VTech@WBUni Project Progress Presentation

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NEO Monitoring Visit (ppt taken from 5th SC Meeting)
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Online Meeting

Aims and Objectives of VTech@WBUni

General Objective

To introduce for the first time at WB universities the concept of virtual technologies as a tool for accelerating university modernisation, while contributing on developing knowledge-driven society.

- Increase the quality and level of efficiency in teaching and knowledge retention through interactive learning methods
- Contribute on skills enhancement and further building of digital society at WB countries.

Direct beneficiaries: universities, schools, teachers, students, regional industries and businesses.

Aims and Objectives of VTech@WBUni

Specific Objectives

- Capacity building of academic staff to incorporate Virtual Technologies in teaching;

- Develop teaching methodologies availing of technology and/or ICT tools;

- Equip students with competencies to use/access tools, software and platforms;

- Increase interaction between teachers and students;

- Increase the level of understanding and reduce the grasping time and the effort that students need to learn information by using 3D concepts instead of 2D ones.

How planned activities will meet the needs of partner countries?

- The academic staff will be equipped with the necessary knowledge, skills and attitude to get use of Virtual Technologies for teaching; Develop teaching methodologies (i.e using interactive platforms) which will increase student interaction and motivation.

- To be able to retain knowledge through such methodologies, the students will also be equipped with competencies to be able to access those platforms and interactive learning.

- Establishment of a Virtual Technologies Hubs will increase ownership of teachers in using such methodology and serve as a focal point for other education institutions to scale up best practices.

- Introducing VTech hubs at public and private HEI in WB countries will connect students with innovative industry partners and equip them with transferable skills in innovative and critical thinking.

Innovative character of the project

- Traditional teaching and learning methods have lost its effectiveness
- The need for modernization of study programs is becoming as important as the quality.
- Use ICT technologies in teaching like audio-visual and interactive materials and the most trend like animation 3D and AR/VR.
- Applying these contemporary technologies in teaching is a new vision in education because it can bring about a major change in education. Teaching methodologies through computer, internet, and multimedia devices will be a common thing in the future.
- Mostly in WB countries teaching methodologies are still traditional so the introduction of AR/VR will be an innovation in their education systems.
- The usage of a development/training hub is an essential component that allows students to get acquainted with the industrial equipment, which they will meet in the industry/business later.

Project consortium: 11 partners

P1 • Aleksander Moisiu University (UAMD), Albania

P2 • Polis University (U_Polis), Albania

P3 • European University of Tirana (UET), Albania

P4 • Epoka University (EPOKAUNI), Albania

P5 • University of Prishtina (UP), Kosovo

P6 • University for Business and Technology (UBT), Kosovo

P7 • Mother Teresa University (MTU), Macedonia

P8 • South East European University (SEEU), Macedonia

P9 • University of Tartu (UT), Estonia

P10 • Lodz University of Technology (LUT), Poland

P11 • University of Ljubljana (UL), Slovenia

Overview over the Work Packages and Tasks

- WP1: PREPARATION
- WP2: DEVELOPMENT (2.1-2.6)
- WP3: QUALITY PLAN
- WP4: DISSEMINATION & EXPLOITATION
- WP5: MANAGEMENT

WHERE ARE WE?
WHAT HAVE WE DONE SO FAR?
CHALLENGES?

Needs assessment analysis to observe the level of efficiency of traditional teaching methods and level of use of ICT tools

1.1. Preparation of a questionnaire to gather inputs for a detailed gap analysis at institutional level; conduct questionnaire, process data: **data are analysed, evaluated and three reports have been prepared for Albania, Kosovo and Macedonia respectively;**

1.3. Regional event in one Western Balkan country. Share results/ findings in one event with regional partners: **25-26 Feb 2021**

TO BE DONE!!!

