

The Pilots project works towards THE PROFESSIONALISATION OF THE ROLE OF EXPLAINERS IN SCIENCE CENTRES AND MUSEUMS -

both through developing European training courses and through research on the role of explainers.



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Explainers, get involved ! www.thepilots.eu

WHO ARE EXPLAINERS?

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They often have different names depending on their exact role in the institution – animators, guides, edutainers, facilitators or PILOTS, among others.



WHY FOCUS ON EXPLAINERS?

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

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There is currently a lack of shared knowledge about the roles, tasks and professional status of explainers in different European science centres and museums. Little structured research exists about explainers. Training schemes for explainers are not easy to find.

Explainers from different institutions across Europe have little opportunity to meet and exchange ideas and best practices.

We see in our field that science centres and museums are transforming, from expository to participatory, from exhibitioncentred to engaging the public in a more active role. As our institutions evolve, the role of the explainer must evolve too. **PILOT** will be running training

courses for European explainers. This is an opportunity for explainers from your institution to benefit from the latest best practice from across Europe.

The **PILOTS** project will make use of the most up-to-date European literature, methodologies, protocols and other results coming from European good practices in order to update explainers' skills and knowledge, with a particular focus on adult visitors.

Courses last two or four days, and explainers in attendance will take part in a range of activities designed to hone various skills relevant to their role. Participants will share ideas about what it means to be an explainer, and share their own expertise as well as benefitting from of the experiences of others.

HOW CAN MY INSTITUTION MAKE THE MOST OF THIS TRAINING?

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All participants in **PILOT**

training courses must organise a training activity in their own institution, for their colleagues.

This allows explainers to share their experiences from **PILOTS** in their own language, and ensure that as many explainers as possible benefit from this best practice, in each participating institution.



WHAT IS **Pilot**s ?

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PILOT is a 2 year project with the support of the Lifelong Learning Programme of the European Union.

It is coordinated by Ecsite, the European Network of Science Centres and Museums, and the partners are : Technopolis[®], the Flemish Science Center in Mechelen, Belgium; La Cité des sciences et de l'industrie in Paris, France; Museo Nazionale della Scienza e della Tecnologia Leonardo da Vinci in Milan, Italy; SISSA Medialab in Trieste, Italy; Ciência Viva - Pavilion of Knowledge in Lisbon, Portugal and House of Experiments in Ljubljana, Slovenia. **PILOT** is aimed at Europe's community of science explainers. These individuals are brought together in THE Group, a thematic group of members of Ecsite, the European network of science centres and museums.

The **PILOTS** webplatform will host a wide variety of pedagogical material, gathered and produced by the project, and supporting a European community of explainers who use, share and add to the resources available.

Also available via this webplatform will be the results of research into the role of the explainer, carried out as an integral part of the project.







For more information, or to take part in a **PILOT** training course: **www.thepilots.eu**

or contact the **Ecsite Executive Office** Coudenberg 70/5, B-1000, Brussels, Belgium Tel ⁺32 2 649 73 83, Fax ⁺32 2 647 50 98 info@ecsite.net, **www.ecsite.net**

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