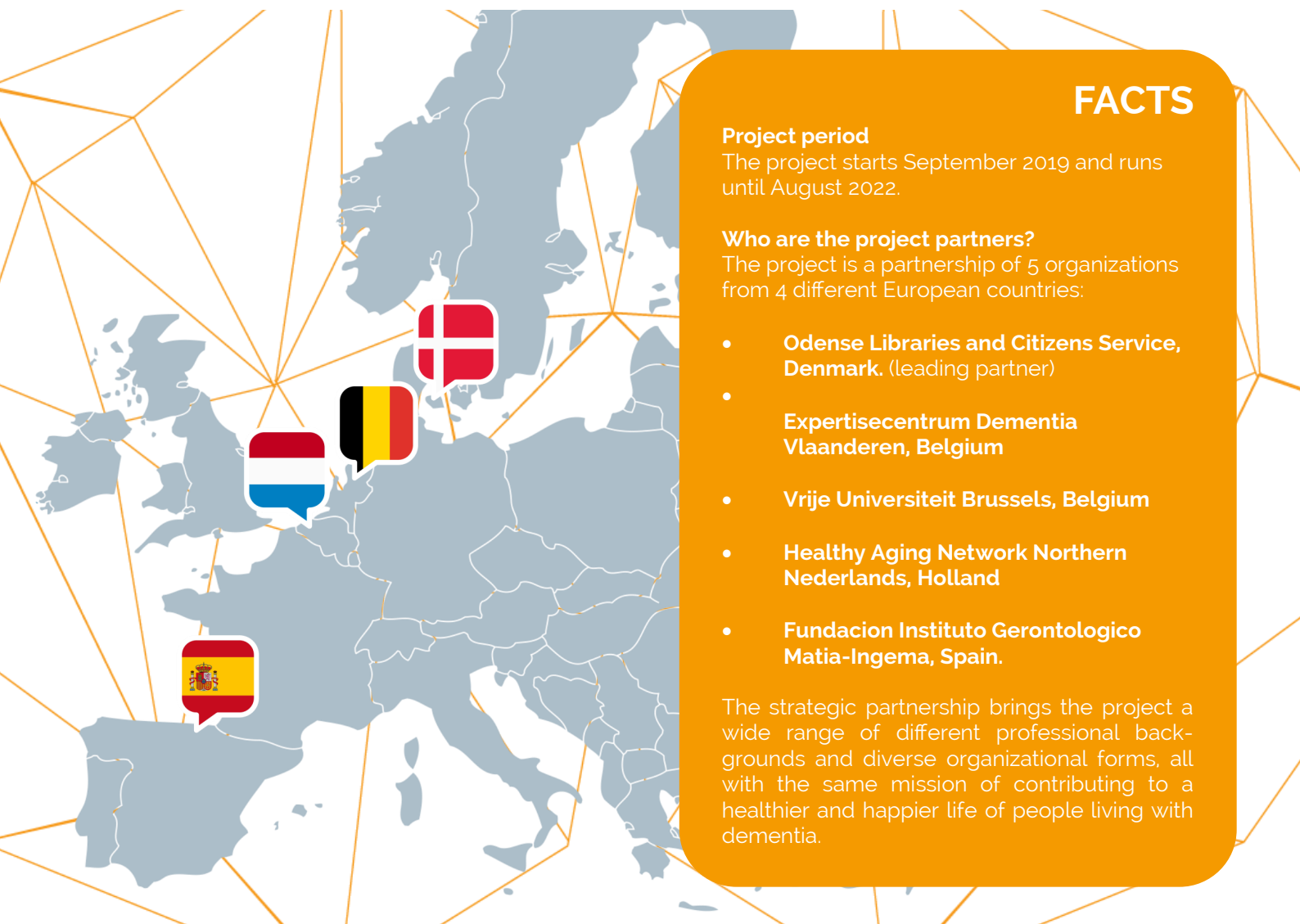
Their tasks are to qualify project deliveries, discussing topics related to the aim of the project, deliver recommendations to the project and act as ambassadors of the project.

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FACTS

Project period

The project starts September 2019 and runs until August 2022.

Who are the project partners?

The project is a partnership of 5 organizations from 4 different European countries:

- **Odense Libraries and Citizens Service, Denmark.** (leading partner)
- **Expertisecentrum Dementia Vlaanderen, Belgium**
- **Vrije Universiteit Brussels, Belgium**
- **Healthy Aging Network Northern Netherlands, Holland**
- **Fundacion Instituto Gerontologico Matia-Ingema, Spain.**

The strategic partnership brings the project a wide range of different professional backgrounds and diverse organizational forms, all with the same mission of contributing to a healthier and happier life of people living with dementia.

