# Offline Project Idea Form for CENTRAL EUROPE

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| **Project name** | Innovative Animal Assisted Therapies for improvingthe quality and competitiveness of private health services in Central Europe(AAT.HEALTH) |
| **Contact Person** | Giampaolo Peccolo |
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| **Which of the programme priorities best describes your project:**(for more information on these priorities please see the About section of the programme homepage) | X | Priority 1: Facilitating innovation |  |
|  | Priority 2: Improving accessibility  |
|  | Priority 3: Using our Environment Responsibly |
|  | Priority 4: Enhancing competitiveness and Attractiveness of Cities and Regions |
| **What is the aim of your project? What are the issues, problems or opportunities you want to address?**(max. 1000 characters) | One of the most promising approach to health services are the so called Animal Assisted Activities and Therapies (AAA and AAT): their strong effectiveness is scientifically proved at EU and international level. Nevertheless the wide application of AAT is affected by some critical aspects, that halt their systematic exploitation for the neuropsychiatric diseases treatments, mainly connected with the fact that the exploitation of the AAT is left to a large number of small private organizations/providers, not supported by the adequate skilled professionals and tools - equipped structures.The main object of the project consists in strengthening the development, the spreading and the application of AAT by fostering the diffusion of skilled health professionals within the Central Europe health systems.  |
| **Expected results**(Either quantifiable or tangible(max. 1000 characters) | * deepen knowledge on innovative therapies (e.g. animal/horse assisted therapies) for the treatment of neuropsychiatric diseases and on their applications;
* improvement of skills and competences of health professionals on the issue of innovative treatments such as AAT by promoting the their training and the mobility ensuring, as final result, high competences and a right practice of innovative rehabilitation therapies;
* network established between research centres, private caring centres and institutional bodies in charge of the provision of health services, for a systematic introduction of AAT provided by skilled professionals.
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| **Estimated total cost**(€ if known) | 2 M€ |
| **Estimated project duration**(in months) | 36 months |
| **Partners involved at this stage**(Please indicate if they have experience of INTERREG funded projects and which projects)(max. 1000 characters) | University of Bologna, Italian National Reference Centre for Animal Assisted Interventions, Hungarian Riding for the Disabled Federation |
| **Further partners requested**Please indicate the desired partner profile (country, activity sector, expertise etc.)(max. 1000 characters) | Centers and institution oriented to research, practices and training on the issues of AAT, public administration in field of health care provision. |
| **How are the partners going to jointly benefit from this cooperation project?**(max. 1000 characters) | The project intends to foster in the Central Europe area the exploitation of AAT by introducing systematically skilled professionals able to provide high level services. The achievement of this objective is directly connected with an improvement of the Central Europe training system, orienting it towards the creation of new business qualifications with added value. According to this rationale, the project allows to strengthen the opportunities of Central Europe human resources, by boosting the spreading of new innovative knowledge and competences. |
| **What is innovative about this project?**(max. 1000 characters) | The innovative character of the project mainly lay on the promotion and the acknowledgement of new and advanced business competences in the health care system. In fact, the approach of the project strongly aims at integrating medical and social knowledge and practices for creating multi-purpose and high level professionals The broaden of the opportunities of the transnational training system in terms of creating innovative professionalism has a growing relevance for all European regions and a transnational approach allow to set up common strategies and nimble actions to face the problem. |
| **Is your project a follow-up to a previous project, or does it build on results of similar projects?**If so – which programme and project?(max. 1000 characters) | - |
| **If applicable, which other EU funding programmes have you applied to with this project?**If so – which programme and project?(max. 1000 characters)  | - |

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