



Erasmus+ School Exchange Partnerships Project (KA2)

“Strengthening an Interdisciplinary Approach for an Effective Science Teaching and Learning”

SHORT-TERM JOINT STAFF TRAINING EVENT

The last conference of the ERASMUS+ project INTEReST was supposed to be held in Mersin, Turkey between March 23-27 2020 but due to force majeure condition caused by the Corona virus(COVID-19) we have cancelled our meeting in Turkey. Since the early times of the Pandemics up to now as partners of the project we have maintained a strong connection and information transfer between our institutions.

We have made virtual short term student exchanges with five workshop meeting via Zoom and Microsoft Teams platform. 5 days lasting short term student exchange Educational program were carried out as planned in the application form. This activity is organised by Turkey.

After We have completed “Short-term exchange of groups of pupils”, We have finally hosted our teachers between 24th and 28th August 2021 in order to carry out “short-term joint staff training event” on the theme “Assessment”.

The participants of the meeting are ;

1	Fernando Rebelo	Agrupamento de Escolas Daniel Sampaio,Portugal
2	Carla Vaz	Agrupamento de Escolas Daniel Sampaio,Portugal
3	Cristina Santos	Agrupamento de Escolas Daniel Sampaio,Portugal
4	Paula Paiva	Agrupamento de Escolas Daniel Sampaio,Portugal
5	Telma Rodrigues	Agrupamento de Escolas Daniel Sampaio,Portugal
6	Judit Kohut	Jedlik Ányos Gimnázium,Hungary
7	Enikő Zaha	Jedlik Ányos Gimnázium,Hungary
8	Gabriella Brutovszky	Jedlik Ányos Gimnázium,Hungary
9	Rima LEIMONTIENE	Pakruojo „Atzalyno" gimnazija,Lithuania
10	Daiva MAKUSKIENE	Pakruojo „Atzalyno" gimnazija,Lithuania
11	Özgür Ali NUR	MDTO MTAL,Turkey
12	Hüseyin İlhan NACAROĞLU	MDTO MTAL,Turkey
13	Taylan ÇİFTÇİ	MDTO MTAL,Turkey
14	Aysel ÖZTÜRK	MDTO MTAL,Turkey



Summary of the activities carried out

Tuesday 24th August 2021

Teachers participated to a lecture by **Prof Serkan Şendağ**, Mersin University Faculty of Education / Computer Education and Instructional Technology “Evaluation of Interdisciplinary Science and Maths subjects”. During the lecture teachers have had the opportunity to learn some new perspectives on the assessment of the interdisciplinary branches.

Wednesday 25th August 2021

Teachers participated to a workshop on the assessment of **Dr.Duygu ÖZEN**, (Assessment and Evaluation Expert at Mersin Provincial Directorate of National Education Assessment and Evaluation Centre) on Evaluation of Interdisciplinary Science and Maths Subjects.

We have had very fruitful workshop and discussions on the assessment of interdisciplinary sciences.

After the first session teachers from Turkey and Lithuania have presented assessment methods and approaches they have carried out during the project and at school. It is also stated by both Lithuanian and Turkish teachers that they do not have interdisciplinary subjects in their curriculum but during the project but they have implemented interdisciplinary lesson plans during some science classes for the sake of project and they have shared the experiences and feedbacks of these classes with the whole INTEREST team.

Thursday 26th August 2021

Teachers from Portugal and Hungary have presented some of their lesson plans and assessment methods they have carried out at school. Portuguese colleagues stated that it is good for them that they can already implement lessons together with science teachers. Their curriculum is giving them opportunity to implement interdisciplinary lessons together with science teachers. We have already had very nice samples and ideas from both Portuguese and Hungarian colleagues during the day.

Friday 27th August 2021

Assessment of the INTEREST in order to measure the effects of implementation of the project has been carried out during the day. The process of cooperation on the transnational level (pros. and cons.) was done by the participants.

