



Newsletter "Evaluation workshop on web-based classrooms design and e-learning materials of eSchool4S network"

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Evaluation workshop on web-based classrooms design and e-learning materials of eSchool4S network

23rd-26th of June 2015
Svätý Jur, Slovakia

News

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Eschool4S workshop in Slovakian Svätý Jur was successfully implemented!

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Participants: 24 participants from 10 eSchool4S project partner institutions and teachers from in Germany, Austria, Hungary, Slovakia, Croatia, Serbia, Bulgaria and Romania

Presenters: Dr. Guenther Pfaffenwimmer, Ministry of Education, Austria / Reinhard Wieser, Paedagogische Hochschule Tirol, Austria / Radoslav Vician, e-code, Slovakia

Hosts: Academia Istropolitana Nova, Slovakia and Paedagogische Hochschule Tirol, Austria

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Project information

The network-project E-School for Sustainability in the Danube Region (eSchool4S) unites 10 partners from Germany, Austria, Hungary, Slovakia, Croatia, Serbia, Bulgaria, and Romania who are specialized in different relevant fields of expertise and were brought together to pursue a common goal – bring Sustainable Development and European integration to schools.

Eschool4S designs an operational e-platform for cooperation and exchange of information and experiences in the field of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and develops interactive and web-based learning concepts to cover cross-border issues in the fields of Sustainable Development and European integration. The approach brings together decision-makers, (in-service) teacher training institutions, schools, and students across the Danube Region to raise their ecological awareness and to promote inclusion of these issues into the school curricula. Students and teachers learn to which extent there is interdependence between social, economic, environmental, and political development of a country, and why the balanced interplay of the development dimensions is a condition for sustainable development at national, regional and European level. They improve their computer skills, cognitive competences, communication as well as soft skills.

The eSchool4S is a project within the framework of the EU program "Lifelong Learning Programme" (LLP), Comenius-Multilateral Networks. It was recognized as an official project in the Priority Area 9 "Investing in people and skills", within the framework of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR)

Project data

Duration: 1st January 2014 – 31st December 2016

Target Group: students between the ages of 15 and 18

Project Lead: Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Stuttgart

Internet: <http://eschool4s.eu>

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Eschool4S workshop in Slovakian Svätý Jur was successfully implemented!

The eSchool4S project partners met in Svätý Jur from 23rd to 26th June 2015. Slovak and Austrian partners - Academia Istropolitana Nova and Paedagogische Hochschule Tirol - were responsible for the organization and hosting of this important event.

Participants beside the partner institutions were this time also teachers from the partner countries who will be actively involved in the project.

The workshop agenda started out with an overview of the achieved results, state of affairs, Q&A session about project managerial issues as well as discussion about the thematic structure of the eSchool4S Moodle platform



moderated and guided by the project coordinator Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ). Another important point on the agenda was copyright matters concerning the prepared e-learning materials being displayed on the eSchool4S Moodle platform. A comprehensive Moodle course about this important topic was prepared by the Austrian partner Paedagogische Hochschule Tirol. Furthermore, evaluation questionnaires and recommendations were discussed by all participants.

Dr. Guenther Pfaffenwimmer from the Ministry of Education (Vienna, Austria) gave a lecture about the Austrian network for ecologization OEKOLOG (<http://www.oekolog.at/welcome.html>), its objectives and instruments. Dr. Pfaffenwimmer also discussed with partners his experiences, chances and challenges from the Comenius project "Codes" (www.comenius-codes.eu/) he was implementing together with 29 partners between 2011 and 2014.

The presentation and discussion of the e-learning materials prepared by project partners under the moderation and guidance of the Slovak partner e-code occupied the biggest part of the workshop. During this interactive session, the consortium reviewed all developed materials, agreed on the thematic fields of "Sustainable Development", "Water", "Climate Change", "Consumption" and "Social Inclusion", received feedback from invited teachers considering didactic and content aspects and agreed up on next steps.

