Virtual Teachers' Toolbox

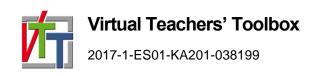## Erasmus+ 2017-1-ES01-KA201-038199

Project Description

Erasmus+ School Partnership

Colegio Internacional Costa Adeje – Coordinator (Spain)
Europäische Bildungsinitiative (Austria)
I.T.S Vittorio Veneto Salvemini (Italy)
University of Crete (Greece)
Swedish Association for Distance Eduaction (Sweden)

Virtual Teachers' Toolbox

2017-1-ES01-KA201-038199

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

VTT-Box – the Virtual Teachers' Toolbox

The project aims to create a special virtual toolbox for teachers as a sophisticated tool for developing Open Online Distance Learning (OODL) courses which means open, online, flexible and technology enhanced education (OOFAT). The mixture of the partners ensures the necessary competences, values, skills and knowledge for developing an innovative approach to OODL. This project uses a strategic cooperation between formal and non-formal/informal educational providers using ICT based teaching and the enhancement of digital integration in learning. It will be enhancing teachers' professional development and support students' acquisition of values, skills and competences.
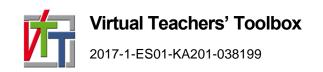
The 5 consortium members are well distributed in Europe: **University of Crete**, GR (specialised in innovative education) will focus on supporting students' acquisition of skills and competences, **EBI/EIE** (AT) is a teacher training institution with experienced in Distance Learning impacts in enhancing teachers' professional development and in OODL The **I.T.E VITTORIO VENETO SALVEMINI** (IT) and **Colegio Internacional Costa Adeje** (ES) are two high schools (offering a multicultural background) with different orientation in teaching and experienced in eLearning and modern teaching methods. The **Swedish Association for Distance Education** (SADE) has a special focus on OODL and OOFAT and provides experience in quality enhancement systems.

The VVT-Box methodology focuses on items which are either not yet common or still missing in Open Online Distance Education as a

- Innovative approach to OODL
- Appropriate quality enhancement framework
- Innovative and completely new motivating self-evaluation method for students (Mandala method)
- New developed innovative tool for course creators
- Special training course for teachers to implement the new methods in course creation
- Transferability and evaluation guide to enable the transfer to other educational fields

The activities during the project's lifetime will develop (and provide as results) a

1. So-called "reverse pedagogical approach" by taking the viewpoint of students and supplement them best in learning.
   This **pedagogical approach** is based on self-determined learning (called Heutagogy) and is a means for acquisition of skills and competences of learners, especially in science (so-called MINT subjects) and language teaching.
2. Completely new motivating **self-evaluation** method called the "**Mandala Self-Evaluation**". This is a graphical method to define competence-based learning outcomes and to evaluate the learner's success and to motivate students).
3. **Virtual web-based toolbox** as an Open Educational Resource (OER). This innovative public available tool enables teachers to enter the parameters of a planned course in an interactive user interface. The database driven service creates the required material and delivers it in digital form. The outputs are appropriate material like course structures, checklists, instructions for quality enhancement, timetables, and other helpful means for the course planning and implementing.

Virtual Teachers' Toolbox

2017-1-ES01-KA201-038199

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

4. Special course (as a **MOOC**) for teachers available as a Online Distance Learning course with OERs. Tested and evaluated pilot courses for students (as examples of best practice) including all project-related innovation, practices and tools will also be available as OER sources.
5. **Transferability and evaluation guide** to transfer the developed tools, products, and methodologies to other educational sectors (Adult Education, Vocational Education and partly Higher Education)

Approximately 1420 students, teachers, decision makers, researchers and other stakeholders will be impacted by the project.

The dissemination is using web-based channels, like social media, Youtube, SlideShare, a Web Blog and symposium-based events in the identified target group of teachers. EDEN - the European Distance and eLearning Network is also foreseen for dissemination. The sustainability of the products is ensured by the project partners with the necessary resources for the next years. The transferability and evaluation guide to other educational sectors is an added value.

A longer lasting benefit is

- To provide a first experience of an innovative teaching and learning way in School Education supervised by the University of Crete with the impact of the experience of SADE from Sweden, a country with one of the longest lasting Distance Learning experiences.
- An impact to new research in Heutagogical Pedagogy and to future studies and research
- The new approach to open and innovative education, providing a fully embracing of the digital era
- The boosting of open and digital educational resources

So, the project impacts to the target group, to the addressed learners, institutions and finally to the society. This impact to stakeholders is a necessary mainspring for further meaningful activities in development educational systems in School Education on a European level.