



MYSS PROJECT

1st NEWSLETTER -

December 2021

WELCOME TO THE FIRST NEWSLETTER OF THE MYSS PROJECT

In this first edition we are happy to tell you about:

- ✓ The idea behind the project;
- ✓ Our consortium;
- ✓ What do we want to do;
- ✓ MYSS at a glance;
- ✓ Who we deal with;
- ✓ Results achieved since April 2021 until now;
- ✓ Our next steps...

THE IDEA BEHIND THE PROJECT

“MY Smart School” (MYSS) project aims to fulfill several of the most urgent needs in the educational field expressed within the Erasmus+ program during COVID pandemic and in the Digital Education Action Plan, such as to provide teachers (both from primary and secondary schools) with “high-quality learning contents”. Project’s main aim is to reshape traditional school towards Distance Learning. This main objective will be achieved through dedicated e-courses on how to approach teaching and communication through online video sessions and on how to reshape training curricula according to the new distance learning scenario, a situation that last since 2020 until now and that

could continue also for the next school year. Thanks to the project, professors, schools and educational institutions will be provided with a new user-friendly digital equipment, tools and secure platforms that respect privacy and ethical standards. In addition, in order to strengthen teachers’ skills in this context of digital transformation, a set of “*Teachers’ diaries and Recommendations*” will be developed for sustainability and replicability purposes, by describing their teaching experiences and methodologies tailored on students’ age, in order to maximize the impact also after the end of the project.

OUR CONSORTIUM

The project is managed by a consortium of 6 partners from three European countries:

- ✓ VITECO (Italy)
- ✓ IDEC (Greece)
- ✓ CENFORM (Romania)
- ✓ Liceo Statale Ettore Majorana (Italy)
- ✓ 3rd Gymnazium of Nikaia (Greece)
- ✓ Scoala Gimnaziala CIUGUD (Romania)

The organizations have different characteristics and fields of specialization, leading to effective cooperation. In fact, VITECO, a software house specialized in the development of e-learning platforms, together with IDEC, an accredited lifelong learning center, CENFORM, an organization involved in educational activities and the 3 schools representative of each grade (primary, secondary and high education), will be able to catalyze the efforts to spread the good practices of MYSS beyond their national territories.



WHAT DO WE WANT TO DO

MYSS Project aims to support teachers to keep up with the need to reshape traditional curricula and learning environments towards Distance Learning. The main target group of the MYSS project is primary and secondary school teachers and students between 6-18 years old, who will be provided with innovative online resources and tools needed to be effectively involved in high-quality, inclusive digital education. The project provides teachers with e-Courses on how to approach teaching and communication through online video sessions and concrete digital solutions.

MYSS AT A GLANCE

The main result of the MYSS project will be its Intellectual Outputs, strictly related to the development of diversified solutions which can be adapted to primary and secondary teachers' needs:

- IO1 - My Smart School e-courses for teachers - how to approach teaching and communication through online video sessions.
- IO2 - MY Smart School e-platform for teachers and students.
- IO3 - Teachers' Diaries and Recommendations.

These practical tools and resources will ensure great dissemination and usage also after the end of the project, thanks to the high transferability potential of all the outcomes and to the exploitation actions of all project's partners.

The final results and outcomes are also connected to the transnational network of

schools involved (IT, GR, RO), both as full and associated partners and both within the primary and upper/lower secondary schools. This impact would become even more relevant by considering the translation of the project Intellectual Outputs in the partners languages, especially for IO3, which will be available for replicability purposes in 7 languages (EN, IT, GR, RO, DE, FR, ES) and disseminated in specific educational channels and networks across all EU.

In addition to a series of learning lessons to teachers in experimenting real virtual classrooms, 3 Multiplier Events (centered upon the key role of Distance Learning and digital competences) will be organized in every partner country, involving teachers, students, parents, policy makers and public bodies in the field of education. All these actions will contribute in strengthening the awareness in every country (by authorities, inspectorates, decision-makers and educational apparatus) regarding the possibility of investing in the digitalization of schools in terms of reshaping the traditional curricula from the basis and investing in the continuous training of teachers, technical staff and students, modernizing of the entire school system.

