

## **EfVET Newsletter June 2012**

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## Message from the President - June 2012

Dear Member, welcome to our June edition of the EfVET Newsletter. I would like to express a very warm welcome to our recent new members and warm wishes to all members

As usual – EfVET representatives have been very busy over recent months with invitations to participate in a wide range of conferences; EC working groups; EC thematic groups and policy / expert teams across many key issues relating to Education and Training 2020. My thanks to all who have contributed and participated in this expansive agenda. Thanks also to those members who returned good practice examples that have gone forward to the EC for inclusion in the upcoming Handbook of Work based learning.

Several of the events and subsequent reports can be accessed via the EfVET website and some are indeed mentioned within the Newsletter itself.

I am pleased to report that new members have been joining the Forum/Network over recent months and even in these days of financial constraints – membership remains buoyant. We have been working to prepare promotional material to support our future membership drive – particularly to bring new membership from under-represented member states. This is on-going but will also enable us to disseminate project results more extensively.

As you may know my term of office on the EUCIS-LLL Platform Steering Group has come to an end, however I am delighted to report that Geoff Scaplehorn from our Executive has been elected to EUCIS-LLL and will continue the work of EfVET through this avenue. I refer you all to the link on the EfVET website to EUCIS-LLL for update news and activities in the domain of Lifelong Learning.

This brings me on to the next EfVET Annual International Conference which will take place in Palma, Majorca from 24<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> October 2012. Conference will provide an ideal opportunity to share good practice and consider possible collaborative partnerships in preparation for the launch of the new Lifelong Learning Programme 2014 – 2020. Registration details and hotel booking forms are

available on the website: [www.efvet.org](http://www.efvet.org) Full details of the programme and theme. Register early (before 30<sup>th</sup> July) for the discounted rates.

I finish with a big thank you to all my colleagues on the Steering Committee and our staff in Central Office for their continued efforts and support.

I look forward to meeting you all again at our conference in October 2012 in Palma and in the meantime I wish you all my best wishes



Peter Hodgson  
President, EfVET

## Message du Président - juin 2012

Soyez la bienvenue à notre bulletin d'EfVET de juin 2012. Je voudrais chaudement accueillir nos nouveaux membres et exprimer mes meilleurs vœux à tous nos membres.

Comme d'habitude, pendant des mois récents, nos représentants d'EfVET ont répondu aux invitations de participer à une grande série de conférences, groupes de travail, groupes thématiques et d'experts, organisés par la Commission Européenne qui s'adressent aux questions posées par Education and Training 2020. Je voudrais remercier tous ceux qui ont contribué à un programme croissant. Je remercie aussi nos membres qui ont contribué de bonnes pratiques, qui seront insérées dans le "Handbook of Work-based Learning" qui sera publié vers la fin de cette année. Vous trouverez des rapports sur ces événements sur le site web d'EfVET et aussi ci-dessous dans ce bulletin.

Je suis fort content de rapporter que beaucoup de nouveaux membres se sont adhésés à l'EfVET récemment, même pendant cette période de crise économique, et le nombre de nos membres continue à s'augmenter. Nous préparons actuellement des matériaux de promotion pour soutenir notre campagne d'attirer plus de membres, surtout dans des pays où nous avons une manque de représentants.

Comme vous savez, peut-être, je suis arrivé à la fin de ma position sur le groupe de pilotage de l'EUCIS-LLL. Il me plaît beaucoup de rapporter que Geoff Scaplehorn, de notre Executif a été élu au groupe de l'EUCIS-LLL pour me remplacer et il continuera à représenter le travail d'EfVET à l'avenir.

Je vous rappelle notre prochaine conférence annuelle, qui aura lieu à Palme en Majorca du 24 au 27 octobre 2012. Cette conférence vous donnera l'occasion idéale de partager de bonnes pratiques et de considérer des partenariats possibles pour préparer le lancement du nouveau Lifelong Learning

Programme (actuellement "Erasmus for All") 2014-2020. Vous trouverez des documents pour vous adhérer à la conférence et pour réserver les chambres dans l'hôtel – [www.efvet.org](http://www.efvet.org). Aussi tous les détails du programme et du thème. Il y a une réduction si vous vous inscrivez avant le 30 juillet. Je voudrais remercier tous mes collègues du comité de pilotage et nos collègues dans le bureau central à Bruxelles pour leur soutien infatigable

J'attends avec impatience de vous rencontrer tous encore une fois à notre conférence en octobre à Palme.

