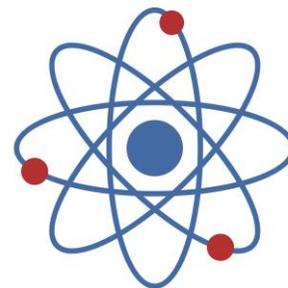


PROJECT NEWSLETTER



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BRACKET

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Boosting a novel and innovative tRAining approaCh of Key Enabling Technologies

BRACKET INFO

The BRACKET project is a study of the representation of new technologies (nanotechnology, biotechnology and advanced materials) in Vocational Education and Training (VET). In the scope of the project, the situation analysis in the project partner countries will be carried out, as well as the preparation and implementation of a new training program in the field of key advanced technologies and a joint platform for cooperation containing all educational content developed through the project.

November 1, 2018 - April 30, 2021

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THIRD TRANSNATIONAL MEETING



Third Transnational Meeting

7th and 8th November 2019

Larissa (Greece)

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The Third Transnational Meeting of the Erasmus + BRACKET Project team was held on 7 and 8 November, 2019 in Larissa, Greece. The meeting was attended by representatives of all project partners: IRMO from Croatia, DANMAR COMPUTERS from Poland, CETEM from Spain, BIEDRIBA EUROFORTIS from Latvia, LURS from Rogaška Slatina and INNORENEW COE from Izola, Slovenia and the hosts, University of Thessaly from Greece.

The aim of the meeting was to finalise the content of the BRACKET Joint Curriculum (Intellectual Output 2; IO2) with the definition of the duration of the course, number of units, etc. We have also agreed some actions for the coordination of the correct development of the training material (IO3).

The next partner meeting was scheduled in Poland in May 2020, however, due to the exceptional circumstances of COVID-19, the Consortium decided to hold the meeting online and postpone the physical meeting.



KETs: nanotechnology, biotechnology and advanced materials

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE SO FAR

IO2. BRACKET JOINT CURRICULUM

The Consortium has finished the second output of the project whose main objective was the definition and the development of the Joint Curriculum, which will be developed in the next steps of the project. The Consortium has defined five units:

Unit 1. Introduction to Key Enabling Technologies	1.1. Industry 4.0 1.2. Sustainable development 1.3. Key Enabling Technologies
Unit 2. Nanotechnology	2.1. Fundamentals on nanotechnology 2.2. Current and emerging applications on three areas: food, medicine and materials 2.3. Legislation
Unit 3. Biotechnology	3.1. Fundamentos on biotechnology 3.2. Current and emerging applications of biotechnology 3.3. Biocatalysts- biotransformation 3.4. Legislation
Unit 4. Advanced Materials	4.1. Manufacturing of materials with advanced properties 4.2. Graphene and carbon-based materials 4.3. Renewable adhesives and resins 4.4. Advanced engineered wood-based composites
Unit 5. Innovation regarding Key Enabling Technologies	5.1. Innovation management 5.2. Entrepreneurial skills 5.3. E-leadership 5.4. Financing KET projects 5.5. New T&L methods

After successfully putting together the 'Joint Curriculum Harmonized Units', the Consortium validated this product before the real content development. For this reason, stakeholders and associated partners were being consulted before the development of the training content for a new online course available for VET students who are interested in developing and fostering new skills on KET. Finally, Consortium partners collected 44 stakeholder's respondents which evaluated innovation and technology drives, benefits and finally barriers of the course. From all three aspects, the Joint Curriculum passed the evaluation very successfully (more on: https://bracket.erasmus.site/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/BRACKET-Joint-Curriculum-overview_EN.pdf).

IO3. BRACKET TRAINING MATERIAL

Before starting with the development of the training material, Consortium, through the leadership of UTH, have developed a standard structure for all didactic materials: coursebook document, slide presentations, assessment, introductory video, etc. Partners considered this activity a key step to follow a standard pattern as well as well-structured training material which will be easily usable for our target groups. Once the templates were defined, Consortium started with the training content development that will be ready at the end of the year.

ACTIVITIES IN THE NEXT PERIOD

- 4th Transnational Project Meeting will be held online, on 26th May, 2020
- Review of training material developed in Output 3
- Final definition of assessment of BRACKET training material
- Development of e-learning platform (Output 4)

HOW BIOTECHNOLOGY IS CONTRIBUTING TO THE FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19



We are all living uncertain times in the last days. Our daily routines and our habitual lifestyle have suddenly been interrupted. While we can all contribute to stop this pandemic with simple measures, such as staying at home, there is a significant sector of the world's population that is actively fighting the virus. In addition to health staff, who are demonstrating a high level of courage and commitment, the scientific community is duplicating efforts and resources to expand knowledge about the coronavirus and develop strategies to defeat it, based on a deep understanding of its biology. Biotechnology plays a key role in contributing to the current coronavirus situation. Great efforts are focused on developing therapeutic responses to the virus. By working with human cells and gene mechanisms, biotechnologists improve their understanding of viral mechanisms by studying their genetics and transcribing this information into knowledge and tools to search for a vaccine.

From BRACKET project, we encourage people to stay safe by following national guidelines, work from home as much as possible and to stay up-to-date with the latest news from official governmental channels. Also, we would like to remind you that we are preparing the training material of our project which will cover Biotechnology apart from two other Key Enabling Technologies (KETs): nanotechnology and advanced materials. Medical Biotechnology, which is part of our Biotechnology Training Material, refers to the use of microbial, plant, animal and human cells for the development of pharmaceuticals and vaccines for the treatment and prevention of disease, including infectious viral diseases. At this current situation of the global fight against Covid-19 and need for technical and scientific awareness, we consider that improving the knowledge of industry and other related stakeholders in these technologies could help to deal with this situation that is also affecting economy and manufacturing industry.



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