1.2. Preparation of a Comparative analysis between two methods: review paper **– Under progress: Dorota???**

Developing institutional capacities for Virtual Technologies supporting university processes

2.1.1. Training academic staff to incorporate VTech in teaching: **3 trainings**
2.1.3. Trainings/workshops to students for transforming to VTech teaching/learning environment: **3 trainings**
2.1.6. VTech in universities ethics: Deliverable2.1.6

TO BE DONE
2.1.2. Training administrative staff to support VTech academic processes in HEI – **1 training planned – M22@EPOKA**
2.1.1. Training academic staff to incorporate VTech in teaching
2.1.3. Trainings/workshops to students for transforming to VTech teaching/learning environment
2.1.4. Development of teaching methodologies to boost student logic and attract them to understand better knowledge in science
2.1.5. Study visit to EU to learn best practices on HEI capacity building on integrating VTech: **2 visits planned - M7@UT & M18@UL/Jan-UL and April2022-UT**

TRAVEL PLAN for VTECH

2.1.2	Development	Training administrative staff to support Vtech academic processes in HEIs	UT&UL&WBs	Tirana/EPOKA	M22 - Oct21		
2.1.3	Development	Trainings/workshops to students for transforming to Vtech teching/learning environment - **Training 1**	UT&LUT&UL&WBs	Durres/UAMD	M12 - Dec 20		
2.1.3	Development	Trainings/workshops to students for transforming to Vtech teching/learning environment - **Training 2**	UT&LUT&UL&WBs	Proshtina/UBT	M24 - Dec 21		
2.1.3	Developmnt	Trainings/workshops to students for transforming to Vtech teching/learning environment - **Training 3**	UT&LUT&UL&WBs	Skopje/MTU	M32 - not in the budget!		
2.1.5	Development	Study visit to EU to learn best practices on HEI capacity building on integrating Vtech - **Visit 1**	All except UT	Tartu/UT	M12 - Dec 20		M24?
2.1.5	Development	Study visit to EU to learn best practices on HEI capacity building on integrating Vtech - **Visit 2**	All except UL	Lubljana/UL	M18 - June 21		M28?
2.3.1	Development	Developing Vtech content and teaching methodologies	TUL comes to UP	Prishtina/UP	M10 -		
2.4.1	Development	EU study visit of acad staff and management	All	Lodz/LUT	M24-25		
2.4.2	Development	Vtech@WBUni Summer school for WB students	All	Prishtina/UBT	M21		
2.4.3	Development	Invited EU lecturer/talks in each WB university	UT/LUT/UL	AL/KO	M10-M34		
2.5.1	Development	Round table with industry on fostering collaboration University - Industry	All	Skopje/MTU	M16 - April 21		
2.5.2	Development	Developing Vtech apps that will be presented to industry - OPEN DAY1	All	Tetovo/SEEU	M30		M22
2.5.2	Development	Developing Vtech apps that will be presented to industry - OPEN DAY2	All	Tirana/POLIS	M34		M30
2.6.2	Development	Teacher training regarding user interface design, user experience and VR sickness - Training 1	WBs	Tirana/EPOKA	M14 - Feb21		M15 - March21
2.6.2	Development	Teacher training regarding user interface design, user experience and VR sickness - Training 2	WBs	Ljubljana/UL	M20 - Aug21		M23?
4.6	Dissm/Exploit.	Final conference/event	All	Tirana/UET	M32-33		
	Steering Committee Meetings						
	Management	Kick off meeting	P2-P11	UAMD	M2 - Jan20	M2 - Jan20	
	Management	SC1	P1-P11 except P9	Estonia	M6		

2.2.1. Defining the regulation and the mission and vision of Virtual Technology Hub: **OK**
2.2.5. Event on Virtual Technology Hub launching/inauguration: UET, POLIS, UP ???
2.2.4. Tendering procedure/Purchase: **all done; please confirm start and end dates EPOKA/UET/UBT/UP**

