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EKFI PLUS



Innovation through cooperation

EKFI PLUS-PROJECT!

Erasmus+ Project: Innovation through cooperation

www.ekfi-project.com

Why EKFI PLUS?

The Creative Industry (CI) is undergoing considerable change. They need support to enable them to create cross-border networks and platforms to help structure and strengthen the CI. It not only aims to respond to changing skills needs by promoting innovation in education the creation of new businesses, but also mapping the different value chains in the digital age (artistic crafts, publishing, film / tv, multimedia, etc). Research reveals and describes the need for new/updated competences and skills in the CI. Reports justify to investigate innovative approaches for scanning needs for competences (knowledge, skills, attitudes) and matching them with suitable (existing) learning and research material to stimulate innovation.

What is our aim?

The aim of the EKFI PLUS-project is to improve the development of new innovative learning materials for education and training. The project will extend the existing EKFI platform and add features that will support the development of learning materials. In this way it contributes to strengthening international cooperation between teachers and the use of each other's competences rather than developing alone and focused on the own (school) situation: Innovation through cooperation. We also develop 2 new sets of learning material on: Circular economy and Mixed reality in Print, Sign and Packagingmedia. The project provides an opportunity to approach educators in Europe and invite them during this new project to use the EKFI platform and the outputs to be developed in this project.

In this project we develop an educational model and execute a research in the five participating countries: Belgium, Estonia, Greece, Spain and The Netherlands. The information is used in developing the e-tools that will be added to the existing EKFI exchange platform. The EKFI platform offers the possibility to upload learning resources and research. Other users on the platform can download the learning resources to use in their learning environments. If you upload learning materials, you will receive so-called EKFI's with which you can download other materials for free. When you join the platform you will receive a number of EKFI's as a start. You can earn EKFI's by translating material into another language, by providing reviews. EKFI PLUS is an Erasmus+ project.



In this leaflet

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- The educational model
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- The project partners

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The Educational model

In EKFI PLUS we have developed an educational model to be used in developing learning material in teams (across borders) in regular VET or HE institutes. In this educational model different elements of the process of developing learning materials in teams will be integrated:

- the appropriate didactic model for developing learning materials (with the latest didactic insights) containing the various elements: objectives, learning contents, learning activities, role of the teacher, learning resources/materials, group form, learning environment, time indication, testing, other criteria such as: costs, practice tested, etc.
- the structure and the elements of a model for the efficient cooperation of teachers for developing learning material (including project management and process management);
- definition guidelines for joint authoring of learning material including copyright;
- quality control and evaluation of the learning material.

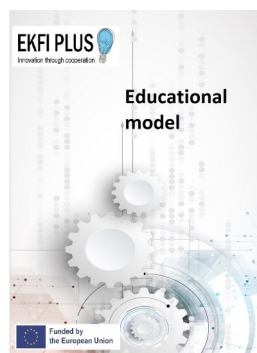
The Educational model will be integrated in the E-tools on the platform.

Download the PDF of the publication on: www.ekfi-project.com/research

Research

We have executed an inventory of the most important elements/topics within the Cultural Creative Industry (CCI) with a focus on the communication sector that are eligible for the development/authoring of new or advanced learning materials.

See: <https://www.ekfi-project.com/research>



EGIN

EGIN, the European Graphic/Media Industry Network, is the platform of cooperation for education, training, research & development and labour market projects amongst the social partners of nine countries: Denmark, Germany, Iceland, The Netherlands, Norway, Finland, Spain, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

During its thirty-three years of existence, starting 1990, EGIN has been working in accordance with its original goals: "...to function as a network for education and joint development of educational programmes" and "...to function as a centre of contacts, exchange of information, discussions and project creation". EGIN has also kept its original position as a non-political organisation.

EGIN is involved in this project as an associate partner. During the annual conference of EGIN in Barcelona, November 2023, one of the keynote speakers was a representative of the EKFI-PLUS project. The EKFI PLUS project was introduced to the participants. Most of the participants became direct a member of the EKFI platform: ekfi.eu.



EXPERT-MEETINGS

We consult experts at various times during the project. We ask the opinions and suggestions to improve our ideas and developed concepts.



