FraudShield Project Description

Content for partner university websites

FraudShield: Empowering Adults Against Financial Scams and Social Engineering in the Age of AI

Financial fraud is becoming increasingly sophisticated. Scammers use artificial intelligence, digital communication channels, and social engineering techniques to imitate trusted people and institutions, manipulate decisions, and obtain money or personal information.

Adults need more than general warnings about fraud. They need practical skills and learning opportunities that reflect their individual financial vulnerabilities and gaps in knowledge.

FraudShield is an Erasmus+ Cooperation Partnership in Adult Education that aims to strengthen adults' ability to recognise, verify, and resist financial scams and social engineering. The project will combine financial vulnerability assessment, case-based testing, personalised learning, and community support.

Although FraudShield uses validated assessment tools and evidence-based methods, its primary purpose is educational: to translate identified vulnerabilities and knowledge gaps into accessible and practical learning opportunities for adults.

Project at a glance

Project information	
Full title	FraudShield: Empowering Adults Against Financial Scams and Social Engineering in the Age of AI
Project acronym	FraudShield
Programme	Erasmus+
Action	KA220-ADU – Cooperation Partnerships in Adult Education
Project number	2026-1-CZ01-KA220-ADU-000465130
Duration	1 November 2026 – 31 October 2028
EU grant	EUR 400,000
Coordinator	Mendel University in Brno, Czechia
Partnership	FraudShield brings together seven organisations from five countries: ● Mendel University in Brno, Czechia – project coordinator; ● Prague University of Economics and Business, Czechia; ● University of Tirana, Albania; ● Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, Ukraine; ● Estonian Academy of Security Sciences, Estonia;

Project information	
	● Rīga Stradiņš University, Latvia; ● Ukrainian Modern Digital Science, Ukraine. The Deposit Guarantee Fund of Ukraine contributes to the project as an associated partner.

Project objectives

- identify financial vulnerabilities and decision-making risks among adults;
- assess gaps in the knowledge and skills needed to recognise and resist financial fraud;
- develop personalised learning recommendations based on complementary assessment results;
- create accessible learning materials on financial fraud, social engineering, and AI-enabled scams;
- prepare FraudShield Ambassadors who can support adult learners and share knowledge within their communities;
- provide digital and printable learning resources for adults with different levels of digital access;
- strengthen cooperation among universities, adult education providers, public authorities, and financial consumer-protection institutions.

Target groups

FraudShield is designed for adults of different ages and backgrounds, with particular attention to:

- adults aged 50+;
- people living in rural areas or communities with limited digital connectivity;
- adults affected by war, displacement, or financial insecurity;
- people with limited financial or digital literacy;
- adult educators, trainers, and community facilitators;
- public authorities, policymakers, financial-sector institutions, and consumer-protection organisations.

Main activities and expected results

Financial Vulnerability Assessment Tools

The project will adapt and validate two assessment tools developed by Professor Peter A. Lichtenberg and his colleagues: the Financial Exploitation Vulnerability Scale (FEVS) and the Lichtenberg Financial Decision Rating Scale (LFDRS). Project`s Financial Vulnerability Tests (FVTs) include FEVS and LFDRS.

These tools will help identify vulnerability to financial exploitation and assess challenges related to making specific financial decisions. Both tools will be adapted and validated in five languages. At least 1,500 participants across the partner countries will participate in testing.

FraudShield Test

The consortium will develop a case-based FraudShield Test containing at least 25 realistic fraud scenarios. It will assess the knowledge and practical skills adults need to recognise suspicious situations, verify information and respond safely.

Personalised learning

The assessment results will inform personalised learning recommendations, helping each participant understand which areas they should strengthen.

The project will develop:

- one General Micro-Course covering the main forms of financial fraud and social engineering;
- six Targeted Micro-Courses addressing specific knowledge and skills gaps;
- practical case studies, exercises and self-assessment activities;
- printable materials for learners with limited internet access.

FraudShield Platform

A multilingual digital platform will provide access to the assessment tools, personalised learning recommendations, micro-courses and practical learning materials.

The platform will bring assessment and education together in one accessible environment.

FraudShield Ambassadors

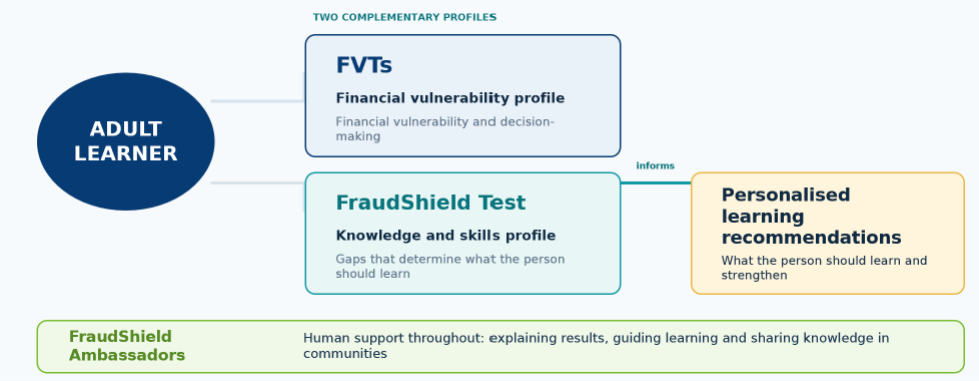
At least 30 FraudShield Ambassadors will be trained and certified. They will support adult learners, provide guidance, and help share knowledge about financial fraud within local communities.

The project will also develop a practical toolkit to support their work.

Training dissemination and policy recommendations

At least 300 adults will participate directly in FraudShield training activities. Local workshops, international events, and online communication will help disseminate the project's results.

The consortium will also prepare open-access publications and a Policy Brief with recommendations for adult education, financial consumer protection, and public policy.



Follow FraudShield

Follow the project's activities, learning resources, and events on social media:

Facebook: [https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61596082914701]

LinkedIn: [https://www.linkedin.com/company/fraudshield-erasmus/]

Erasmus Portal: [https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/projects/search/details/2026-1-CZ01-KA220-ADU-000465130]

EU funding acknowledgment

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