



## **Make - Able**

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### **Abstract**

Organisations concerned with adult life-long learning with mental disabilities are collaborating in a six-fold partnership project (Cerebral Palsy Midlands-UK, Università Senza Età-Italy, Impulz ZPMP-Slovakia, Muzeum mesta Usti-Ceck Republic, Mentalia Puerto-Spain, Senaedin wzw-Belgium) entitled 'Make-Able'. They will encourage vulnerable groups of adults to acquire the social and cultural competencies that can help them become sufficiently self-confident to start being active members of the society in which they live and work. The partnership will explore, develop and share this citizen model of disability by actively engaging adults with mental disabilities, partly through mobilities at partnership meetings, but mainly through on-going activities in partner organisations between meetings. In simultaneously training facilitators, Make-Able will evolve alternative approaches to learning, identify good practices, and share innovative methodologies, using alternative cultural environments. Partnership staff will organise opportunities for three groups of project learners (adults with mental disability, their support workers, and arts facilitators) to participate together in the practice and enjoyment of visual arts, crafts, and performance exploring traditional and experimental approaches. Methodological and visual results will be disseminated to local audiences at exhibitions and performances and to a wider European public through partners' web sites. The partnership generally, aims to encourage all three groups of project learners, to benefit from social and personal change by learning how to learn from each other through actively engaging in arts practices. Specifically, the project will enable adults with mental disabilities to enhance their transferable capabilities, gain self-confidence and aspire to more formal learning.

The added value of this partnership is that each partner contributes to create this project with its identity, in fact there are not only mental health institutions, but also a reality museum, a family home and our cultural association. All these areas share the same objective: to give dignity to people with mental disorders.