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PREVENTING INCIDENT OF **SEXUAL CYBERBULLYING** AMONG YOUTH WITH **INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY**

PROGRAMMES AND RESOURCES TO PROMOTE A RESPONSIBLE USE OF DIGITAL TOOLS

The **digital world** provides a space where **young people with intellectual disabilities** can freely express their thoughts and opinions, often without having to disclose their condition.

In order to take full advantage of the opportunities offered by the internet, it is essential that individuals have a sufficient level of digital literacy, i.e. the ability to safely find, evaluate and communicate information across digital platforms.

However, achieving this level of literacy can be particularly challenging for young people with intellectual disabilities. They are more vulnerable to the risks of the digital world, such as fraud, loss of privacy, harassment and 'sexual cyberbullying' (SCB), which involves sexual exploitation in online environments.

OBJECTIVES

The main aim of the project is to **develop and test educational resources to help young adults with intellectual disabilities use social media and the internet safely and responsibly**.

The aim is to maximise the benefits of expanding social networks and fostering positive identities characterised by a healthy and constructive sense of self. This process involves the development of key psychological skills such as increased self-esteem, self-awareness, self-determination, autonomy and independence.

At the same time, the project aims to **minimise the potential risks of sexual harassment and online bullying**.

The project aims to promote the responsible use of digital tools through two tailored and inclusive training programmes:

The **first programme** is tailored for young people with intellectual disabilities and focuses on enhancing their skills and awareness to help them protect themselves while benefiting from social media.

The **second programme** is designed for educators and professionals to enhance their professional development and enable them to replicate the training programme.

In addition, the project plans to launch a **digital awareness campaign** with a range of materials and resources to **highlight the risks and benefits of Information and Communication Technologies** (ICT) for people with intellectual disabilities.

This campaign will target parents, informal carers, professionals, stakeholders and the general public.