Mes meilleurs voeux



Peter Hodgson  
Président, EFVET

## 21st Annual EfVET International Conference



The next EfVET Annual International Conference which will take place in Palma, Majorca **from 24<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> October 2012**. Conference will provide an ideal opportunity to share good practice and consider possible collaborative partnerships in preparation for the launch of the new Lifelong Learning Programme 2014 – 2020. Registration details and hotel booking forms are available on the website: [www.efvet.org](http://www.efvet.org) Full details of the programme on the website: [www.efvet.org](http://www.efvet.org) . Register early (before 30<sup>th</sup> July) for the discounted rates.

Leif Haar

## EUCIS-LLL Annual Conference and General Assembly

### **EUCIS-LLL Annual Conference 2012: a leap forward for active inclusion!**

The University of Leuven (Belgium) hosted last 14th of May EUCIS-LLL **Social Innovation for Active Inclusion: Lifelong Learning Contribution for a Better Tomorrow** that gathered around 100 participants and experts coming from the various sectors and levels of education and training from all over Europe. EUCIS-LLL President **Gina Ebner** and Director **Pierre Mairesse** (DG EAC) gave some warm welcome words; Mr Mairesse ensured that inclusive growth was a European high priority and that the Commission was willing to continue to support our work, as a partnership approach with stakeholders including civil society is essential. Academics **Ides Nicaise** (KU Leuven University) and **Ramon Flecha** (UB Barcelona University) provided very interesting highlights on innovative practices on social inclusion in our education and training systems at EU and national levels. Mr Nicaise was convinced that EU decision-makers can do more to achieve the ET2020 goals and even further. Mr Flecha underlined the crucial importance of evidence-based successful actions.

The four workshops that took place in Leuven on 14th May on access to education & training, migrant learners, intergenerational learning and youth employment proved to be very interactive and efficient with highly motivated participants. Good practice from EUCIS-LLL networks were presented and a reflection was initiated on what lifelong learning can and cannot do to contribute to a better tomorrow, as well as what impact lifelong learning can have at different levels - individual, social and institutional. Key messages were synthesised during the policy feedback in plenary session that Mr **Agalios Angelos** and **Kyriakos Costeas** acknowledged in the name of the European Commission and the upcoming Cypriot EU Presidency. Those messages will be available in the upcoming report of the conference

During the assembly, EUCIS-LLL welcomed eight new members and four new Steering Committee members were elected: **David Lopez** ([SOLIDAR](#)), **Geoff Scaplehorn** ([EFVET](#)), **Helmut Vogt** ([EUCEN](#)) and **Rasmus Aberg** ([ESN](#)). Members' representatives also discussed and approved an ambitious working plan for the platform to be implemented during 2012-2013.

Geoff Scaplehorn

[GO TO NEWSLIST](#)

## **Agreement on Horizon2020 – the EUs next framework programme for research and innovation**

The European ministers for research- and innovation have after long and hard negotiations reached an agreement on the overall structure for the EUs coming Framework programme for research and innovation – Horizon 2020 – which has a proposed budget of EUR 80 billion.

“Europe finds itself in a difficult situation. With a severe economic crisis and high youth unemployment, the only way to create new growth and jobs is by investing heavily in knowledge and innovation. The agreement on the overall structure of Horizon 2020, which was reached by the Member States today, is an important and excellent result that further strengthens research and innovation as growth promoters in Europe” says the Danish Minister for Science, Innovation and Higher Education, Mr. Morten Østergaard.

Besides strengthening basic excellent research, Horizon 2020 marks a new and challenge-driven approach towards strategic research in the EU, focusing on seven grand challenges, such as food security, climate change, an ageing population and the need for intelligent transportation.

“Even though we must insist that research promotes growth and job creation here and now, we must not forget that basic research paves the way for unexpected and ground-breaking research results. The excellent research of today should help create the European Jobs of tomorrow.”