WHO WE DEAL WITH

Our targets are primary and secondary school teachers and students between 6-18 years old, who will be provided by innovative online resources and tools needed to be effectively involved in high quality, inclusive digital education. The other key target groups of the project,



which will be involved at a LOCAL and NATIONAL LEVEL are: teachers' associations; associations that represent VET (Vocational, Education, Training) trainers and organizations that provide training to professionals and students; Public Authorities related to the themes of the project. At the EUROPEAN LEVEL, instead, targets are: European primary and secondary schools teachers and students; European associations engaged in educational and training activities; PA and Institutions related to the themes of the project.

Through project actions, consortium members strive to overcome the lack of competence of students and teachers in the field of distance learning, both in terms of educational methodologies and of digital skills. Main target groups will learn and increase their knowledge and skills in this domain, as a starting point for self-development and growth.

RESULTS ACHIEVED SINCE APRIL 2021 UNTIL NOW

Partners during these months has worked on the "My Smart School" e-courses for teachers, focused on how to approach teaching and communication through online video sessions (Intellectual Output nr.1 – IO1).

All partners focused mainly on 4 topics:

- e- course on how to approach video lessons;
- e-course on how to reshape a training curriculum to the needs of the 21st century;

- e-course on how to provide emotional support to students and parents;
- e-course on how to properly involve parents in the educational framework

The contents were based on international best practices and partner expert knowledge. In particular, for tasks related to the IO1, partners worked on a series of specific activities:

- A1 Needs analysis. All partners performed desk research and interviews with focus groups, in order the consortium to acquire an integrated overview of the needs in the participating Countries.
- O1-A2 Define the objectives, target groups' needs, learning outcomes and structure of the programme.
- O1-A3 Identification and analysis of the learning materials.
- O1-A4 Modules' design of the programme based on the students' age, profile and training needs.
- O1-A5 Development of learning materials and contents.
- IO-A6 Pilot testing phase

We defined with success the training materials for teachers, which are now accessible on Moodle platform for our ongoing testing activities (<https://e-trainingcentre.gr/>) and which will be freely available to all teachers as asynchronous e-courses in our MYSS platform (<https://platform.myss-project.eu/>). Inside, 8 units has been developed and are ready to be used as high-level digital training resources for teachers. These training materials will be accessible through asynchronous e-courses available in our MYSS e-platform.



At the same time, we also started working on the second intellectual output that is MYSS e-learning platform for teachers and student. By taking into account primary and secondary school teachers' needs and experiences reported during the lockdown, an innovative and user-friendly e-platform has been designed to face some recurring practical issues. In particular, we are working on tools within the platform that will facilitate the work of teachers, thanks to graphic templates and innovative technical functions, and will improve student involvement through interactive assessment methods and synchronous and asynchronous teaching modes. The platform will be also accessible through PC, laptop, mobile and tablet!

OUR NEXT STEPS

In the following months, partners will:

- ✓ Work on a new model of education for primary and secondary school teachers based on open online educational resources and a digital learning platform
- ✓ Work on tailored and flexible digital tools and assessment instruments to be exploited by teachers during their online classes;
- ✓ Train the teachers on how to approach the e-courses and pilot testing phase;
- ✓ Continue the upgrading of the tool of the platform. This strategic tool will become a common working space for primary & secondary school teachers and students;
- ✓ Technical development of the e-platform and of the graphical templates' features;

- ✓ Disseminate the project's website and Social media pages to teachers, educational stakeholders, educational apparatus, schools and Inspectorates, at national and European level.

HOW TO FIND US

- Visit our project's website:
<https://myss.project.eu>
- Follow our Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/MYSmartSchoolProject>
- Follow our LinkedIn page:
<https://www.linkedin.com/company/my-smart-school>

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