#### **NEWSLETTER 1**

# ENHANCING AND VALIDATING SERVICE RELATED COMPETENCES IN VERSATILE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS IN WESTERN BALKAN UNIVERSITIES (E-VIVA)

PROJECT DURATION: **15 / 11 / 2018 - 14 / 11 / 2021** 

OVERALL BUDGET: 993,581 EUR





#### **EVIVA PARTNERS:**

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY OF TIRANA (LEAD PARTNER)



DIE BERATER



BLENDED LEARNING INSTITUTIONS' COOPERATIVE / BLINC EG



UNIVERSITY OF DUISBURG ESSEN



UNIVESIDADE NOVA DE LISBOA



THE SS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS UNIVERSITY



MOTHER TERESA UNIVERSITY



UNIVERSITY OF ELBASAN



UNIVERSITY OF SARAJEVO



UNIVERSITY SARAJEVO SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



UNIVERSITY OF DONJA GORICA



THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTENEGRO



UNIVERSUM COLLEGE



UNIVERSITY KADRI ZEKA



UNIVERSITY OF NOVI SAD



UNIVERSITY OF NIS



#### **E-VIVA AT A GLANCE!**

e-VIVA is an Erasmus+ Capacity Building in Higher Education project, led by European University of Tirana, Albania. The consortium has 16 partners from WB countries and other EU countries like Germany, Austria and Portugal. The project is envisaged to last for 3 years, with a total budget of 993.581 EUR.

e-VIVA project addresses the issue of students' skills development, facilitation and validation of their skills in formal/informal learning contexts. e-VIVA aims at the creation of a blended learning approach to facilitate and validate competence developments related to service orientation in rather informal learning contexts in higher education institutions and workplace learning contexts.

# The specific objectives of the e-VIVA project are:

- Identifying and analysing approaches for skills and evidence validation to foster permeability between higher education and professional practice;
- Developing and refining overarching ICT-based assessment and validation systems;
- Enriching existing validation and certification systems;
- Developing and applying a rich competence development and validation software for service related skills and competences;
- Applying e-VIVA assessment and evidencing system;
- Establishing a sustainable cooperation between relevant target groups and stakeholders.

## WHAT DOES THE PROJECT DO?

Work Package 1: Preparation (Lead partner - University of Duisburg Essen)

The first work package of this project starts with some preliminary tasks and its main aim is to perform a comprehensive baseline research in partner HEIs in Western Balkan countries. This in-depth research will use data obtained from desk research. online survey and interviews and will assess the availability of systems developed to support the assessment, evidencing and validation of learning outcomes. In addition, baseline research will explore the availability of standardized certification tools (such as EQF, ECTS, etc.) and similar blended learning technologies for the recognition and validation of Service Related Competences in partner countries.

#### Work Package 2: Development (Lead partner - Blinc eG)

Work package 2 (WP2) is the core work package of the project with introduce social, personal and organizational service-related competences into the educational curricula and learning settings. This WP aims at contextualizing social, personal and organizational sub-competences such as 'communication', 'teamwork', 'networking', 'customer orientation', 'project management', 'autonomy', 'critical thinking', etc. Next step will be to transfer these topics into competences using a reference system based on a 3-dimensional approach which describes the competences on the knowledge, skills and attitude (value oriented) dimension and also establishes interfaces to the EQR.

#### Work Package 3: Development (Lead partner - NOVA University of Lisbon)

Knowledge transfer and capacity building of the academic staff is the main content of WP3. Main aim of this WP is to build capacity of the academic staff from HE partner through a series of trainings and capacity building activities. Trainings for social, personal and organisational competences will focus in several elements such as: competence-based learning, competence validation, nature, structure and organisation of the envisaged learning activities, etc.

#### Work Package 4: Development (Lead partner – dieBerater)

The aim of this work package is to apply and pilot the approaches developed in the previous WPs. Approximately 300 students will acquire a set of defined key competences that will be enhanced and validated. Almost 100 students from partner countries will have the opportunity to conduct study visits (2 weeks) in programme countries' institutions and be part of international learning settings dedicated to competence developments. In addition, 300 licences are available for HFIs in Partner Countries will all interested students to validate their competences at home universities.

# **Work Package 5: Quality Plan** (Lead partner – dieBerater)

The aim of this WP is to ensure a high quality of deliverables of the project and to ascertain the quality of the process and the commitment to develop a sound framework for devising, implementing, and reporting internal and external evaluation activities.

#### Work Package 6: Dissemination & Exploitation (Lead partner - European University of Tirana)

This WP aims at gathering key stakeholders around e-VIVA agenda and ensure that all project outputs and results are transferred beyond the partnership as well as disseminated and used in the most productive way, following the European regulation on communication and visibility.

#### Work Package 7: Management (Lead partner - European University of Tirana)

This WP, leaded by the European University of Tirana, will ensure a smooth and efficient management and implementation of the project.

