

The chrysalis and the butterfly

Autobiographical paths of penitentiary pedagogy



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



KA2 : cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices

The Partners

- **Coordinator: Le Interferenze – Italy**
- **APEnP – Portugal**
- **CDI Univerzum Lubiana – Slovenia**
- **Skribonauti Zagabria – Croatia**
- **Universidad de La Laguna, faculty of education - Tenerife – Spain**
- **Changes & Chances – Hertogenbosch – Netherland**
- **MSHA - Bourdeaux - France**

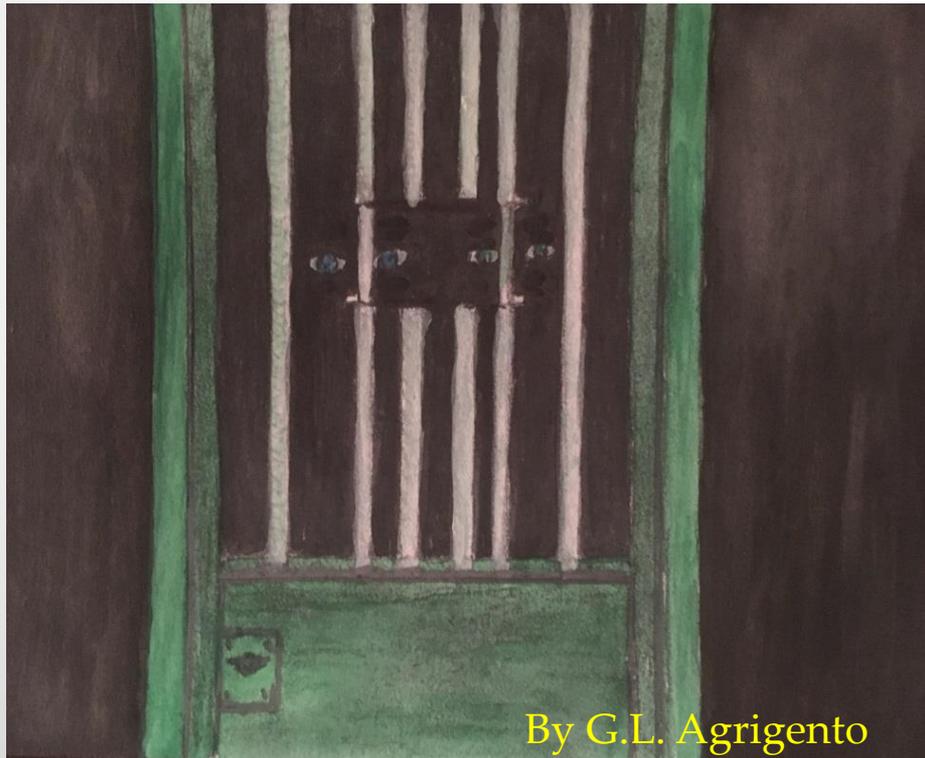
Roles and tasks of the partners

- ✓ Involvement of the inmates through autobiography
- ✓ Involvement of social community
- ✓ Creating a space for reflection
- ✓ Dissemination of the results
- ✓ Exchange of best practices
- ✓ Comparing and sharing of activities in International contexts

Why Erasmus?

To allow the individual participants to widen their horizons after having operated at a local level, blocked by bars, gates and walls in prison

To promote at a European level the collaboration between very different staff and institutions, with different professional cultures and practices