TO BE DONE

2.2.2. Establishment of Virtual Technology Hubs in partners countries: UAMD,

2.2.5. Event on Virtual Technology Hub launching/inauguration: Jan 2022 UAMD, EPOKA, UBT ???

2.3.1. Selection of pilot courses at each HEI that will use VTech: **OK**

TO BE DONE

2.3.2. Developing and delivering Vtech supported courses: **Sept 2021 – Feb 2022**

2.3.3. Student performance assessment in virtual technologies courses – **Nov 2021 – Feb 2022**

2.3.4. Gathering student's feedback for VTech courses: **Jan 2022 – April 2022**

2.4.2. Vtech@WBUni Summer School for WB students: **5-9 July 2021**
2.4.4. Establish VTech@U Network for Western Balkans: **Jujy 2021???**

Statistics: 16 members (VR&AR in higher education) till now..
https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12554646/

TO BE DONE

2.4.1. EU study visit of academic staff and management: **M25@LUT/Feb2022???**

2.4.3. Invited EU lecturer/talks in each WB university: **2 are planned form each EU, one in KO and one in AL...should we arrange some online talks???**

2.5.1. Organising Hackaton Contest in VR programming: **Hackathon1 done on Oct2021**
2.5.2. Round table with industry on fostering collaboration University - Industry in VTech fields for the benefit of society/b2b: **RT1 done on May20, 2021**

TO BE DONE
2.5.1. Organising Hackaton Contest in VR programming: **Hackathon2**
2.5.2. Round table with industry on fostering collaboration University - Industry in VTech fields for the benefit of society/b2b: **RT2**
2.5.3. Developing VTech apps that will be presented to industry on VTech Open Days **(2 open days planned)**

2.5.4. Industry - University on joint student mentoring on making VTech environments

2.6.1. Design of user experience guidelines for VR content: **Deliverable 2.6.1 and 2.6.2 OK**

2.6.2. Teacher training regarding user interface design, user experience and VR sickness evaluation **(2 trainings are planned) – 1st training in 1 (staff) and 8 (student) April2021**

TO BE DONE

2.6.2. Teacher training regarding user interface design, user experience and VR sickness evaluation: **????**
2.6.3. Evaluation of user experience and VR sickness of developed content: **3rd Project year!**

3.1. Establish a Project Quality Committee: **done;**
3.2. **Develop a quality monitoring plan: done, Deliverable3.2**
3.5. Developing QA policies for VTech teaching and learning – **done, Deliverable3.5**

TO BE DONE

3.3. Subcontract an external quality expert
3.4. Mid-term monitoring reports and recommendations: forms established, **reporting???**

4.1**. Project dissemination plan: done; submitted with Progress Report**
4.2. Building visual identity of the project and creation of the website and social network pages for promotion:
web site and social media established; VR&AR Network established;

TO BE DONE

4.3. Preparing marketing materials and publications: **roll up, bag, pen etc.. – SUBCONTRACTING**
4.4. Dissemination through events such as roundtables, workshops, trainings: *press conference UET, Europe days etc..*
4.5. Dissemination to various stakeholders
4.6. Final conference/event

4.2. Building visual identity of the project and creation of the website and social network pages for promotion: **web site established and fed with news by the coordinator and social media by UET regularly …**

Deliverables are published in Vtech project website

https://uet.edu.al/new/vtech-project/
https://www.facebook.com/vtechproject/ (327 followers)
https://www.instagram.com/vtech.project/
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwPI07SAeCyM0-wkMVCs61g

www.vetch-project.eu

WEBSITE: more than 1000 site visitors ☺

5.1. **Kick off meeting: done (7-8 Jan 2020)**

5.2. Organizing Steering committee/Management Board Meetings: **2nd Online (6 Oct20); 3rd hybrid (26 Feb21@POLIS); 4rth hybrid@SEEU (May20, 2021); 5th hybrid @UBT (Dec20, 2021)**

5.3. **Preparing Project Management Plan**

5.4. Financial management of the project

5.5. Progress and Final Report Writing: **Progress report submitted !!! 14 May21**

5.6. Coordination of all other project activities

Thank you for your attention!