Compared to the Commission’s proposal, the agreement of today has an even stronger emphasis on interdisciplinarity.

“Our focus on the grand societal challenges requires an interdisciplinary approach, which includes social sciences and humanities. In my view, this is reflected in the agreement. ”

Furthermore, the agreement strengthens simplification and reduces bureaucracy, which will make it easier and more attractive for small and medium-sized enterprises to apply for EU funding.

The agreement on the overall structure is the first important step towards reaching a final political agreement on Horizon 2020. Very soon, the negotiations on the budget allocation to the various specific programmes of Horizon 2020 will start which will then be followed by discussions in the European Parliament.

“With this agreement the Member States have shown that we in difficult times stand together and are willing to take the necessary actions, which will shape the future of Europe. The next step is that the Cypriot and Irish Presidencies will continue the negotiations on Horizon 2020 with the European Parliament. It is my hope that we throughout these negotiations can maintain the focus that Horizon 2020 should contribute to creating the growth and jobs of tomorrow, while also dealing with the global challenges that we are facing today”, states Mr. Morten Østergaard.

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## **Project BESTRAIN No. LLP-LdV-TOI-2011-LT-0093**

Leonardo da Vinci Transfer of Innovation project BESTRAIN No. LLP-LdV-TOI-2011-LT-0093 began in October 2011 and will be implemented during two years. Five partners from four EU countries - Marijampolė VET center and Public Institution KTU Regional Science Park (Lithuania), Multidisziplinäres Institut für Forschung Europe, Graz (Austria), IES Xabier Zubiri Manteo THD (Spain) and X-Panel Ltd (Cyprus) are taking part in it.

The project aims to improve the knowledge and skills, rise qualification in business strategy development training and strategic management of teachers at VET institutions also trainers at business support organizations and SMEs, improve their access to training and increase the quality of teaching of entrepreneurship.

The specific aims of the project: to provide an innovative e-learning material and practical animated interactive tool (AIT) in Business strategic planning (BSP) training; rise qualification (knowledge, skills) of VET teachers, trainers and tutors in BSP training and improve their access to innovative training and increase the quality of teaching.

During 6 months of the project duration the partners conducted Training needs analysis. Project partners investigated the need for training of SMEs and teachers. Almost 200 representatives of SMEs and teachers were interviewed in Cyprus, Spain and Lithuania.

The researchers sought to identify and validate the learning formats, tools and content preferred by owner/managers of small business and trainers, teachers of VET institutions in strategic management. After analysis of surveys partners concluded that both teachers and representatives of SMEs feel the great need to learn about strategic management. They want to learn online and want a compact, concentrated and interesting training course, where innovative teaching tools and case studies would be used for.

In the nearest future animated interactive and practical tool (AIT) will be developed, the training material prepared and training courses for target groups will take place in 2013.

More information in [www.bestrain.eu](http://www.bestrain.eu)

Rasa Zygmantaite  
Head of the Development Department  
Marijampoles profesinio rengimo centras (MPRC), LT





***Bestrain team***

## **INtheMC aims to foster internationalization in European VET sector**

An international team of teachers and professionals from 7 EU countries (the Netherlands, Germany, Poland, France, UK, Spain and Lithuania) are working on a Leonardo da Vinci project INtheMC (No. 2010-1-NL1-LEO05-02659), which is meant to promote the idea of internationalization of VET programmes and mobility for teachers and students and to encourage teachers to use international student's assignments in the classroom. Everyone, who works in a VET or any school, should understand that free movement of people is a reality and it should be part of our students' school tasks.

The partnership has done field research about issues of internationalization at schools and national curricula, in order to have a clear view about the relevance of the issue and about the situation at schools in partner countries.

The main aim of the project was to create international students' assignment which would help teachers and international mentor to prepare students for their international work placement. Teachers' manual, including a lot of information on internationalization and EU LLL programmes, which was written by experienced team members from ES, NL, PL and DE will help those who are new to the process and will be a good aid for those who have worked with internationalization before.