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Exchange platform overview

The Exchange platform (ekfi.eu) is available for the target groups: VET and HEs, SMEs, sector organizations, others in the Creative industry. The platform has a database of already uploaded learning and research material (from various sources). The uploading is supported by the upload application where the learning/research material will be described and meet educational standards/formats in order to pass the entrance requirements.

The Search functionality makes it possible for the user to map the competence needs and match the needs with learning/research material on the platform.

The download of the material uses the Download functionality. It is a system of exchange where goods are directly exchanged for other goods without using money but so called EKFI-points, as a medium of exchange. We developed the criteria under which the upload and download takes place and according to which the value of the uploaded material is determined and the value at which material can be downloaded.

New developed E-tools

In the EKFI Plus project we develop E-tools as an extension of the existing EKFI platform. These e-tools should offer developers/teachers the opportunity to develop learning resources by collaborating in teams, possibly across national borders. We foresee three major elements:

- Extension User management module: the user module needs to be extended so the teachers can indicate their contributions to possible projects and their competence level for development. If there is a new material development request on the EKFI platform the system can choose possible participants.
- Module New material: development: before EKFI can help a user with the development of new material, the request need be defined inside the system. The submitter is then free to ask possible participants to join the project or he/she can publish the project so that everyone can contact the submitter.
- Module Development Guidance: when a team starts the development of new material, the EKFI platform will help the project members with hints and tips and tricks on how to use collaboration software and what tools are available on the internet. The aim of this project is to bring together people with similar needs to develop new teaching materials.

To do this, the needs, competencies, etc. of these people have to be matched. The development project must be supported at educational level, project management, communication methodologies, process management. The ICT components will support this process.

Communication

The project aims to promote actions to develop an Exchange platform with its modules to exchange learning material and research reports to give the stakeholders like VET and HE institutes, European small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) and social partners to develop by promoting the implementation of:

- The adjusted Exchange platform with development tools
- distributing learning resources, reports etc. for schools and extra-curricular education
- educational products like workshops on the developments
- organizing a final event in Greece in June 2023.

We will communicate mainly by internet: www.ekfi-project.com. Also we organize meetings, workshops, participate in trade fairs and conferences (a.o. EGIN and International Circle). We publish press releases and articles in sector magazines on the EKFI PLUS project.



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Contact

Visit our project website:
www.ekfi-project.com

More information on the developed material or the project?

You can also contact us: at
info@stivako.nl

Check the contact information of your regional contactperson on the project-website:

<https://www.ekfi-project.com/contact-persons>

Stivako

Applicant partner/coordinator. Stivako has a long lasting reputation in The Netherlands as the institute for management education, marketing for the Creative Industry and the print media. Stivako is also experienced in developing games for education and entrepreneurship. In the project Stivako will focus on the coordinating of the development of the learning module: Circular economy. The also are involved in the research and validation of all workpackages.

Artevelde University of Applied Sciences

Artevelde University of Applied Sciences, a Member of the Ghent University Association, is one of Flanders' largest university colleges. It offers study programmes in amongst others: teacher training, business and graphic education for more than 13.000 students. In the project Artevelde will focus on the coordinating the development of the learning module: Mixed reality in Print, Sign and Packagingmedia. The also are involved in the research and validation of all workpackages.

Escola Algueró

Escola Algueró is a well based industrial VET school in Barcelona. It has very close ties with the Catalanian Employers' federation and therefore is a leading school. In the project Escola Algueró will be involved in the research and validation of all workpackages and the development of the learning material.

Muldis

Muldis is an ICT-company and consultancy firm with a large experience in developing platforms and ICT tools, games, applications on national and EU-level. Muldis develops since 20 years software for the social partners in print media and creative industry. They will develop the new E-tools on the platform.

Graphmedlab-UniWA

The Hellenic Graphic-Media Research Lab is a unique research entity legally established as a public state Institute, operating in the wider field of science and technology of graphic arts/communication, printing and packaging in Greece. They are the coordinator of the research and educational model. They will be involved in the research/educational model, validation of all workpackages and the development of the learning material.

Tallinn Polytechnic School

Tallinn Polytechnic School is one of the oldest vocational schools in Estonia with three big departments: Energetics and automatics department; Info technology department and a Media department. In the project they will be involved in the research, validation of all workpackages and the development of the learning material.

