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Digital Readiness for European Distance Learning (DIGI.R.E.DI.L)

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Project Summary

This is an Erasmus+ KA226 strategic partnership of five schools situated in countries all over Europe: Greece, Portugal, Iceland, Serbia and Belgium. Its title is "Digital Readiness for European Distance Learning" (DIGI.R.E.DI.L). Partner schools all belong to secondary education, most of them to the vocational one. Teachers involved are experienced in the use of ICT and in distance learning long before COVID-19 imposed its restrictions on school life as well. They are also eTwinners and open to innovation. The main objective of the project is to update the digital competences of teachers and students of partner schools by introducing new software and methods that can be used to make distance learning qualitative and fruitful for the educational procedure. The institutions involved will share their

knowledge and experience in the use of ICT in education and develop teaching material together. This teaching material will be tested in virtual, mixed but also some regular classes and will be uploaded on project twinspace and blog so as to be available to any teacher in and out of the schools involved. Basic project info like participants, objectives and activities, mobilities and procedures will be disseminated in the form of newsletters and the results will also be published in the form of an e-book where all partners will contribute.

Project Blog

Fifth LTTA meeting in Lisbon

The fifth Learning /Teaching/ Training Activity of the Erasmus project "Digital Readiness for European Distant Learning" was held in ENSINUS Estudos Técnicos e Profissionais, a vocational secondary school in Lisbon, Portugal. Participating countries other than Portugal (hosting school), were all partner schools from Belgium, Greece (Coordinating School), Iceland and Serbia.

The main objective of this fifth LTTA meeting was to show how the host teachers used Moodle and Teams platforms as well as the methodologies and strategies to enhance students in a hands on approach context engaging them in the use of digital tools for the development of their projects not only for a distance scenario at the time of the Pandemic but also on site classes.



Welcome Day

The hosting week started with a cultural welcome by some students who also did a guided tour to the school labs and facilities so as to meet students and teachers on the spot.



The official welcome was presented by the Vice principal of the school and the guests had the chance to learn and discuss about the Portuguese educational system and how Portuguese schools adapted to Digital learning.



☐ Moodle and Teams workshop

After the coffee break, José Costa, the IT teacher presented the platforms used in school - MOODLE and TEAMS - and explained how teachers organize their digital working spaces according to the subject they teach. The participants had the opportunity to understand how INETE uses Moodle platform for class management and also had the chance to develop and assess some tasks using the same platform. At the same event, the group also understood how the school organized the classes management using Microsoft Teams in which teachers and school managers gathered documents and resources.

□ E-safety label procedure

Finally the school also achieved the E-Safety Gold Label that ensures that INETE has implemented regulation about the usage of online platforms and tools for the whole community. The process of achievement for the E-safety Label was also presented in that session.

Digital platforms & e-safety

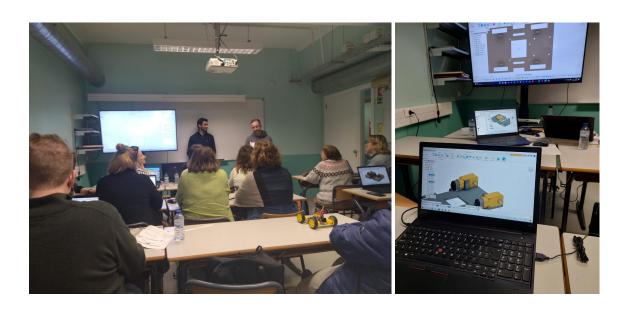
José Costa



□ 3D Design workshop

In the afternoon, Jorge Cipriano and Nirav Gujjar, the mechatronics lab teachers, presented the first part of a workshop related to the use of digital tools such as software *Fusion* to design pieces to be printed in 3 D, inspired by experience acquired in previous LTTAs.Participants worked in small groups and learned how to use the tool. Throughout the workshop they were guided by teachers to master their small project.

3D Design and Printing Development Guide



Despite the rainy weather, participants had a bus trip in Lisbon in a Hybrid vehicle that rolled through Lisbon Downtown but also sailed in Tagus river which brought a new perspective of the city river line.

The day ended with dinner at a traditional restaurant to acknowledge Portuguese Cuisine.

