



# OPEN PROJECT TESTING PHASE

*National report\_ Cyprus*

<b>Author/Organization</b>	SYNTHESIS Center for Research and Education
<b>Country</b>	Cyprus
<b>Provinces/Cities where the test took place</b>	Nicosia
<b>Date of the document</b>	11/12/2015
<b>Version of the document</b>	Final

## Context

*Describe the context where the testing phase took place, the specific entities and the type of persons involved in the testing and other significant points you retain helpful to understand the general conditions of the testing context. Please provide also an idea of the number of persons involved and the number of events organized.*

The piloting testing in Cyprus took place at the premises of Home for Cooperation and at the Hub Nicosia from September until November 2015. In total 10 workshops, 1 focus group and three interviews with sign language interpreters and teachers were held. 126 participants attended the events and provided valuable feedback for improving platform's functions. Participants were people with hearing impairments, sign language learners, teachers and interpreters.

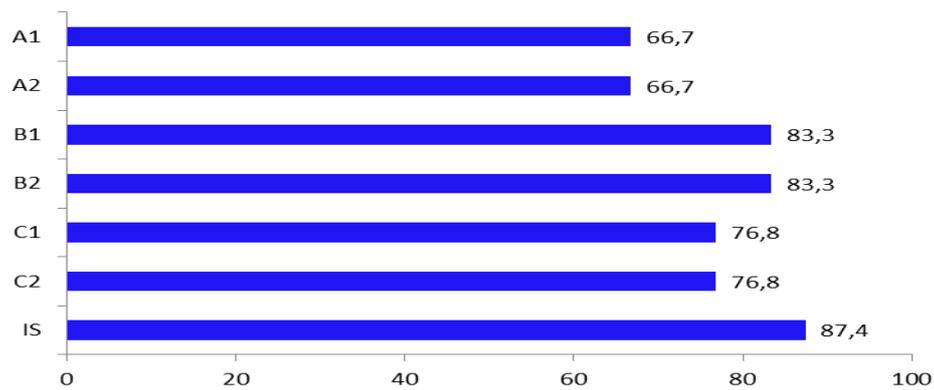
During each workshop, after a short presentation of the project's main goals and objectives, participants were divided into groups and they were given the Units they would test in Greek and International Sign using computers/tablets provided by SYNTHESIS.

After each workshop a questionnaire was given for collecting participants comments.

## Tested scenarios

*Indicate which sign languages and which learning units were tested indicating also the number of questionnaires, interviews and focus groups implemented for each learning units.*

All levels and units of Greek and International sign language were tested as shown by the graph below.

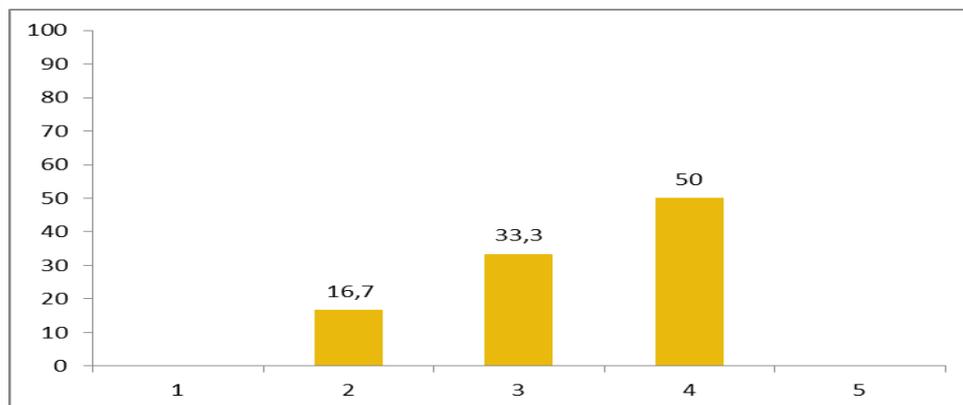


## Satisfaction level

*Describe the general level of satisfaction with the platform, as emerged during the testing phase (questionnaires, focus groups, interviews). You could also use graphs and tabs, elaborated from the questionnaires database, or the interview and focus group documents. If significant, please compare the different satisfaction levels with respect for instance to age and gender.*

In general participants were satisfied with the platform. Half of them rated their satisfaction with 4/5.

