



uniteIT
e-Inclusion Network

Unite IT Code of Ethics



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Introduction

To establish itself as a professional Network For Digital Inclusion in Europe, the Unite IT Network has adopted a Code of Ethics (Annex 7).

This document is an agreement between Unite IT partners and network members.

The Code of Ethics has been designed by the founding members and it is made up of four elements:

- A Mission Statement
- Core Actions
- Network values
- Good Practices

Each member of the Unite IT Network should adopt, on a voluntary basis, and adhere to the Unite IT Code of Ethics. Through its acceptance, the Network will ensure that its members share the same important values and will create a strong and sustainable partnership.

Mission Statement

The aim of the Unite IT Network is uniting Europe through digital empowerment by:

- Collecting and sharing practices and findings on how digital competence can assist groups at risk of exclusion to reconnect with learning, as a mean to foster employability, social inclusion and social cohesion;
- Creating new links and dialogue across societal domains to promote joint initiatives to tackle digital divides;
- Empowering organisations and individuals about their contribution to overcome the challenge of digital divide in Europe.



Network core objectives

The Unite IT Network strives to achieve the following specific objectives:

- Establishing the network, providing the operational and administrative **ground and guidance** on the basis of which the members can exchange practices, share resources and visions on digital competence for inclusion, as well as take advantage of successful practices already in place;
- Developing an **online portal** to serve the network, containing information, news, materials, access to network databases of practices and policies in Europe with specific regard to ICT for inclusion and social cohesion;
- Pooling **resources** both in terms of documents and practices, collected and stored by means of structured tools;
- Establishing **working groups** in identified sub-areas related to digital competence for inclusion, i.e. employability, access to education for groups-at-risk, access to ICTs, gender equality in digital competence etc.: these working groups, initially promoted by the members of the consortium, will be enriched by the participation of relevant stakeholders coming from business, society and policy fields during the running of the network;
- Raising **awareness** about the value of digital competence for inclusion and social cohesion purposes, dealing with policy makers and stakeholders at all levels, national and regional authorities, others concerned with the field;
- Promoting **links and positive synergies** at a horizontal level (among policy makers, among practitioners in Europe, among other stakeholders), and at sectoral level (between policy and practice).

Network values

- We aspire to be a network of Digital inclusion professionals and to gather comprehensive, but quality knowledge of ICT and digital skills for inclusion and digital empowerment, covering the education and training professionals, ICT business representatives, users' organisations, societal organisations and telecentres, local, national and EU authorities and ICT solutions providers;
- We will follow good practice standards in all our dealings both with network partners and users. We will use every opportunity to build the network, embrace best practices and encourage the valuable contributions of Unite IT colleagues;
- We aspire to build trust amongst network members through our behavior and responsiveness and to carry out our work with enthusiasm and appreciation. We will make Unite IT a Network of Excellence in terms of quality in the delivery of our services. We will be a guarantee for the quality of the knowledge collected and shared within the network;



- We respect and value the diversity, knowledge and experience of network members. We identify, use and build from the knowledge and expertise of network members in all of our work;
- We believe that by working together we will have a larger impact on achieving a just, inclusive and vibrant European Information Society than if we work separately. We are committed to open and free sharing of information among network members;
- We are committed to transparency in all of our operations and decisions;
- Our network exists to serve and strengthen our members. As part of this, we are committed to a governance model that provides for member voice and participation.

Good Practices

Good practices are important to set the background and rules for professional and ethical behaviour for all those who are involved in the network and to indicate to third parties the standard expected from the Unite IT Network.

- Professionalism
 - Integrate motivated and engaged Network Members;
 - Offer realistic services and provide regular and consistent animation of the network
 - Organize events and workshops with a high level of quality and relevance.
- Trust & Enthusiasm
 - Perform and report the network activities in a consistent and transparent way;
 - Reply promptly to members' requests, providing full information required;
 - Provide complete and correct information to support the digital inclusion actors
 - Maintain an up-to-date status.
- Effectiveness and efficiency
 - Contribute to the continuous development of Excellence in the network;
 - Provide complete and correct information on time;



