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Issue 003

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About the project

The project "Empowering Culture through Business: Introducing Business Academies for Culture and Creative Young Professionals in rural and remote areas" is funded under Key Action 2 of the Erasmus+ Programme and aims at the development and enhancement of the skills of Culture and Creative Young Professionals (CCYPs) living and working in rural and remote areas.

To achieve the goal of the project, the consortium will establish Business Academies aimed at educating young people through innovative training programmes with the involvement of specialists and professionals from the business and cultural sector.

The culmination of the efforts of the partners under this project, will be the creation and development, in a sustainable manner, of a prototype HUB in a remote, non-urban area in the Nicosia district. The HUB will provide the necessary support to young people for their professional development and especially access to funding tools in order to support their work. The creation of the original HUB and its sustainable development guide, aim to be a remarkable tool of development policy for local authorities and a best practice for remote communities.

The project started in January 2022 and it will be implemented until July 2024 with a total budget of € 207 445. The consortium comprises of 6 partners: the Nicosia Chamber of Commerce and Industry (coordinator), the European Office of Cyprus, Matera Hub in Italy, Danmar Computers from Poland, the Company of Research, Education, Innovation and Development of the North Aegean Region (ELORIS S.A.) and the training consulting company Catro in Bulgaria.

More information can be found on the website of the project: <https://empoweringculture.business/>.



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13 June 2024 | Nicosia, Cyprus

The partners of the project met physically for the third time in the project's third and final transnational meeting in the city of Nicosia in Italy. The meeting was hosted and organised by the Nicosia Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

During the meeting, the partners discussed the final activities of Intellectual Output 3 (IO3) of the project which will provide guidelines through a guidebook for the creation of culture and creativity Hubs in a rural or remote area. This guidebook will mainly target rural local and regional authorities and administrations.

The partners also discussed about the how the final touches on the e-learning platform of the project following a survey on the platform by external evaluators. The e-learning platform will be accessible to all young creative professionals and rural regional and local authorities and it will contain the national reports developed under IO1, the courses to be developed under IO2 and the guidebook produced by IO3. The e-learning platform will also serve as an online forum where the users of the platform will be able to discuss with each-other and exchange ideas, find partners and inform their colleagues about good-practices.

Finally, the partners discussed the overall achievements in the project and their collaboration since the project will be coming to an end in July 2024.



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In May and June of 2024, the partners of the project organised three multiplier events with the title "Think Future Think Culture". The multiplier events took place in Italy, Greece and finally in Cyprus the following day of the 3rd transnational meeting.

Matera

On 9 May, the 'Think Culture, Think Future' presentation event of the Empowering culture through business project was held at the Unibas University in Matera, in Italy as part of the events dedicated to European opportunities for young people.

The first part of the event was a general presentation of the objectives, the partners involved and the results of the project. A second part actively involved the young participants in the event, professionals and students from the cultural and creative sector, with a practical presentation and in-depth discussion on the training modules, the skills most in demand and that can be acquired through the training developed and the use of the platform. The participants showed a strong interest, through a very active dialogue and an inquisitive spirit both for the content of the training and the opportunities for collaboration at European level.

Following the in-person event presenting the project, an online meeting was held on May 31, 2024, with an open link and with the aim of presenting two of the project results, the platform and the structure and contents of the training modules. A specific focus was made both on the skills underlying the training and their importance as transversal skills and on the usability and navigability of the platform. Some of the feedback received during the meeting was useful for some of the changes subsequently made to the platform to make it even more usable.



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Mytilene

The Multiplier Event took place this time in Greece, Mytilene on the 20th of May 2024. Several stakeholders and people interested in the field of the project from Mytilene participated.

During the event, participants had the chance to find out more about the outputs of the project, highlighting the impact from the Platform and the Guidebook, soon to be released!

Nicosia

The final multiplier event of the project called "Think Future, Think Culture" took place on the 14th of June 2024 in Nicosia.

The event was organised by the Nicosia Chamber of Commerce and Industry and it was attended by the rest of the partners of the project and local stakeholders. During the event, representatives of the partnership presented the project outputs highlighting #theGuidebook and the platform. Also, the following presentations were given by distinguished speakers and professors:

1. "Creative cultural tourism as an aspect of rural tourism: strategies for the sustainable development of mountain areas"
2. "When a Monument begins to speak"
3. "Design thinking & Ideation! - Ένας οδηγός για την κατασκευή πρωτοτύπων στο T.M.S."
4. Challenges for the development of sustainable creative entrepreneurship - findings from the Open Up project



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