New phase in Care4U

The Care4U project reaches a new phase with the design of its interfaces that will allow the exchange of knowledge between caregivers to improve their capabilities. Partners from 4 European countries are collaborating to develop innovative approaches within the CARE4U project, funded with the support of the European Commission within the Erasmus + KA2 Strategic Partnership programme. The aim of the Care4U project is to improve the skills and competences of caregivers through the exchange of practical knowledge, as well as to promote employability and the ability to work at EU level thanks to national guidelines on methodologies and best practices in each country. This exchange of skills and competences will be facilitated by ICT through an online learning platform. The platform will offer learning opportunities tailored to the individual needs of adult students. The materials on the platform will be available to institutions of higher education, as well as to organizations and entities that provide training to future caregivers. For the pilot, content related to:

- common issues in care tasks in particular in the areas related to physical and sensory, cognitive, emotional, language and social behavior and communication;
- promote health with knowledge about nutrition and diets, sleep, physical activities, socialising, fall prevention, hygiene, first aid, leisure activities
- self care including advice on it, details on knowledge and skills, personal skills, reflection and problem solving

After launching the platform including these basic contents in the pilot phase, it will be possible to expand and upload more content depending on the needs of the end users.

A sample of the interfaces that will allow interaction on the platform and that have been tested by 2 users (formal or informal) of each participating country (Spain, England, Austria and Romania) can be seen in the following image:

In general, comments from end users who have evaluated the interfaces are positive. They like the design and they think the envisaged working of the platform will be very useful to learn and to share their knowledge. One of the most relevant limitations for them is the language, since sometimes users will not be able to learn about subjects in which content is not in their language of origin. So it will be evaluated if once the project is finished, content can be included in all the languages for the same topic. In addition, they are very interested in participating in forums to share their experiences on a practical level.

In the coming months, the platform will be implemented and it is expected that in March 2019, tests will be carried out with a greater number of end users indicating their impressions.