By G.L. Agrigento

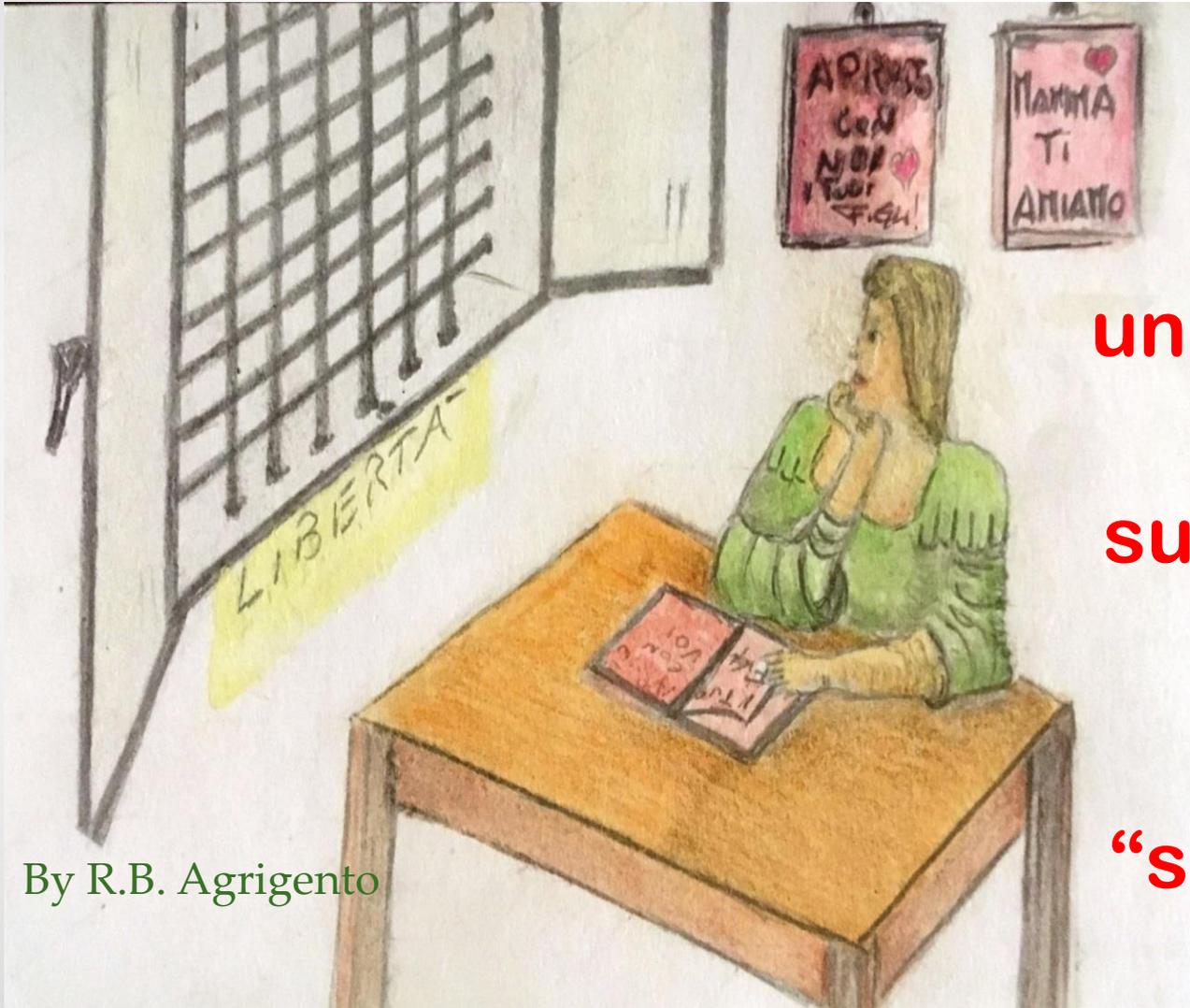


Duration

36 months

- ✓ **Project start date: 20/12/2020**
- ✓ **Project end date: 20/12/2023
because of the Covid19
pandemic**

The context



By R.B. Agrigento

unknown world

suburbs of the
city

“social waste”

Objectives



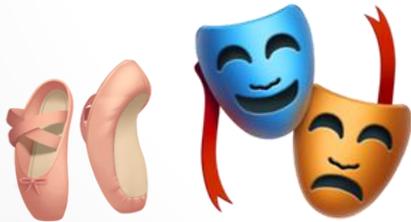
Helping the Chrysalis to transform into a Butterfly