1. The platform is interesting to use. I like it.



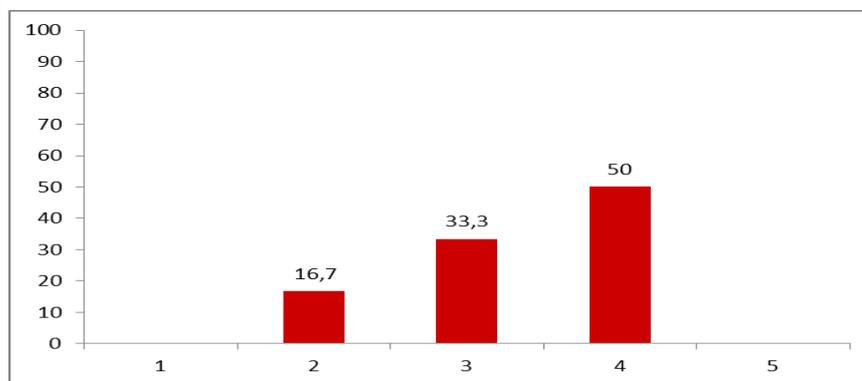
Suggestions were given on how the platform could be improved (see section other significant points).

## Usability

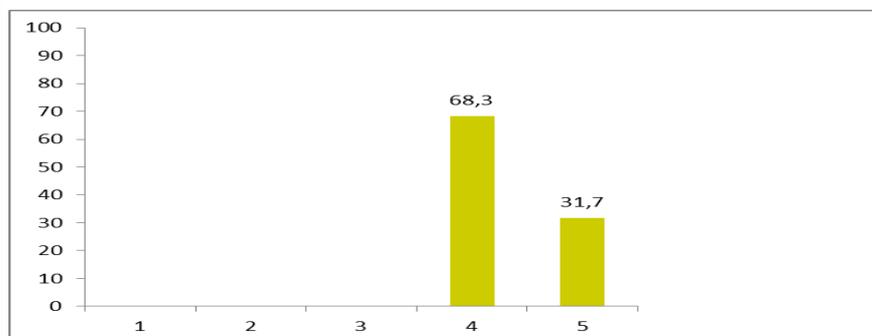
*Describe if users found the platform easy to use and navigate. You could use also graphs and tabs, elaborated from the questionnaires database, or the interview and focus group documents.*

Half of the participants evaluated the platform as enjoyable to use (4/5) (graph 2), 68,3% evaluated the platform as easy to use and 31,7% as very easy (graph 3). Platform's graphics were rated as average (3/5) by 50% of the participants (graph 4). Videos' quality was much appreciated by the participants since 87,4% evaluated it as good (graph 5).

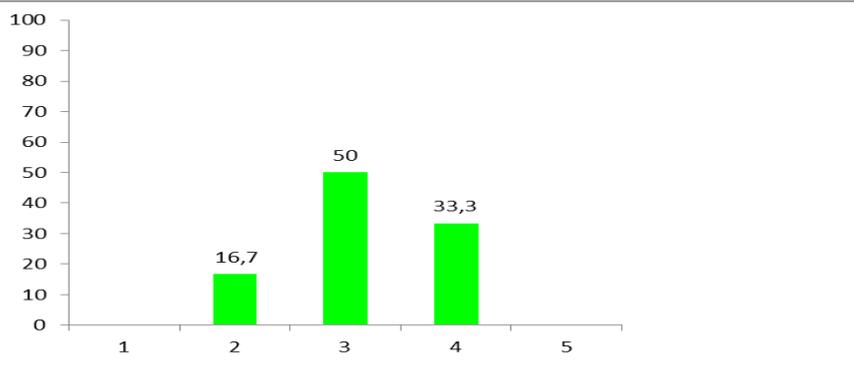
2. *The platform is enjoyable to use.*



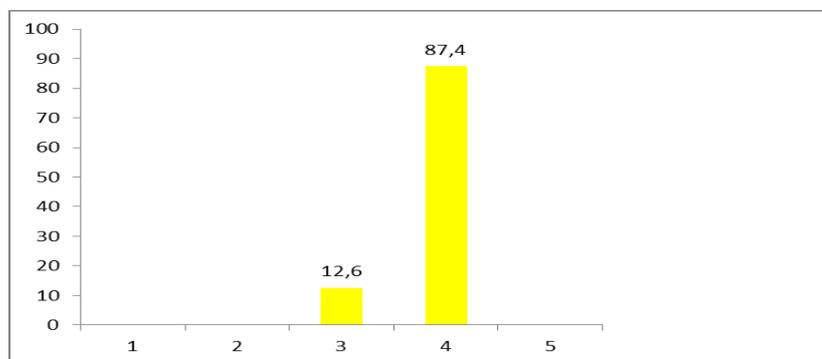
3. *The platform controls are easy to use.*