Plan was to evaluate if the improvement was effective and to compare the teaching experiences. Questionnaires are used before and during the project. Teachers are asked to evaluate the project with some questions.

Question 1: How did you communicate to perform the tasks in the project?



Ana Cristina Santos(Maths teacher) Performing the tasks at the earlier stages we actually lacked the ability to have connection however with the Pandemic it became easier to communicate via Zoom or Microsoft Teams and etc. Judit Kohut(coordinator) asked if they could have arranged meetings regularly among science teachers. Ana Cristina Santos answered “yes but timing can sometimes be tricky because as partner countries 4 of us mostly live in four different time zones. In addition to the time difference. There is the issue of language barriers for some science teachers.Rima LEIMONTIENĖ suggested an English teacher from the school can help science teachers during the meetings to enhance the quality and effectiveness of the meetings.

- Zoom Microsoft Teams or etc could be a good tool for teachers to use
- For teachers with lower linguistic skills could be supported by English teachers at school.
- Video conferences are more useful rather than whats upp however whats upp can be used to arrange meetings.

Question 2: Did you miss some technical support? Did Google classroom work?

Daiva MAKUSKIENĖ (Biology teacher) stated that At first it was a bit difficult to use it but with the Pandemics we started to use this app in our school and later it became more useful and functional.

Question 3: What are the benefits of working in an international way?

- This cooperation had broaden the horizons to see how other colleagues work
- Understand the differences /similarities between the curriculum of different countries.
- See the other countries uses interdisciplinarity in a more experienced way.
- Checking on yourself measured my work comparable with the other teachers.
- Even when the teacher has lower skills in English being in these kind of projects are helping to improve
- Get the inspiration from working internationally and different cultures for the teacher and the students
- International projects puts people out of their comfort zones.
- Improve English skills
- Know new places
- Learn new methodologies
- Compare the work conditions
- Know the history of each country
- See the different methodologies, get new ideas
- Opportunity to see differences/similarities



- Sharing. It is very good to receive new ideas and share ideas with others, share experiences.

Question 4: What pieces of advice and guidelines for future international cooperation?

Guidelines for future projects

- Improve communication with video conferences
- Schedule meeting whenever is needed with teachers who are involved in that task.(Flexibility)
- Ask students for suggestions and opinions (movies, books etc.)
- The planning should be rigid. If something is not working, there must be the opportunity to change to make it works.
- Do not be shy to express and share even the smallest ideas because they may trigger you to a bigger ideas.
- Be prepared to work hard. Invest your own time
- Sharing is essential. It is good not also to receive but also to give.

Saturday 28th August 2021

It is the last day of the agenda in which all teachers will shared and exchange ideas to questions below :

1. Name the most valuable knowledge you gained during this training week?

“Interdisciplinary work, assessment ideas” Telma Rodrigues

“Cooperation of the Portuguese team inspired me” Gabriella Brutovszky

“Portuguese lesson plan, Lectures of Prof Serkan Şendağ and Dr Duygu Özen” Cristina Santos

“The way of we all assess the lessons are similar,provoking student to learn and trying to see the invisible is a good idea” Daiva MAKUSKIENE

“Practical kind of assessment into cultural knowledge” Paula Paiva

“We are not that different in teaching and similarities are a lot” Carla Vaz

2. What ideas/tools, you have heard about this week, are you planning to use/implement in your classes?



“Icebreaking activity Duygu Özen did during her workshop and Gaby’s activity”

Carla Vaz

“Cooperation, CSI(Portuguese project) Gabriella Brutovszky

“CSI, Actionbound” Daiva MAKUSKIENE

“Maths is the glue of sciences and one of the teachers task during classes is seeing the invisible , checklist for designing interdisciplinary rubric ” Cristina Santos

“Snowflake,Adaptive chart” Telma Rodrigues

“Moving Chart, Gaby’s activity, Upgrading the snowflake tool Paula Paiva

3. Find three words which will describe your mood during the week?

Happy /satisfied/sweaty/inspired/exciting

/upset/joyful/fascinated/motivated/healthy/tired/crazy/holiday/heat/first time/lighter/worried about Covid/cherished/happy/warm/longing/

4. Give us an example of what you have learned about other cultures.

Judit Kohut shared her observation about differences in cultures. She said one afternoon she realised that Portuguese and Turkish colleagues have already worn their swimming suits inside. She thinks that beach people and land people are different on this issue.