Cristina Basílio

2nd Day

□ 3D printing workshop

A second workshop followed during which colleagues from partner schools printed their own materials using the webtools aforementioned. Participants had the opportunity to apply what they learned in the previous workshop and face some constraints that were overcome with some hints given by teachers who shared their trial-failure-trial-success experiences. The sharing of practices has allowed the integration of a wide range of acknowledged skills.



In the late afternoon, participants had a walking tour in Downtown Lisbon guided by their Portuguese colleagues.

The streets of Lisbon guide

The day ended with dinner at a traditional restaurant - Casa do Alentejo.



3rd Day - Trip to Nazaré and Óbidos

On the 8th of March, the group went on a long day trip to the beautiful medieval town of Óbidos and the fishing town of Nazaré.

First Stop: Óbidos. The group arrived at Óbidos in the morning. Passing the main entrance door, the Porta de Vila, a small guided tour took place, starting in the principal street of the village, the Rua Direita, filled with houses with whitewashed walls trimmed with blue or yellow borders. The group visited several churches and plazas in the small village and the bravest had a great time walking through the walls of the Óbidos Castle. After the culturally filled tour, there was time to visit the manifold souvenir shops and taste the typical sour cherry liqueur named "ginja" - a beverage typical from Óbidos.

After the morning in Óbidos, the group made its way to the village of Nazaré. The visit to this coastal town started with a lunch by the sea with a view of the typical fishing boats of this area and the stations of dried fish. After lunch, the group went to the main square of Nazaré, where the Nossa Senhora da Nazaré Sanctuary is and where you can find the Miradouro do Suberco - a place where you can have a view over the ocean and the entire town of Nazaré. After a great group photo, we headed to São Miguel Arcanjo Fort - a 16th-century fortress that presents exhibitions related to Nazaré's surfing culture. It's also where spectators stand to watch the surfers riding the record-breaking waves.

A stop for a quick coffee and to visit some souvenir shops and we headed to Lisbon - great people, great fun, great day!

Patrícia Lopes





4th Day - Workshops on digital tools

The Digital Resources talk we had at the last mobility of the DIGI.RE.DI.L. project allowed us to have an interesting discussion on how the internet is being used and how we can make the most of it together with our students.

Besides having access to a wide range of information when using online resources, our students can benefit from interactive, engaging and personalized learning. As we all discussed during our workshop, the improved collaboration between students and teachers when using these resources help us with our class planning and it improves the learning experience as well.

We had a very interesting talk about one new resource that appeared late last year - ChatGPT. ChatGPT has been used by students lately, not only as a learning resource, but as a way to use AI to do homework/projects for them. This presents an issue to our classes, but the use of AI was already incorporated into our student's learning experience in and outside of the classroom. We talked about how we can teach students how to use these resources correctly, and how we teachers can benefit from using these types of resources as well for class planning.

It was super fun and exciting to meet everyone and to share experiences between the younger generation and older generation teachers. I am very glad I got to be in this project and that I was able to collaborate, learn and share my own (recent) learnings with other amazing teachers.

Cheila Mateigueira

Digital tools in classroom
Digital Tools
Decktoys Portugal
Wordwall



□ PROJECT MEETING

A project meeting also took place the fourth day with the attendance of the five coordinators. A brief monitoring/evaluation was realized to underline weaknesses so far and future aims till the TPM in Belgium were discussed. Focus was made to final report requirements and uploading of outcomes in the results platform.

☐ Farewell Dinner

The day ended with a farewell dinner provided by the host school in which all teachers and Management staff of the host school were also invited.



5th Day

Certificates ceremony

Certificates of attendance were delivered to each participant. Feedback about the hosting experience was then provided via discussion by all participants and online evaluations in google forms were filled in as well.





☐ Visit to Sintra

An interesting tour to Sintra took place to visit the historical old village and then an exploratory visit to Quinta da Regaleira, a Philosophical mansion that made the visitors delights.

The palace is located on the slopes of the mountains and a short distance from the Historic Center of Sintra, being classified as a Property of Public Interest since 2002. It forms an integral part of the cultural landscape of Sintra, classified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1995.

Then participants headed towards Cabo da Roca which is the westernmost point of mainland Portugal and continental Europe. The cape forms the western end of the Serra de Sintra, plunging into the Atlantic Ocean. We returned to Lisbon in the evening and participants enjoyed the last night in Lisbon before returning home.







Rute Ferreira