

2nd NEWSLETTER

November 2023 - July 2024



Overview

Welcome to the second **ShapeMS** newsletter! We've got some exciting updates and news to share with you!

But first of all... What is **ShapeMS**? It is a European project that has set up a **learning platform** to cover all work-related aspects concerning people with multiple sclerosis, as well as employers, thus inclusively targeting the issue. It will include job opportunities, a step-by-step guide on how to approach employers and colleagues, and also online training modules.

Join us on this journey where we will show you the most relevant activities that have been done in the framework of the project in the last few months, as well as the next steps to be taken to shape the future for people with MS!

CONTENT

OVERVIEW

EVENTS

MS AWARENESS MONTH

WHAT'S NEXT

Outreach
in Austria

Training in
Italy

Training in
Cyprus

MS Awareness
Month

Outreach
in Italy

Next
steps

IEEN
Cyprus



CAMINOS
Spain



KI-I
Austria



CDPZ
Italy



UÜAÖSD
Turkey



EUROSC
Cyprus



Events

OUTREACH IN AUSTRIA

On November 29 2023, our Austrian partner **KI-I** held a multiplier event for **ShapeMS** in Linz.

That day, the event focused on what had been done so far in the first year of the project, with special emphasis on the project's platform – developed by KI-I – and its content, especially aimed at employers and mentors.

All the participants seemed very interested in the presentation, which was reflected in a lively discussion during the meet and greet. This response from the project's target group encourages us to continue working diligently!

On July 8-9 **KI-I** organized the "IKT (ICT) - Forum", a conference for people with and without disabilities in German language. On the second day during the "Inclusive pedagogy" section, **ShapeMS** was presented before an audience of diverse people. Amongst the attendees there were people living with MS, caregivers, researchers and technology providers for assistive technologies, as well as employers. The feedback at the end of the event was extremely positive and several participants wanted to recommend the project.

CONTENT

OVERVIEW

EVENTS

MS AWARENESS MONTH

WHAT'S NEXT



Events

OUTREACH IN ITALY

On July 13 2024, our Italian partner **Consulenza Direzionale Paolo Zaramella** held a multiplier event for **ShapeMS** in Treviso in close cooperation with AISM, the Italian MS association.

There were over 40 participants (in person and online) very focused on the project topic and its activities.

During the event, the most important points of the project so far were reviewed and future steps were outlined. The participants had the opportunity to learn more about the project platform, which will be launched soon after the scheduled piloting process.

Speakers and participants also discussed about two main obstacles and opportunities:

- How to increase the level of awareness (and knowledge) about the employability of people with MS, as in Italy most of the employers do not know enough about disability and work inclusion;
- How the public regional job office, that presented specific services for people with disabilities and work inclusion paths, could be involved in the project in a more effective way, for example in the pilot phase.

CONTENT

OVERVIEW

EVENTS

MS AWARENESS MONTH

WHAT'S NEXT



Events

TRAINING IN VICENZA (ITALY)

Between March 6 and 8, our learning, teaching and training activity in the framework of the **ShapeMS** project took place in Vicenza (Italy).

During those 3 days, we were able to share our educational materials aimed at improving the employability of people with multiple sclerosis, involving employers from the different countries participating in the project to shape a better future.

Participants from Cyprus, Italy, Spain, Turkey, and Austria shared their knowledge, experiences, and views to help us deliver the final and improved version of the platform modules.

TRAINING IN NICOSIA (CYPRUS)

A successful learning and training event took place in Nicosia, Cyprus on May 27-29.

The **ShapeMS** and D'Driven projects collaborated to invite stakeholders from various sectors, including employers, individuals with MS, and deaf and hard of hearing (DHH) individuals from across Europe. 37 participants were actively engaged in the learning and training activities of the event by raising their concerns and discussing their everyday challenges, sharing their stories, and receiving training on inclusive practices to promote as Disability Ambassadors and Mentors in their home countries.

CONTENT

OVERVIEW

EVENTS

MS AWARENESS MONTH

WHAT'S NEXT



MS Awareness Month

World MS Day is an international awareness day for everyone affected by multiple sclerosis. It brings the global MS community together to share stories, raise awareness, and campaign for change. It is officially marked on 30 May but activities take place throughout the month.

From the **ShapeMS** partnership we joined the campaign 'The MS Heart Challenge' launched by *World MS Day*, a symbol of solidarity for everyone affected by MS.

Did you do anything to commemorate this day? Tag us on our social media profiles you can see below, we want to know all about it!

CONTENT

OVERVIEW

EVENTS

MS AWARENESS MONTH

WHAT'S NEXT



Keep in touch with our upcoming events and developments by visiting the project website and our social networks!



What's next

PLATFORM PILOTING

In order for our platform to be really useful and adapted to the needs of the target group, before launching the final version we need the collaboration of the 4 target groups of the project in the participating countries: **young people with MS**, people with MS willing to be **mentors**, **employers** and **caregivers**.

Would you like to...

- **Be part of the support network of newly diagnosed people with MS?**
- **Help us create inclusive workplaces in your area?**

This is your chance to become part of the **ShapeMS** network! We invite you to become part of our community. Start by clicking on our learning platform:



RECRUITMENT

After the return from the summer holidays we will start a recruitment process. We would love to have your participation, just **get in touch** with the partner organisation in your country!



CONTENT

OVERVIEW

EVENTS

MS AWARENESS MONTH

WHAT'S NEXT