One of the biggest achievements and project products is 10 students' assignments. These are created by UK and LT partner with the supervision of the project coordinator- Landstede, and are a good tool to introduce students to international work placement and work environment on the whole. The assignments can be used for any profession and they are made to meet the needs of

various study level. The project will come to an end next October, but the process of internationalization in VET sector is gaining speed. INtheMC project has its share in the process as well.

You can find the material- manuals and assignments and download them for free from the project website: [www.inthemc-project.org](http://www.inthemc-project.org)

Rasa Zygmantaite  
Head of the Development Department  
Marijampoles profesinio rengimo centras (MPRC), LT



***INtheMC group in town hall Bilbao***

## **TOOLS project offers new life for language teachers and learners**

„TOOLS“ Nr. 517543-LLP-1-2011-1-DK-KA2-KA2MP

In January 2012 an international team, which consists of experienced language teachers and IT professionals has started a new project that aims to help all language teachers and learners to keep the pace with technological innovations in language teaching. The partnership of the project represents educational institutions of different levels, thus creation of learning material and tool suitable for the needs of all levels of learners and educators will be ensured. Moreover, the system, which will be (an actually IS there now - see the address below) an on-line web based service, will work with all characters (UTF8) so it may be used for languages like Greek, Lithuanian, and Arabic. The project teams will demonstrate the system strengths and make exemplary online language learning materials for Arabic, Danish, Gaelic (Irish), Gaelic (Scottish), Lithuanian, Portuguese, and Spanish.

**Tools** project belongs to the big family of language projects with homepage [www.languages.dk](http://www.languages.dk). From this website you also have access to copyleft language teaching tools, videos, materials, and methods manuals that you may use in your lessons or include in your own projects.

**For EfVET members:** - the Tools project tool- the clilstore - which works on multidict, is a perfect way to drill your Spanish on your way to the conference in Mallorca. Simply use your smart phone or iPad, open the link <http://multidict.net/cs/187> or <http://multidict.net/cs/297>, or simply browse in your search machine for clilstore, and you get a big choice of English, Danish, Portuguese, Lithuanian Gaelic- Scottish and Irish as well as Arabic (but of course many many more) – Spanish dictionaries and a lot of catching exercises to while away your long waiting hours in the airport.

Looking forward to seeing you all in Palma de Mallorca!



**Project team:**

SDE (DK) - **coordinator**

University of Southern Denmark (SDU),

**Universidad Politécnica de Valencia**

Marijampole VET centre (MPRC)

European Association for Computer-Assisted language Learning

(EUROCALL)

Sabhal Mòr Ostaig (SMO)

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Tools project team

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## POOLS



**Marmara Private Anatolian Vocational High School carried out the first CALL in-service training programme for the language teachers working in Foreign and Modern Languages Departments operating within the High School sections in December 2011.**

**The teachers attended the programme that comprised the use of Hotpotatoes, Dropbox, Textblender, Multidict and Clilstore. In addition, the teachers were given a guide that displays every single step to use CALL facilities mentioned**

The in-service training programme was conducted in the computer lab and it took 8 hours for the language teachers to acquire the required expertise in order to be able to produce online exercises associated with videos which are already online on the project website.

On 06.03.2012 an important protocol was signed between our organization and the Central Board of Education in Istanbul. Thanks to this protocol, our CALL in-service training programmes were officially recognized by the Central Board of Education in Istanbul and 21 language teachers from VET schools working in different districts of Istanbul attended our CALL in-service training programmes.

**These teachers also produced their online exercises associated with videos. All in all, 35 teachers attended CALL in-service training programmes so far and these teachers have provided their feedback in the POOLS-CX Survey Report. The works produced by the teachers who have taken part in CALL in-service training programmes range from 341 to 349 on Clilstore. For more information, please, visit [www.poolscx.eu](http://www.poolscx.eu)**



Mihai Braslasu



## **MST-EF Raising Competences in Professional Management Education**

"Teacher Training to Improve Attractiveness and Quality of Management Education through the Simulation Tool 'Emerald Forest' (MST-EF)" is a Leonardo da Vinci Transfer of Innovation project coordinated by Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences in Latvia. MST-EF aims at transferring and adapting the management simulation tool "Emerald Forest" to the project partner institutions in Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Bulgaria, and Germany, in order to improve the management training of people in HE and lifelong learning contexts, i.e. professionals, people in the labour market. The project started in 2010 and now is approaching its final meeting and achievement of planned results. The partnership includes: Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences, Latvia, NHTV University of Applied Sciences, The Netherlands, Kaunas University of Applied Sciences, Lithuania, Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia, Karlshochschule International University, Germany, St. Cyril and St. Methodius University of Veliko Turnovo, Bulgaria, European Educative Projects, the Netherlands, and EFVET.