4. *The platform graphics is likable.*



5. The videos are on a suitable quality level.



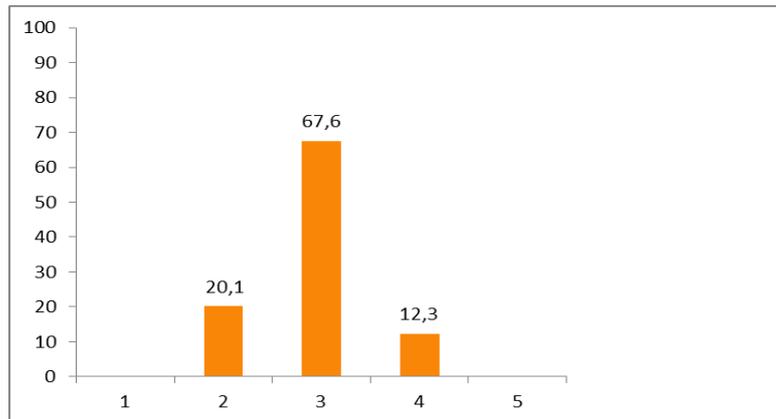
## Pedagogical aspects

*Describe if the platform facilitates the learning process. You could also use graphs and tabs, elaborated from the questionnaires database, or the interview and focus group documents.*

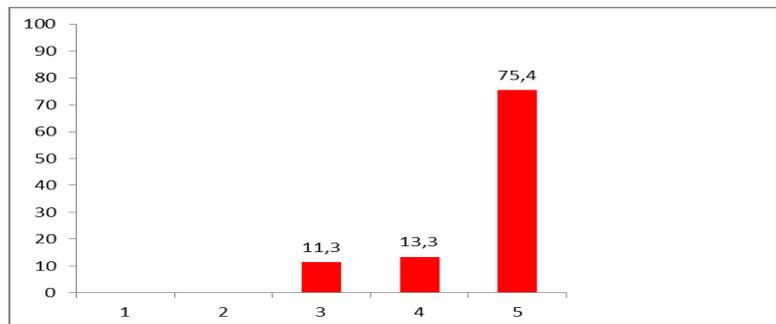
According to the respondents opinion the platform can facilitate better the learning of the International Sign (5/4 by 75,4%) (graph 6) than the English language (3/5 by 67,6%) (graph 7).

The contents covered by the platform in terms of learning and the quantity of the material were rated as good (4/5) by 63,5% (graph 8) and 78,2/5 (graph 9) respectively. 66,3% think that the platform provides a valid learning alternative to traditional learning methods (graph 10). 76,3% think the platform could help them in an everyday life situation abroad (graph 11). Majority of participants (73,2) rated the degree at which the platform helped them to understand different cultures as 3/5 (graph 12) and broadening their horizons as 4/5 by 48,1% (graph 13). When it comes to becoming more interested in traveling abroad after using the platform 30,9% evaluated as 4/5 (graph 14).

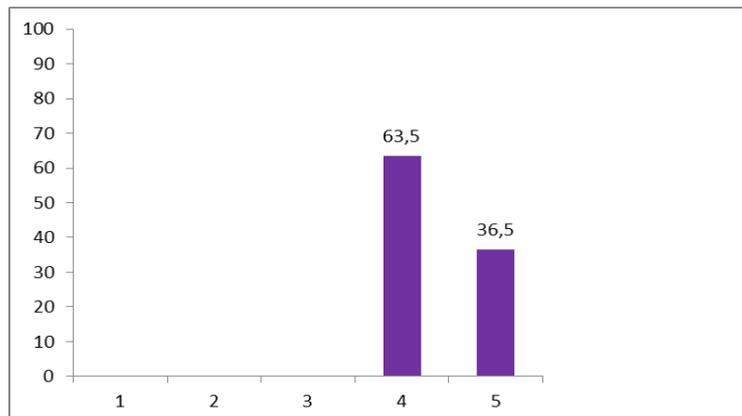
6. I think I could learn more about English using this platform.



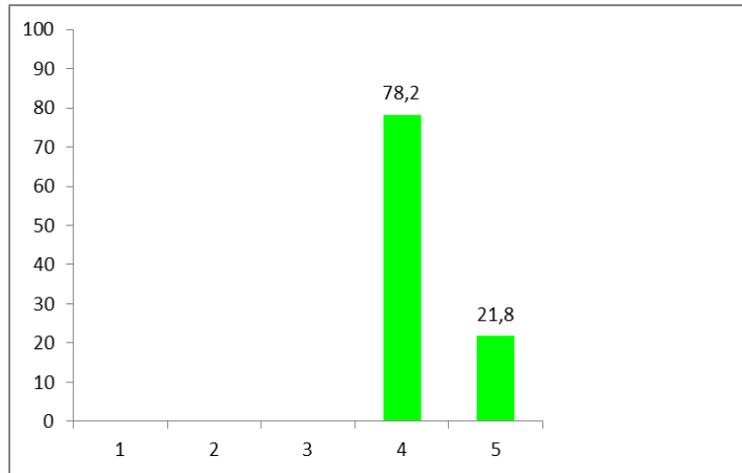
7. I think I could learn more about International Sign using this platform.



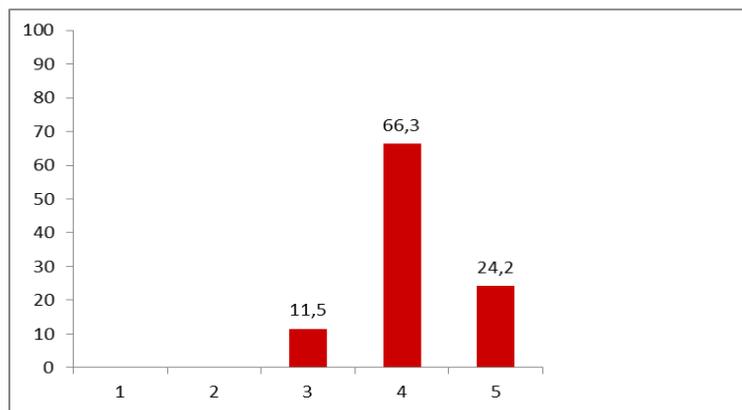
8. The contents covered by the platform are interesting in terms of learning.



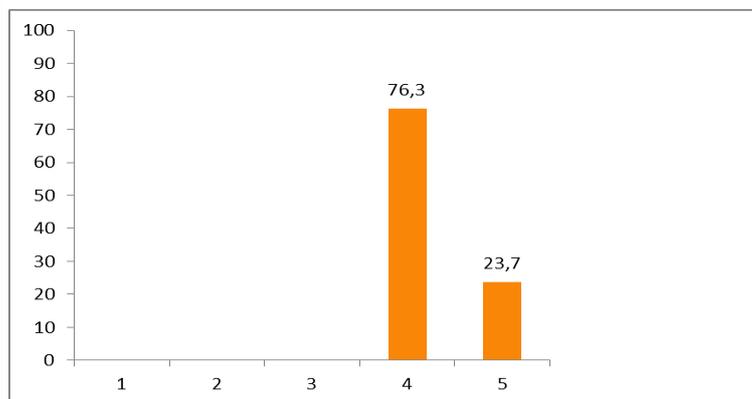
9. *The quantity of the material used in the platform is sufficient.*



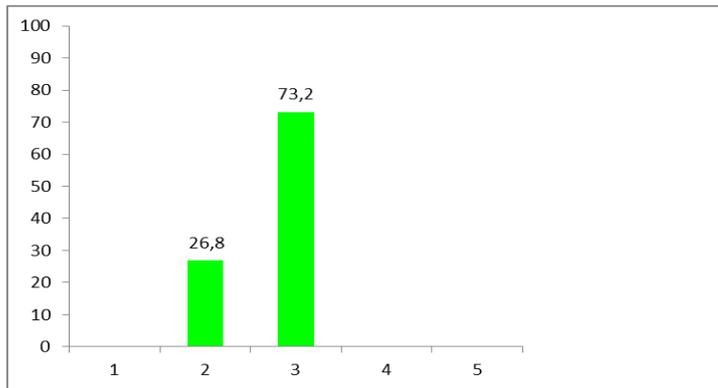
10. *I think the platform provides a valid learning alternative to traditional learning methods.*



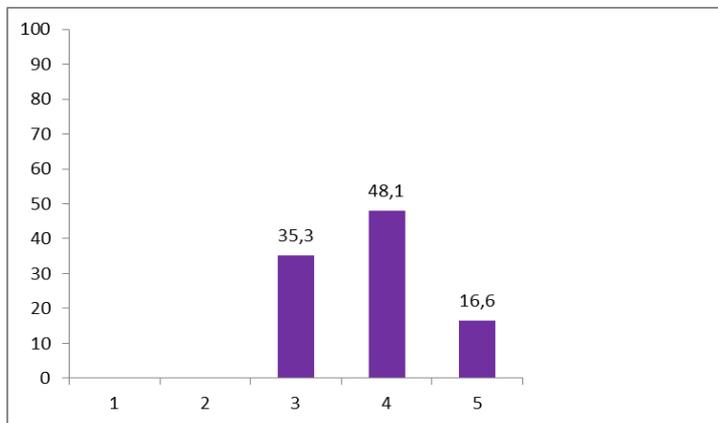
11. *I think the platform could help me in an everyday life situation abroad.*



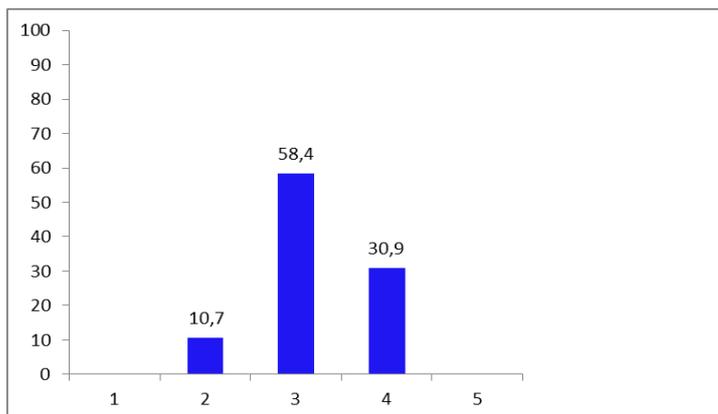
12. *The platform helped me to understand different cultures.*



13. *The platform helped me to broaden my horizons.*



14. *After using the platform I'm more interested in going abroad.*



## Other significant points

*Add additional points you retain helpful for the testing phase and for improving the platform.*

### Participants mainly liked the following aspects of the platform:

#### Home Page

- + Good design.
- + Positive, pleasant and attractive presentation.
- + Motivates you to go further

#### E-lesson Page

- + Easy to navigate.
- + Web presentation adapts to the screen resolution / window size.
- + Video presentation is really nice and helpful.

### Participants pointed out the following points as least favorable/mistakes:

#### Home Page

- Text is not recognizable (text of the template was not replaced).
- No link to the platform at projects website

#### E-lesson Page

- Combination International | A1 Beginner | Travel, getting around | Culture sport, history | Introduction does not get any video.
- The fact that there is menu on the top and on the right side is complicated as you cannot easily much both menus. If you choose video from the top menu you cannot be sure in which level it belongs.
- When the window is small, the top menu does not show very well.
- After the end of a video, it is suggesting other videos not actually relevant (maybe in other language) and definitely not the next video, that would be great to appear.
- Top Menu has too many drop downs.
- On the side menu, it seems that there are missing options. i.e. on International | A1 Beginner | Travel, getting around | Culture sport, history, the first option is numbered as 1, the second as 2, and the third as 4.
- On the side menu, for each video there are two options. One by clicking the text, and another by clicking the lips. With the lips there is also sound. However, on the international language there is always sound whatever you choose.
- On some videos there is also sound, while on others there is not.
- On some videos there are no subtitles or subtitles are available in some languages. i.e. On a Greek sign language video there is no sound and only Svenska subtitles.

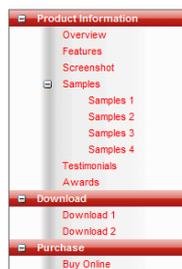
- At the Greek sign language, on A1 beginner, |Greetings, when you choose the lips option is the correct video, if you do not choose the lips option, the video is incorrect.

## Suggestions and conclusions

*Describe suggestions to implement or modify the platform as emerged during the testing phase. Bring your conclusions about the platform and the WP.*

### Suggestions for improving the platform:

- Menu at the right side is the same as the options of the last drop down on the top menu. There is no reason to repeat the same options in two places. Keep the side options.
- Top menu could be simplified.
  - Language option could be a set of flags to click (i.e.  ). That would take the first line of the menu.
  - On the second line there would be only the Level, Subject, and Chapter.
  - That way it would be more easy to make selections and it would be presented much better.
- Menus could be simplified even more.
  - Language option could be a set of flags to click (i.e.  ). That would take the first line of the menu.
  - On the second line there would be only the Level, preferably as radio boxes i.e. (  Prices  Features  Requests  Contact or  radio 1  radio 2 ).
  - The rest of the options could be moved to the side menu and present it as expandable menu with levels. Like the following samples.



- Smaller side menu and bigger video.
- Zoom in and zoom out option
- Videos with signs word by word like a video vocabulary

### Additional units

- Declaring loss of traveling documents at a police station
- Traditions in different countries
- Information about the sign languages in different countries
- Exercises per level for better comprehension

## **Conclusions**

In general participants were favourable of the platform although a lot can be done for improving its usability. International Sign was very much appreciated. Regarding cultural aspects more information should be added as well as exercises for better comprehension of the presented material.