



Education and Culture DG
Lifelong Learning Programme

LIGHT

INNOVATIVE METHODS AND PRACTICES TO FACILITATE SOCIAL INCLUSION

Project No. 503575-LLP-1-2009-1-LT-GRUNDTVIG-GMP

PARTNER'S PRESENTATION: BAOBAB (SPAIN)



24th February, 2010

LIGHT – International seminar, Utrecht



PRESENTATION OF BAOBAB:

1) PROFILE

- **PRIVATE NON-PROFIT ASSOCIATION.**
- **SMALL ASSOCIATION: PERMANENT STAFF: 5 PEOPLE.
TEMPORAL STAFF: 10 - 20 PEOPLE.**
- **MAIN GOAL: SOCIAL AND LABORAL INTEGRATION OF DISADVANTAGED GROUPS.**
- **TARGET GROUPS:**
 - Migrant people.
 - Ethnic minorities.
 - Children, young people, women and senior citizens in risk of social exclusion.
 - Disabled people.
 - Drug addicted people.

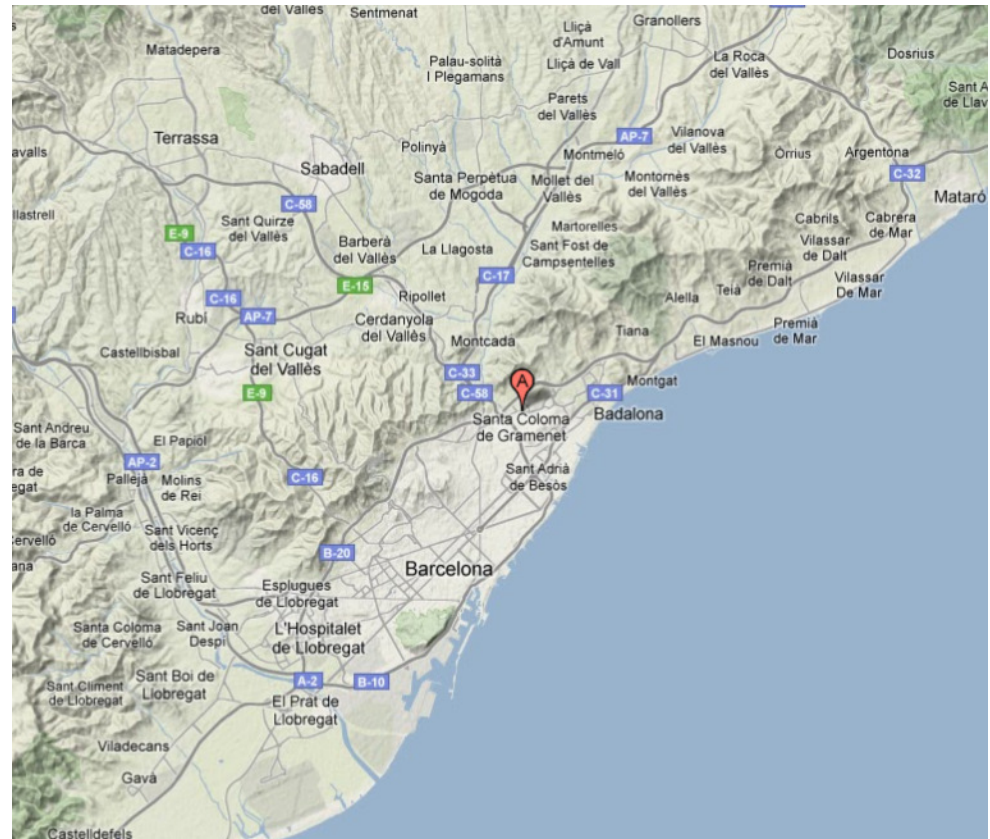


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PRESENTATION OF BAOBAB: 2) LOCATION

- **Santa Coloma de Gramenet (Barcelona):**
 - **130.000 unhabitants.**
 - **30% of migrant population.**
 - Morocco
 - China
 - Pakistan
 - Bangla Desh
 - Romania
 - South American countries (Ecuador, Colombia, Perú, Bolivia, ...)
 - **95% of population with migration background (from other regions of Spain).**
 - **Unemployment tax: 23%.**
 - **No industry.**
 - **80% of labor force moves to other cities to work (Barcelona,...).**





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PRESENTATION OF BAOBAB: 3) ACTIVITIES

- **ACTIVITIES:** Training of trainers and training of users, counseling, mentoring, development of learning tools, laboral orientation.
- **SOME OF OUR PROJECTS:**
 - **Adults in risk:** Open and virtual learning for adults returners, methodological guide for laboral integration of women in risk, job-club for senior citizens working in schools and high schools with migrants.
 - **Children and young people:** Prevention of bullyism, training for parents as vocational advisors of their children.
 - **Migrant people:** Network for the integration of migrats by their empowerment, methodological guide for professionals working with migrants.
 - **Disabled people:** Methodological guide for web designers to facilitate the access to visual and auditive disabled people, laboral integration of mental disabled people.



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SUCCESS STORY OVERCOMING SOCIAL EXCLUSION: JESÚS'S STORY, SPAIN



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Past situation regarding social exclusion

Jesús is 66 years-old.

He was retired in 2003, since he was 60.

He has a degree in Philosophy and another one in Primary Education.

Along his professional life he has been a teacher in primary and secondary school in different training centers in Santa Coloma de Gramenet, a small city in the metropolitan area of Barcelona City, with 30 per cent of migrant population.

He has a migration background. He was born in a small town of the province of Guadalajara (near Madrid).

He married a Catalan woman and he has 2 children, a man of 37 years and a women of 33.

Baobab contacted Jesús when he was working in a High School. He was so kind with us, and was a key person in different collaborations between Baobab and the High School, developing different common projects.

After 1 year from his retirement, he found his life was empty in a way and he felt he wanted to do something more for the community.



Methods used to help Jesús to overcome social exclusion

When Jesús contacted Baobab in 2004, we thought about how we could help him, and how he could help us.

At the beginning, he started to collaborate with Baobab in voluntary work in order to manage the relations between us and the training centres of Santa Coloma de Gramenet to promote the mutual collaboration. This task was really fruitful.

From this basis, Jesús started to establish contacts with different organisations of the local community, and in 2005 he started to collaborate in the elaboration of the Educative Project of the City. This project, promoted by the local City Council, aimed to look after the needs of all the educative agents of the local community. Jesús was a key person in this project thanks to his long experience as a teacher in the city, and his knowledge of the local reality.

In 2007, the organisation “Centre Comerç”, local association of commerce companies, offered him to be the President of the organisation, with the main goal of organizing training programs for the commerce workers, according to their needs.



Actual situation

After 3 years collaborating in the “Educative Project of the City”, and 2 years as a President of “Centre Comerç”, Jesús was deeply disappointed:

1.- The City Council didn’t give to the Educative Project the relevance needed to assume the challenge of improving the quality of the educative services.

2.- In the association “Centre Comerç”, he felt like the problems among their members affects to his work.

And finally, at the beginning of 2009, he left his responsibilities in both projects, and remains just as a consultant.

He has learnt that he likes to work for the community, and this activity enrich his personal life, but he has also learnt that is better to leave that other people take the responsibilities and remain just in a supporting role.