### **Emerald Forest**

Management Simulation Tool 'Emerald Forest' (MST-EF) is an internet-based simulation with strong links to social media and the 'real' life situations developed at NHTV Breda University of Applied Sciences, The Netherlands. It is based on an imaginary holiday park called 'Emerald Forest'. Participants joining the simulation work in teams and have to run the park, manage investments, costs, marketing, strategy and other aspects of management. They are competing with other teams in a highly competitive market and during the simulation encounter problems happening in real life as well as staged challenges in the digital world. The game offers an international setting in a state-of-the-art, attractive and stimulating way. MST-EF can be used in great variety of contexts to train and strengthen participants' entrepreneurial, group work, creativity and other skills. It allows using different linked assignments and reaching various learning results in such subject areas as business, finance and accounting, international marketing, consumer behaviour, PR, tourism and services management and other. The same kind of problems in the simulations solved by many different nationalities, offers interesting possibilities for internationalisation.



***Entrepreneur training***

### **International Contest**

From June 5 – 8 Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences (ViA) will host an international management game with 30 participating students, alumni and professionals from Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, the Netherlands and Bulgaria. Every day the team decisions will be evaluated by a jury of representatives of different fields. For the first time the competition will be held on international level which will contribute greatly to the experience of participants and to the validation of the international dimension of the training method.

### **Raising Participant Competences**

During the project a research was carried out in order to examine the influence of the management simulation tool on participant's competences. The objective of this research is to determine whether management simulation increases student competencies and if so – what kind of competencies it develops. The quasi-experiment was carried out – both before the management simulation and then immediately after, at each location: Kaunas University of Applied Sciences, Lithuania, and Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences, Latvia. The questionnaire contained 32 statements related to different competencies (e.g. leadership, ability to work with information, creativity, time planning, teamwork etc.). Students were first asked to perform a self-assessment of the statements before the simulation and after it. The teachers and researchers Vineta Silkāne and Inese Ebele (Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences, Latvia) conclude: "The results indicated a significant difference in student's self-evaluations for most competencies – scores after management simulation were higher for the following competencies: working with information, analytical thinking, creativity, application of knowledge, alternative thinking, communication, strategy based work, long term thinking, time planning, ability to challenge, ability work independently, ability to adapt to changing circumstances, teamwork, leadership, conflict management, stress management and initiative. Scores however were not higher for the following competencies: professional ethics, responsibility and an ability to form professional relationships. Overall, these results confirm that management simulation has an impact in developing competencies." The research proved that the project has a

long-lasting and relevant added value for further training in management, and during the last meeting in June further exploitation plans will be determined lasting beyond project lifetime.



***Project team***

## **Results**

The main results of the project:

- Technical and contentual adaptation in MST-EF platform: <http://www.mangame.nl>;
- Implemented teacher training programme (platform, coach manual, training);
- Testing of the adaptations i.a. with target-group representatives;
- Validation of European aspect of MST-EF through European Contest (June 4 – 9);
- Dissemination of the results (DVD, research activities, local workshops, participation in local/international conferences).

### **For further information on the project and how to join:**

Visit: <http://www.mangame.nl>

Contact project coordinator: [international@va.lv](mailto:international@va.lv)

See: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=JImIa\\_gm05Q](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=JImIa_gm05Q)

## Transfer of Innovation and Development of Innovation projects in which EfVET or its members are a partner



### Women Entrepreneurs in Rural Tourism

Project partners presented the key findings from pilots with women entrepreneurs at a meeting in Cyprus. The pilot training course has been very well received and the course has been delivered to suit local needs. Partners discussed how networks could continue by visiting the enterprises of women entrepreneurs during the meeting. An online WERT community has also been established as part of the DestiNet portal, a knowledge network for sustainable tourism in Europe.