The Moodle platform constitutes a crucial tool in order to reach teachers and students and raise their awareness about SD, ICT and European Integration. The use of the materials by both target groups will inform and sensitize teachers and students about SD topics and their relevance for the EU future development. It will raise their awareness as EU citizens by encouraging them to actively exercise their political and social rights and responsibilities. It will foster the cross-border Danube region dialogue on SD, EU integration and strengthen students' commitment to the EU values. It will give them the opportunity to acquire additional competences such as computer, communication and soft skills as well as to improve their English language skills.

The development of e-learning materials and adjustment of the web-based classes' design will still be one of the network's priorities for the next months of the project implementation.



Next steps in 2015

In order to further achieve project's objectives, the following next steps will be implemented during the next project months:

Teachers from partner countries who are motivated to use e-learning materials in their classes will be invited to participate in an **eSchool4S teachers' training** (June–November 2015). By completing the training, they will become "authorised" eSchool4S teachers. It is expected that they will form an active core cell and act as multipliers of the eSchool4S network.

The eSchool4S teachers' training will be followed by **demonstration of the eSchool4S web-based classrooms** at schools (November 2015-March 2016). The demonstration is considered as a test phase of the e-learning classrooms (considering aspects as their design, structure, and content). After the evaluation of the demonstration phase and corresponding improvement of the e-learning platform, it is foreseen to expand project's impact by motivating more schools to actively use the platform.

On the 4th of November 2015 the **2nd Annual Conference** - second major dissemination event of the eSchool4S project - will be held in Nyiregyhaza, Hungary. The purpose of the conference is to publicly inform relevant stakeholders (potential future partners and network members) about project progress, to present the Moodle platform and e-learning materials developed by project partners as well as some preliminary results of the teachers training.

Upcoming events in 2015

eSchool4S project

eSchool4S Teachers Training on Moodle

Date: September 2015 (for more information see <http://eschool4s.eu/event-portal/>)

Venue: Online

2nd Annual Conference of eSchool4S (<http://eschool4s.eu/event-portal/>)

Date: 4th November 2015

Venue: College of Nyíregyháza, Hungary

Danube region

Austria

14th E-Learning Day 2015 (<http://bit.ly/1B1wlex>)

Date: 16th September 2015

Venue: Graz, Austria

Bulgaria

Scientific-practical Forum "Innovations in Teaching and Cognitive Development" (<http://itlearning-bg.com/index.php?section=ADST&aud=2&pic=1>)

Date: 1st to 4th September 2015

Venue: Burgas, Bulgaria

Scientific-practical Conference "Innovative Solutions for the Integration of ICT in Bulgarian education" (<http://www.nimero.com/conference2014>)

Date: 9th September 2015

Venue: Sofia, Bulgaria

First National Teachers Forum 2015 "Modern Methods and Approaches towards Effective Teaching"
(http://www.pedagozi.bg/konferencii/prvi-nacionalen-uchitelski-forum-2015?utm_source=MailingList&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=BG+-+seminar+-+forum+uchiteli)
Date: 10th to 11th September 2015
Venue: Sofia, Bulgaria

11th Edition of the National Conference on E-Education "Opportunities for Development of E-Learning in Bulgaria" (<http://events.idg.bg/bg/2015/education>)
Date: 23rd October 2015
Venue: Sofia, Bulgaria

Germany

The Digital Turn – New Competences Made in Europe (<http://www.elig.org/annual-conference/>)
Date: 9th to 11th September 2015
Venue: Berlin, Germany

Digital Education Day (<http://educologne.mixxt.de/>)
Date: 24th October 2015
Venue: Cologne, Germany

Hungary

ECER 2015 "Education and Transition. Contributions from Educational Research" (<http://www.eera-ecer.de/ecer-2015-budapest/>)
Date: 8th to 11th September 2015
Venue: Budapest, Hungary

Romania

Moodle Moot Romania 2015 (<https://www.moodle.ro/moot2015/>)
Date: 17th to 22nd August 2015
Venue: Constanta, Romania

Slovakia

4th International Conference „Development and Democracy: Thinking Ahead for Sustainable Development”
Date: 19th October 2015
Venue: Bratislava, Slovakia



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