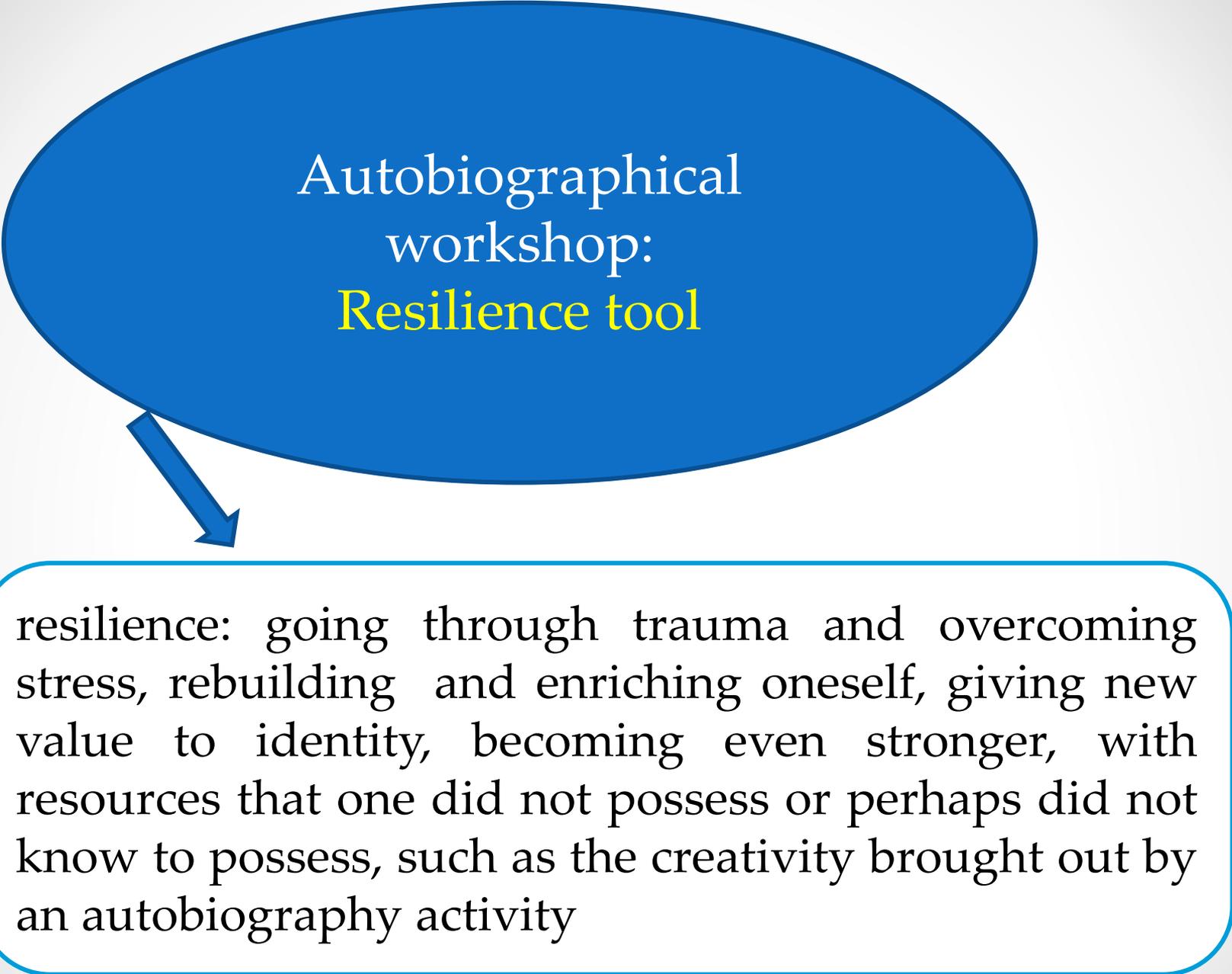
That is

To become another person who respects himself/herself and other people and the social/moral rules, while remaining the same in his/her own dignity

Methodology

Autobiography





Autobiographical workshop: Resilience tool

resilience: going through trauma and overcoming stress, rebuilding and enriching oneself, giving new value to identity, becoming even stronger, with resources that one did not possess or perhaps did not know to possess, such as the creativity brought out by an autobiography activity

regain a space, in the penitentiary institution, that tends to cancel it

The right to speak

tell to communicate

Tell not to be forgotten

reconnect with oneself
and with the world

a space to be lived in sharing and not in
opposition

Life like a work in progress

**Autobiographical
workshop:
Resilience tool
Social perspective**

remember the past, cope with the
present, plan and dream the future.

explore the inner world

overcome one's limits and
increase self-esteem

Self - care

heal wounds

breathe familiar scents
linked to pleasant memories

mend lives

survive, stop and start again



My experience as a trainer in the workshops

The stories told by inmates are always surprising when one considers that many of them try their hand at writing for the first time, and without much preparatory education. The workshop represents an opportunity to giving meaning to one's experience, as well as transforming it into learning opportunities.

This gives me a sense of satisfaction and it's the proof that the most beautiful flowers are those that bloom in the most unexpected and almost always waste lands.

Outcomes:

The chrysalis becomes a butterfly



- ✓ Publishing the papers and multimedia contents (e.g. a video with a theater performance) made by the inmates through the autobiographical methodology and let them fly outside beyond the bars.
- ✓ Making autobiography a common educational practice for inmates, through the publication of an autobiographical pedagogy manual

Dissemination

- ✓ Social networks
- ✓ EPALE (Electronic Platform for Adult Learning in Europe)
- ✓ Website of the project and of every single partner
- ✓ Articles in journals specialized in pedagogy and education
 - ✓ Press
 - ✓ Conferences

Impact

- ✓ **Creation of an international penitentiary network to compare experiences and methods : NAP (Penitentiary Network for Autobiographical artistic Pedagogy)**
- ✓ **realization of a Mooc (Massive Open Online Course) containing training for the teams involved in autobiographical workshops. It will be put at the service of the community in virtual distance training platforms.**
- ✓ **the main aim is to give new inputs to prison education**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

For any further information about the
project contact the coordinator
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I would like to thank the
inmates of the prison in
Agrigento, who took part in
my autobiographical
workshop, creating all the
pictures in this presentation.