E-VIVA projects addresses the issue of students' skills development, facilitation and validation of their skills in formal/informal learning contexts



LUNCHING EVENT, UET

# GET TO KNOW MORE ABOUT OUR EVENTS & NEWS

## Launching event of EVIVA in Tirana

On October 12<sup>th</sup>, on the occasion of Erasmus Days, organized by Albanian National Erasmus+ Office and hosted by UET, the EVIVA Erasmus+ CBHE project was launched. This event was dedicated to all successful projects from Albania and as an innovative and challenging project, EVIVA was launched by the Rector Prof. Dr. Tonin Gjuraj, Project Manager Dr. Ketrina Mijo and greeted by Mr. Oltion Pengu, representative of NEO in Albania.

### **Grant Holders Meeting** in Brussels

On January 28<sup>th</sup> to 29th 2019, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) organized the Grant Holders Meeting with the participation of Capacity Building for Higher Education Project Representatives. The overall aim of this meeting was to address the practical management of the grant agreement (rules and reporting requirements) and the life cycle of selected projects. The meeting was also an excellent opportunity for new and experienced practitioners to exchange knowledge and to network with other projects/partners. Three representatives of the EVIVA Consortium attended the meeting: Dr. Ketrina Çabiri Mijo (Project Manager) and Ms. Aurora Lazaj (Finance Officer) from the European University of Tirana and Prof. Assoc. Dr. Jelena Šaković-Jovanović from the University of Montenegro.

## Kick off meeting in Tirana

On February 7th to 8th 2019, the kick-off meeting of the EVIVA



**■** GRANT HOLDERS MEETING, BRUSSELS





LUNCHING EVENT, UET

On October 12th, on the

of Erasmus

organized by Albanian National

Erasmus+
Office and
hosted
by UET,
the EVIVA
Erasmus+
CBHE
project was
launched.



LUNCHING EVENT, UET



KICK OFF MEETING, UET

project took place at the premises of the European University of Tirana, Albania. The project partners gathered in these two intensive working days, with the aim to get to know the project, set core values of the common work and to distribute the tasks for the next three years ahead. The event was also greeted by Mrs. Aida Breti, National Coordinator of the National Erasmus+ Office in Albania.

#### National Erasmus+ Information Day in Montenegro

National Erasmus+ Information Day for 2019 call for proposals was held on November 13th, 2018 at the premises of *Rectorate building, University of Montenegro* in Podgorica. Information Day was an opportunity for participants to get familiarized with the novelties of the forthcoming call for proposals within capacity building in higher education (CBHE), International Credit

Mobility (ICM), Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees, as well as the Jean Monnet action. Information Day was also an opportunity to present results of the previous call for proposals as well as to promote newly selected projects within CBHE action. Presentation of the newly selected capacity building projects, focusing on benefits for Montenegrin institutions, higher education reform agenda, and society on the whole included the presentation of "Enhancing and Validating service related competences in Versatile learning environments in Western Balkan Universities", Branko Bošković, University of Donja Gorica

#### Representatives of the National Erasmus+ Office in Bosnia and Herzegovina at SSST Sarajevo

In February 2019, University SSST Computer Science and Information





KICK OFF MEETING, UET

In February 2019, the kick-off

meeting of the EVIVA project took place at the premises of the European University of Tirana, Albania.



■ INFO DAY PODGORICA, UDG & UCG



KICK OFF MEETING, UET



■ NEO VISIT, SSST

(CSIS) Department along with the Office for International Collaboration and Research organized a meeting with the representatives of the National Erasmus+ Office in Bosnia and Herzegovina. On this occasion, the SSST Project Team presented to the department staff the newly approved CBHE Erasmus+ project, "E-VIVA" that is currently in its preparation stage.

#### **Fair in Tirana International Days** and International

From 9th to 13th of April 2019 UET hosted one of the most important events of the academic year,

International Fair and International Days and International Fair UET. During these days, UET and partner institutions had the opportunity to introduce their projects and study program opportunities. A special session was dedicated to the presentation of the EU funded projects such as EVIVA, GRADUA, ITG4AU, etc. and students and staff were invited to join ongoing and upcoming projects activities.

#### **Contact Us:**

Dr. Ketrina Cabiri Mijo Project Manager ketrina.cabiri@uet.edu.al Project Website: <a href="https://evivaproject.eu/">https://evivaproject.eu/</a>

Email: info@evivaproject.eu Facebook page: EVIVA Youtube: e-VIVA Project

This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the e-VIVA consortium and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.



■ INTERNATIONAL DAYS, UET





INTERNATIONAL DAYS, UET



■ INTERNATIONAL FAIR, UET



INTERNATIONAL FAIR, UET

From 9 to 13th of April 2019 UET hosted one of the most important events of the academic year, International Days and International

Fair UET.