Ottoman Energy, Muslim, Turkish vocabulary, drink and music from different countries

Mediterranean habits and culture

Easy going feeling makes me chill

Lithuanian experience

Turkish history, one blanket, Lithuanian music

The mixture of cultures in Turkey, Dress code in the country

Confirmed the kindness from Turkish people

Turkish Hungarian dance, Containers for solar energy



Based on the question on organization and the content of the activities 86 per cent of the participants answered as agree and 14 per cent answered as strongly agree.

Based on the question on timing and duration of the meeting 71 per cent of the participants answered as agree and 28 per cent answered as strongly agree.

Based on the question the activities helped me acquire new theoretical knowledge and practical skills related to learning Science 43 per cent answered as strongly agree and 57 per cent as agree.

Based on the question if the activities created spin-off effects for launch or development of the new aspects of assessment 86 per cent answered as agree and 14 per cent as strongly agree.

Based on the question on opportunity for exchanging ideas and experiences given 57 per cent of the participants answered as strongly agree and 43 per cent answered as agree.

Question on activities meeting one's expectations answered as 71 per cent answered as agree and 28 per cent answered as strongly agree.

Based on the question on learning from good practice abroad, 71 per cent answered as agree, 29 per cent answered as strongly agree.

Based on the question on improving ones awareness of ways for developing the most effective assessment strategies for teaching science in an interdisciplinary context, 71 percent of the participants answered as agree and 29 per cent answered as strongly agree.

Based on the question on sharing ones knowledge and skills with colleagues and other people, 57 per cent of the participants answered as agree, 43 percent of the participants answered as strongly agree.

Based on the question on being able to develop new ideas for assessment in an interdisciplinary context, 71 percent answered as agree, 29 per cent answered as agree.



Based on the question on building up new contacts my professional network , 71 percent answered as agree, 29 per cent answered as agree.

Based on the question on how this training activity helped me improve my analytical skills 100 per cent of the participants answered as agree.

Based on the question on how this training activity helped me improve my practical skills 86 per cent of the participants answered as agree 14 per cent of the participants answered as strongly agree.

Based on the question on how this training activity helped me improve communication in foreign language 43 per cent of the participants answered as strongly agree 43 per cent of the participants answered as strongly agree and 14 per cent of the participants answered as neutral.

Based on the question on how this training activity helped me improve teamwork abilities 43 per cent of the participants answered as strongly agree 57 per cent of the participants answered as agree.

Based on the question on how this training activity helped me improve emotional skills 85 per cent of the participants answered as agree 15 per cent of the participants answered as strongly agree.

Based on the question on how this training activity helped me improve knowledge about partner countries and culture 71 per cent of the participants answered as agree 29 per cent of the participants answered as strongly agree.



Minutes Turkey Meeting 24th- 28th August, 2021



Based on the question if the participants' improved his/her language skills 54 percent answered as strongly agree, 27 percent answered as agree, 18 percent answered as neutral.

Teamwork and cooperation skills 50 percent answered as strongly agree, 36 percent answered as agree, 13 percent answered as neutral. Knowledge about partner countries and culture 77 percent answered as strongly agree, 22 percent answered as agree. Social and emotional skills 59 percent answered as strongly agree, 27 percent answered as agree, 9 percent answered as neutral. Practical skills 54 percent answered as strongly agree, 36 percent answered as agree.

Özgür Ali Nur

August 2021 Mersin, Turkey