<http://destinet.eu/who-who/civil-society-ngos/wert>.

The final partner meeting will be held in Estonia in September.



The partnership includes: Norton Radstock College (lead partner), UK; EDEX, Cyprus; Association of Cypriot Women in Tourism, Cyprus; CDEA, Spain; YSAO, Finland; Vocational Centre of Parnu County, Estonia; Estonian Rural Tourism Organisation; PRISMA, Greece and EfVET. For more information, see the website [www.wertedu.eu](http://www.wertedu.eu)





## Coaching Skills for teachers to foster Entrepreneurship (entre-coach)

Following our partner meeting in Bilbao in March, all the pilot courses are going to plan - Hungary, UK, Spain and Finland. Finland the pilot course started with a pre-meeting on Jan 10<sup>th</sup>, and the first workshops took place on March 19-20<sup>th</sup>. The course has 13 participants working as teachers, student counsellors and project managers. The group is international and the course language is therefore English.



The Entre-Coach Pilot Programme in Spain began with a two day Workshop in March and will finish in June. Participants from seven VET schools and one entrepreneurial support agency in the Basque Country have given very positive feedback to the entre-coach training claiming the skills they have developed "are not easy but so useful for their professional and personal dealings with colleagues and students". Through use of the practical and simple training tools, the workshops have concentrated on developing basic coaching skills and entrepreneurial knowledge and have encouraged new attitudes to problem solving and stimulating personal growth through goal achievement.

Partners are Norton Radstock College (UK), Politeknika Ikastegia Txorierri (ES), HAAGA-HELIA University of Applied Science (FI), Bildungsmarkt Vulkan (DE) and Euro Contact Business School (HU), GWE Business West (UK), Work-Lan (ES) and EfVET. Our (silent) Swiss partner is Swiss Occidental Leonardo. Project website is [www.entre-coach.eu](http://www.entre-coach.eu).



## LIFE 2

As part of a recent meeting in San Sebastian, partners visited Gureak, an organisation which helps to improve the employability of disadvantaged learners.



The project seeks to develop employability and entrepreneurship skills within the vocational curriculum.

At the meeting, partners presented research findings on the needs of teachers, learners and employers in terms of embedding life skills into vocational teaching.

Based on these findings, a LIFE 2 Train the Trainer Pack for vocational teachers is currently being developed to include practical tasks, activities and examples of good practice.

The partnership includes: Norton Radstock College (lead partner), UK; Cebanc, Spain; Niels Brock Business College, Denmark; ANESPO, Portugal; TEHNE, Romania, Bath Spa University, UK and EfVET. For more information, go to [www.life-2.eu](http://www.life-2.eu)

The project will have a round table at this year's EfVET conference when you will be able to see the Train the Trainer Pack and find out more.

## TAFACITY



This project is co-ordinated by CDEA (ES). Partners are Norton Radstock College (UK), Mattia Innova (ES), Euro Contact Business School (HU), INSIGNARE (PT), University of Timisoara (RO), EfVET (BE).

This project is based on an initiative launched by the World Health Organization (WHO) designed to promote the creation of "age friendly environments". Under this initiative a system was developed for assessing municipalities' degree of "friendliness" and promoting the creation of a network of "Age Friendly Cities". Two of the partners work in 'Age Friendly Cities' – San Sebastian and Maribor.

The Needs Analysis has taken place with the second partner meeting held in Budapest in May. The course is now in process of design; it is intended to be 'blended learning' which will suit the target groups of policy makers and students. There is also a need to create an 'intergenerational' workshop, which will create an understanding environment from the young to the elderly.

All countries are reporting a lot of interest in the project from charities, community groups, voluntary sector and other NGOs. The local authorities (municipalities) in each country have also been involved in the needs analysis.

The project will have a round table at this year's EfVET conference if you are interested to find out more.

Rosalin Courtley  
Norton Radstock College

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New deadline for manuscripts: **1 September 2012.**