




**Seniors in the Knowledge Society**  
**Grundtvig Learning Partnership**  
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**Older hands-on the Information Society Technologies**

**LENA Learning in the post-professional phase**  
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**PhDr. Rosemarie Kurz**  
Referentin für Generationenfragen  
Österreichische Hochschülerschaft  
Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz

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Referentin für Generationenfragen  
Österreichische Hochschülerschaft  
Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz



**Seniors in the Knowledge Society**  
**Older hands-on ICT**

● "Inclusion" is a keyword for establishing a Europe-wide Information Society.

- Over half of the population in Europe does not have access or are marginalized, for reasons of economics, geographical location, culture and age.
- We need to diffuse and provide literacy in basic computer skills for those being excluded.
- We must take in account how the profile of the older people has changed over time.
- Important obstacles between older citizens and new technologies:
  - There is the lack of psychological readiness to recognize the radical paradigmatic changes the Information Society is producing on everyone's way of life.
  - The lack of adequate "computer literacy" instruments available, that cover the needs and respect the learning styles and preferences of the over 65'

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Referentin für Generationenfragen  
Österreichische Hochschülerschaft  
Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz



## Seniors in the Knowledge Society Older hands-on ICT

### Four obstacles for e-inclusion

- Older people are often affected by a progressive – even if slow – functional loss in perception as well as in cognitive and in motor function.
- The senior user must learn that it is not his/her fault, so that he/she will not give up the technology after the first unsuccessful attempts.
- For an older user the ICT jargon is frightening as the word “fatal” or “illegal” are associated to death and to sanctions or jail.
- Elders generally are afraid of making errors!

Older hands-on ICT mainly aims at establishing “emotional” relationship and “friendship” between technologies and older users, of “introducing technologies to elders” and vice-versa.

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Referentin für Generationenfragen  
Österreichische Hochschülerschaft  
Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz




## Seniors in the Knowledge Society Older hands-on ICT

### Subjects for getting to know ICT

- Political Life/Active Citizenship
- Using private/public institutions websites and services
- Personal Finances
- What can be bought online?
- What can be paid online?
- How? Credit Card types; PayPal and similar Relationship
- Participating in groups/blogs/forums
- Leisure, Health Care
- Domestic Life, Education

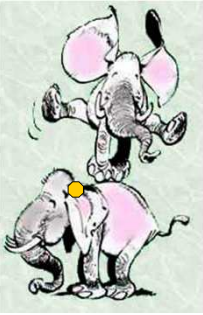


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**Methodology:**


Older Hands-on ICT started from everyday life situations, in order to show how, in many different application domains ICT can help us.



**Technologies** are only introduced with constant reference to specific real-life cases, each one being the focus for a unit session.


**Hands-on activities and simulations** are included in the different sessions with a **game-like approach**, in order to let participants “play” with the technologies, and **overcome the hostility barrier** which usually stands between older ICT users and ICT

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Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz

 **Older hands-on ICT**

**MEASURABLE OUTCOME:**

- Higher performance in executing IST-mediated activities
- Shorter execution time
- Lower error rate
- Enhanced navigation skills through complex information structures (web sites)
- Increased number of connections to the Internet per month
- Increased number of online activities per month



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Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz



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### OBSERVABLE OUTCOMES

- Increased self-confidence when using new technologies
- Change of attitude when discussing about technologies (“now I have used it! I know how to do that again! It is not a monster anymore”)
- Willingness to try again
- Willingness to learn more about IST, or to go depth with some specific topics or tools



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Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz



## Seniors in the Knowledge Society Older hands-on ICT

### Hands-on ICT is aimed at:

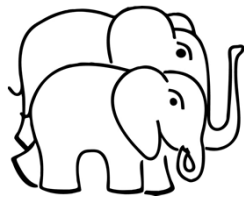
- giving older technology users a taste of IST,
- providing older people with a set of very basic operational skills and of basic knowledge through Hands-on activities

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## About the Elephant Symbol

Elephants are said to be symbol of old age and wisdom, they walk in a flock with the young.



When water is short, the old animals are the ones to point the way to the water holes, but they drink moderately.

In turn the young stay with the old when they die.

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Österreichische Hochschülerschaft  
Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz



## Thank you for listening

PhDr. Rosemarie Kurz  
Austrian Students Union University Graz  
<http://oeh-ref-generationen.uni-graz.at/>  
[rosemarie.kurz@uni-graz.at](mailto:rosemarie.kurz@uni-graz.at)

**Dr. Rosemarie Kurz**  
Referentin für Generationenfragen  
Österreichische Hochschülerschaft  
Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz