

Teaching creativity in engineering



TECRINO

538710-LLP-1-2013-1-CY-LEONARDO-LMP

LEONARDO DA VINCI Multilateral Projects for Development of Innovation

FINAL EVALUATION REPORT INTERNAL PROCESS EVALUATION

Final evaluation report	
<u>Project Title:</u>	„TEACHING CREATIVITY IN ENGINEERING“
<u>Project Number:</u>	538710-LLP-1-2013-1-CY-LEONARDO-LMP
<u>WP6 Leader:</u>	Synteia S.A.
<u>Project Start Date:</u>	01.01.2014
<u>Preparation date:</u>	29.01.2016

The complete evaluation process took into consideration management, team working and communication of information as well as the development and implementation of the final product.

The final evaluation has been a summative exercise to consider all aspects of the Log Frame mode. – I.e. relevance, efficiency, added value, effectiveness impact and sustainability (with particular emphasis on impact and sustainability potential).

All evaluation surveys - evaluation after projects' meetings and quality report after first and second year of the project lifetime - incorporated the opportunity to extend the scope of their quantitative assessment with more qualitative narrative comments.

This final report starts with an executive summary of key issues from all evaluation levels and gives a more detailed in depth view in the following chapters.

1 Executive summary

1.1 Process evaluation (project partnership evaluation)

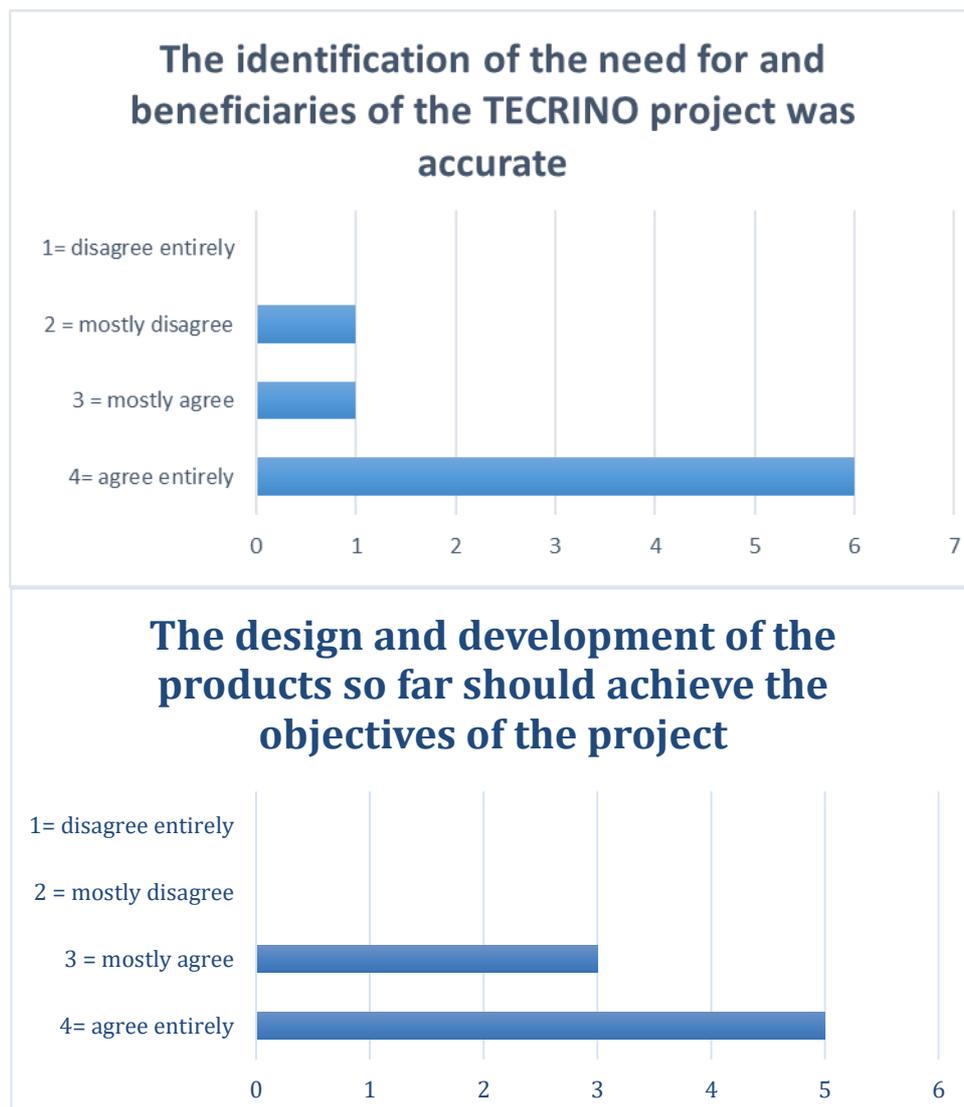
- Partners evaluated the Relevance of project activities on a high level. The best value was given to need for and beneficiaries of the project (The identification of the need for and beneficiaries of the TECRINO project was accurate.) with an approval rating from 75 % (agree), followed by the accurate design and development of products (62,5 % agree and 37,5 % mostly agree).
- The partnership assessment of the Added Value of the activities was accurate. Transferability of outputs was evaluated very positive (75%, while over-achievement of targets (50%), Achievement time scales (75%) and unforeseen benefits were rated at an average level.
- Concerning the Efficiency of the activities management practises and monitoring, cooperation and review gained best values (100%), followed by the performance indicators and remedial actions (87,5%), financial planning and forecasting (75 %).

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- Project work advanced generally in a very good way in the second half of the project, in the 2nd half of the project all the deliverables were actually organised and delivered on time. Better organisation and better communication between the partners occurred after the final meeting of the project.
- Financial management of project was executed according to the principles of economy, efficiency and effectiveness. There only have been some deviations occurred between subcontracting and other costs, remarks concerning personnel costs . One of the Partner thinks that even if they have been followed the instructions of the PO, albeit they still think that these instructions were unfair and reflecting a lack of understanding of the specific issues of the project.
- Products of TECRINO project were exactly in line with application and good quality. Quality of products is assessed very well. All products were developed by experienced staff and in line with teaching outcomes.
- For project partners it has been a fruitful cooperation. Most partners were satisfied with The modules that was delivered, the networking with the project partners, The sustainability of the result, professional work on deliveries.
- Critical feedback has been given to some communication problems with doing tasks on time without reminder and involvement of some partners; the project name did not match the deliveries, which makes confusion in communication with recipients. One partner considered problematic communication with PO.
- The overall evaluation of key indicators was also very positive. 75% approval rate, that partners are positive at final stage that we succeeded our aims and outcomes as initially planned, 100% approval rate for outcomes and products.

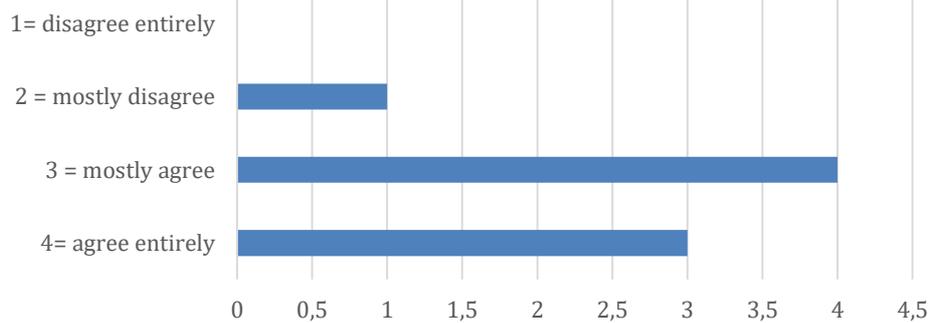
1.2. FINAL EVALUATION -PARTNER ANALYSIS IN DETAIL

Partnership assessment of the RELEVANCE of the activities

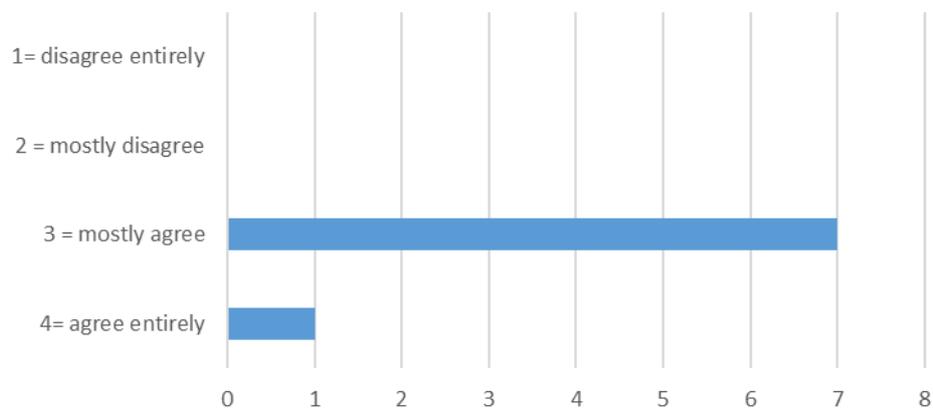


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The partnership (as a whole) has sufficient expertise and resources to achieve the desired outcomes



Communications between the partners were always relevant and useful

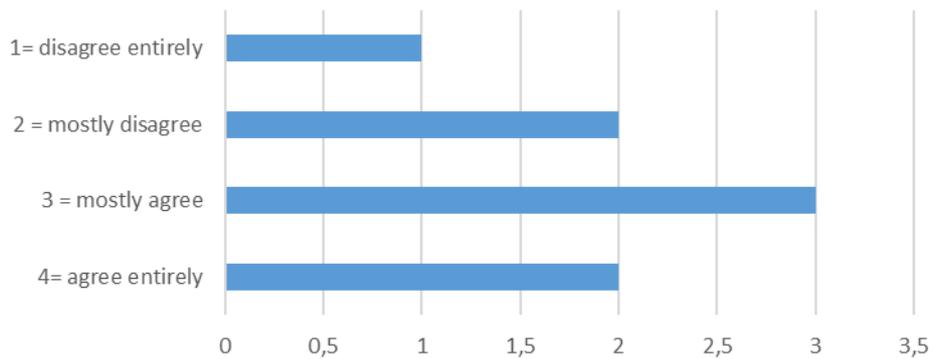


Partnership assessment of the ADDED VALUE of the activities

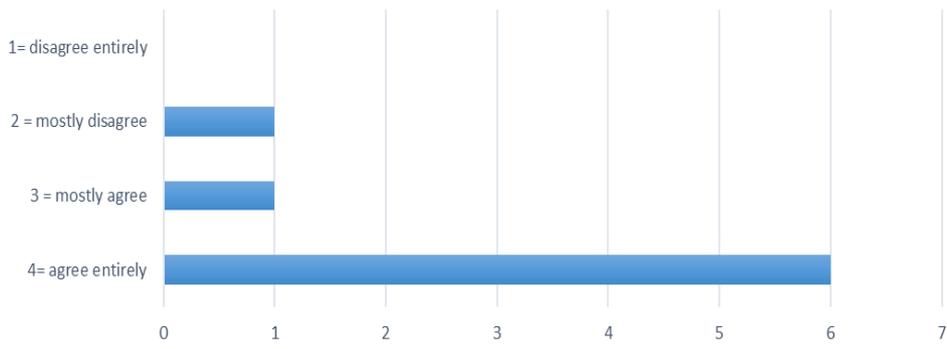


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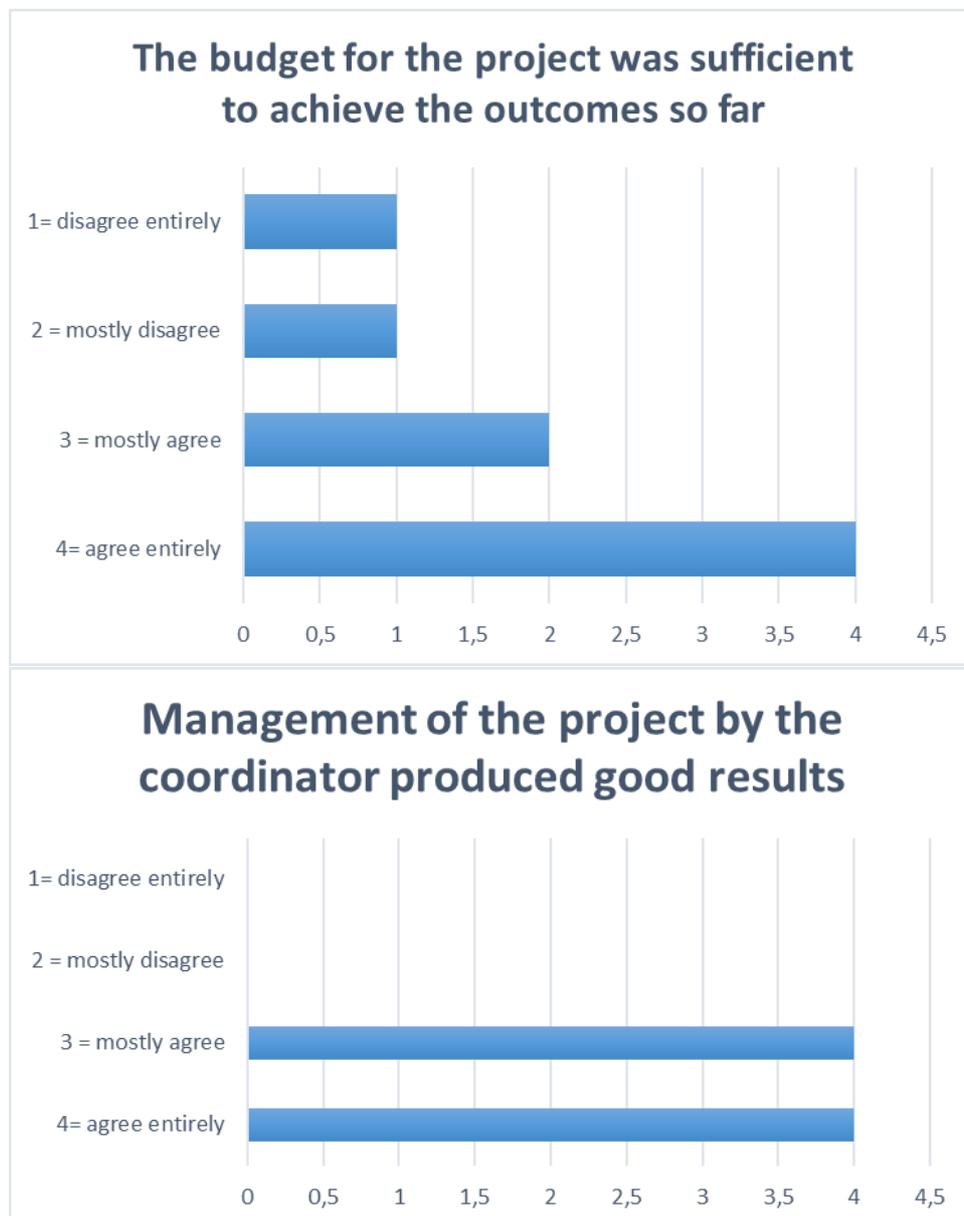
Some of the work completed demonstrates additional benefits to those expressed in the original proposal



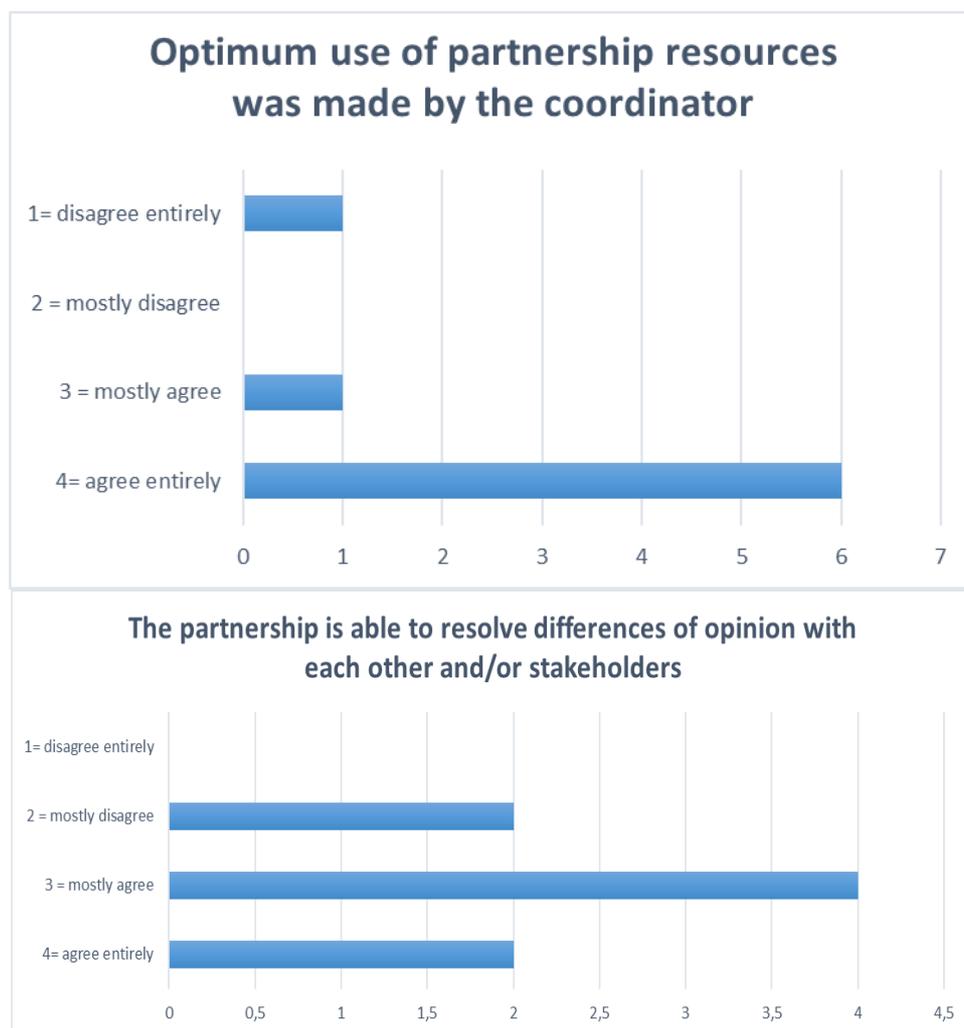
Most of the work completed can be used in other applications as well



Partnership assessment of the EFFICIENCY of the activities



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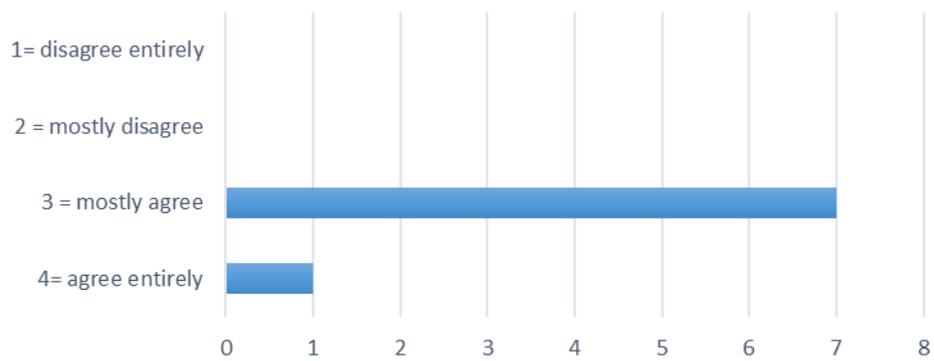


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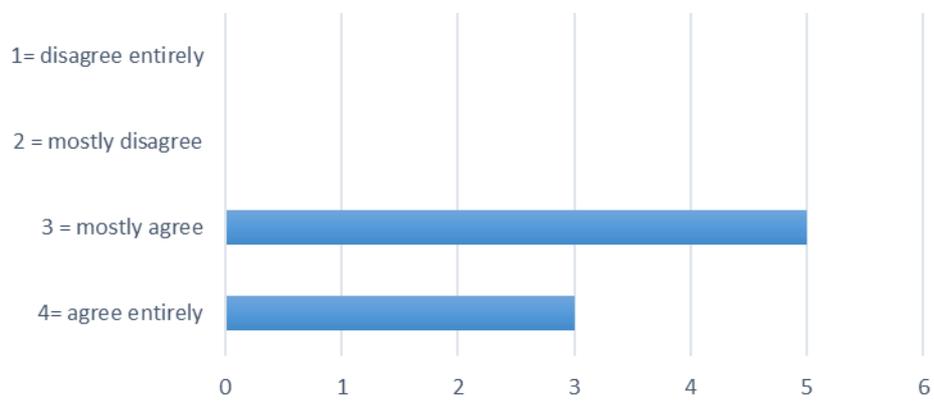
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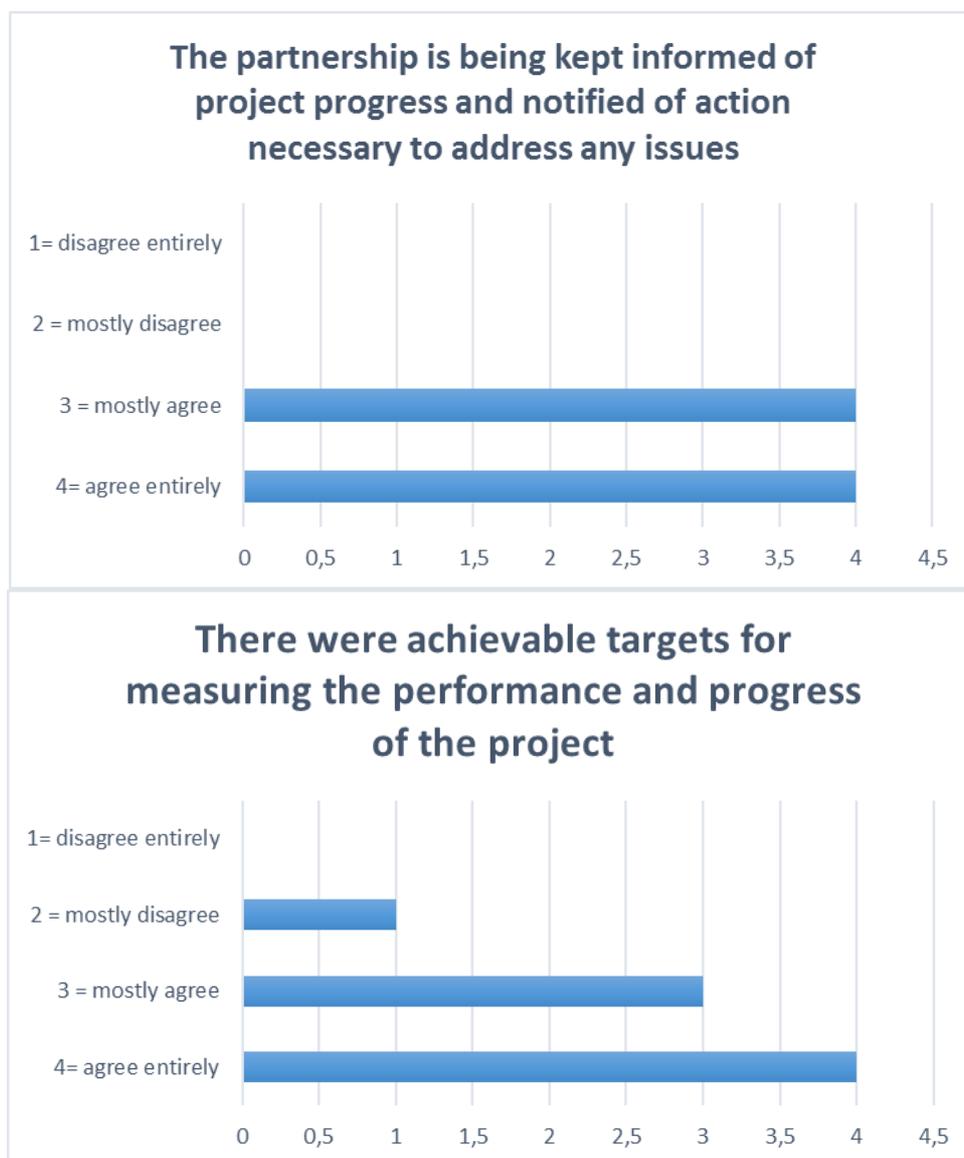
Contribution elements from the partnership and their institutions were utilised for own work



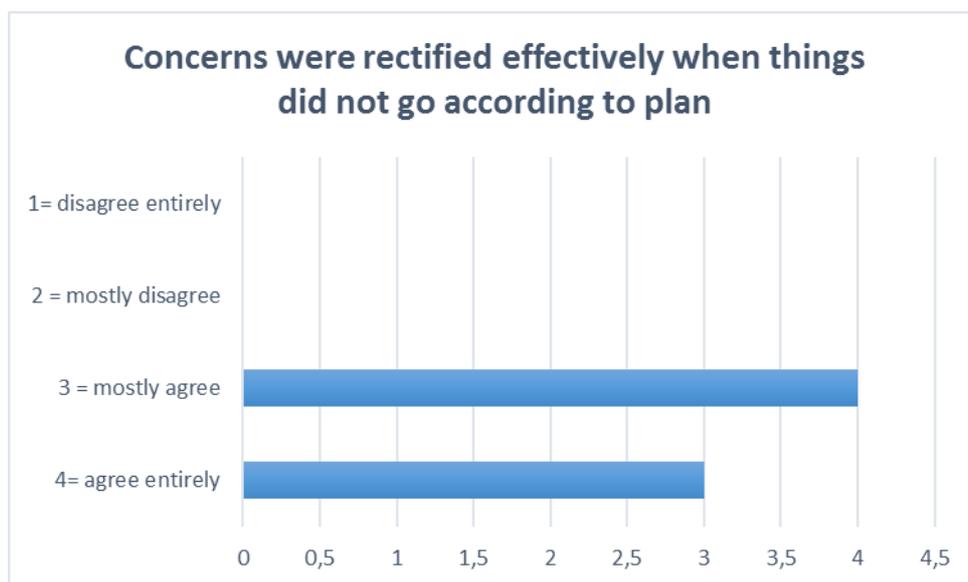
Technical aspects of product development work well



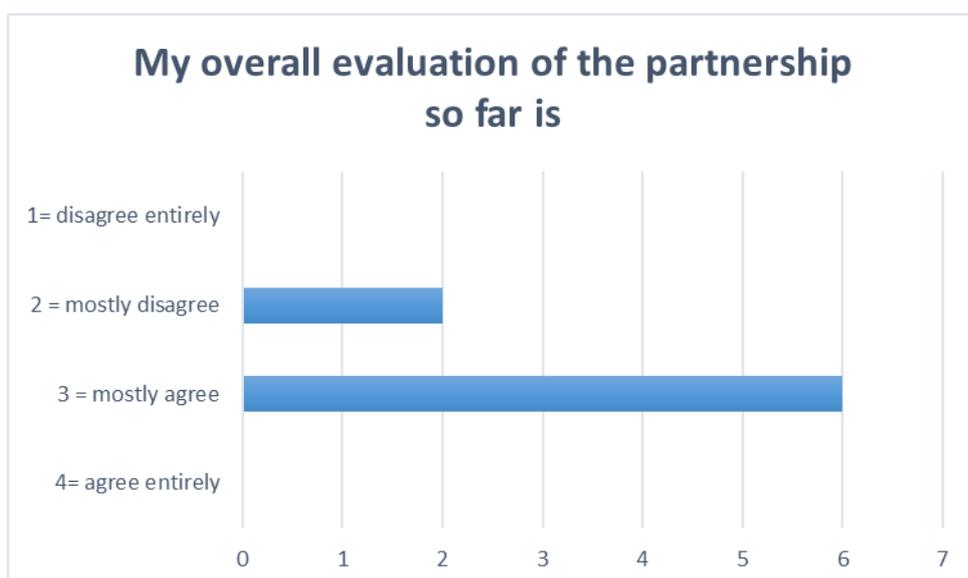
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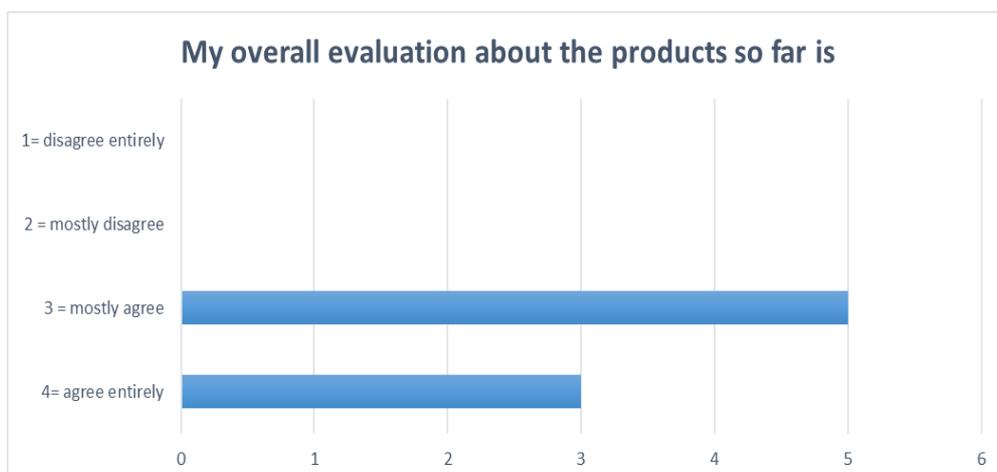
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OVERALL EVALUATION



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1.3 NARRATIVE PROCESS DESCRIPTION

(1) PROJECT TIMETABLE AND ACTIVITIES

How has project work advanced generally in the second half of the project?

FEW DELAYS

The project was a good development in all work packages. The dissemination package was not got, until now the desired results, but I believe that after the translation and testing phase the partnership will act in a more active way.

It was in accordance with timeline and assigned tasks.

No really good because the partner in charge to give the material course had delay. Also some of the partners had not delivery the translation n order upload to the elearning platform

as planned.

According to plan

Yes in the 2nd half of the project all the deliverables were actually organised and delivered on time. Better organisation and better communication between the partners occurred after the final meeting of the project.

Second part was advanced smoothly, all materials have been delivered and it was feeling that all technical stuff has been solved.

(2) PRODUCTS – your point of view

Are outcomes, deliverables and products you achieved in line with those presented in the application form or have there been any changes to these?

They are according to the application form.

In terms of the Dissemination Workpage, al expected outcomes will be achieved and I believe that the partnership will generate other products.

We did not have an opportunity to present to partners and to audience, how modules will be accessed via Moodle, although it had to be delivered.

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No changes
Good.

All the deliverables are in line with the proposal

In line with proposal

Yes

How you evaluate quality of products?

USEFUL CREATIVITY TOOL BOX

The quality of the products are very good

The quality of the product is ok, i.e. in accordance with the project objectives.

High quality

Overall good.

Difficult to say, I was too much involved in realisation, but generally we have delivered what we have planned and look OK. It would be necessary to have some more testing after piloting phase to come to definitive conclusion.

(3) FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

How are project costs followed in the second half of the project?

According to the budget.

In line with the approved project, no deviations unless at the transfer of money from staff heading budget to Travel in order to make possible the participation of the responsible of the managing board of the School.

HAMAGBICRO has been having an issue with personnel costs due to the governments' cut off of our salaries. That was the risk out of our scope at the time when the project was negotiated. As a remedy we were proposing more flexibility in transferring more than 10 percent to the dissemination activities. However, that was not approved by EC project officer so perhaps this rule of 10 percent should be more flexible .

Ok

It was ok

We have followed the instructions of the PO, albeit we still think that these instructions were unfair and reflecting a lack of understanding of the specific issues of the project.

Some deviations occurred between subcontracting and other costs but any budget transfer were under the 10% rule.

OK

Has there been any problem regarding financial aspects in the second half of the project?

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No
None
No
None
No
Yes, we transferred some funds from personal costs to dissemination.

(4) OTHER ISSUES, additional comments and recommendations?

Is there any other aspect that you would like to take into account for general evaluation at Final Stage?
Please, comment on.

No more relevant information to add, just the need to postpone the project for more 6 months in order to allow the partners to have time and concentrate their effort to disseminate de project and its outcomes

No
No
No
No

In planning project important part of dissemination was overlooked – conferences and scientific papers publications.

1.4 NARRATIVE EVALUATION

“Praise”: *What do you particularly like most about the project?*

Useful product. A good creativity toolbox; A good support to “open mind” and “open will”

The knowledge of the partnership and their commitment and involvement.

The modules that was delivered; the networking with the project partners.

The sustainability of the result. The Tecrino course can be used by the leaners of partner countries during some time.

The topic itself was interesting and challenging. I enjoyed studying the creativity and the means to improve ot through systematic education.

Learning courses developed through TECRINO project are really good material when a student wants to learn more about creativity.

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Corrections of weak points, such as dissemination – it was done more than was planned in project proposal. It is good that consortium was able to make such corrections.

Working with experienced team

“Criticism”: *What did you find annoying and or unsatisfactory about working on the project?*

Sometimes so theoretical.

The commitment and involvement of the partnership to the dissemination purpose. But, I believe that in this moment, is not the proper time to evaluate this issue.

The Project partner (Prof Ion Susnea, who was the creator of 99 of the project modules, was not attending the final conference).

Project name is TECRINO _ Teaching creativity in engineering. >Yet, only one module was about that. The project name did not match the deliveries, which makes confusion in communication with our recipients.

How one partner didn't work on time.

The communication with the PO.

Communication issues.

Nothing especially.

“Lessons learned”: *What, if you were to start again, should have been done differently?*

More team; More active role of the partners in order to “produce” the final “product: courses contents”. To define that only Epralima will manage the dissemination WP. The management of this WP with other partner, despite the good relationship and professionalism between them, it is not an efficient way to manage a WP.

Will set up the rules at the very beginning of the project and improve communication.

Change this partner.

I will not take the initiative for another project as long as there will be discriminatory provisions in what concerns the salaries of the staff from different countries. For example, by **taking a look at this document:** http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/llp/funding/2013/documents/jean_monnet_kal/jm_financial_guidelines_llp_guide_part1_2013_en.pdf (Table 5a) one could easily notice that a Romanian researcher is paid (for the same work, in the same project) just about a quarter of what is paid a Belgian or German colleague.

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Initially, I thought that this regulation is based on some considerations about the cost of life in various EU countries, but no - there is a clear statement there that: "The rate of the country in which the partner organization is registered will be applied, independent of where the tasks will be executed (i.e. a staff member of an organization of Country A working fully or partly in Country B will be budgeted on the basis of the rates of Country A)". In other words, if you are Romanian, or Polish working in Belgium on a project with Belgian partners, your salary will be only a quarter of that of your Belgian colleagues. It's hard to believe, but it's exactly like this!

Try to make sure that everything is written and clear from the first day of the project.

At the end of every project, answer is usually – everything... But realistically, consortium had solved problems we have and delivered planned products. Maybe some things could be done smoother... It took some time before we started to function like team.