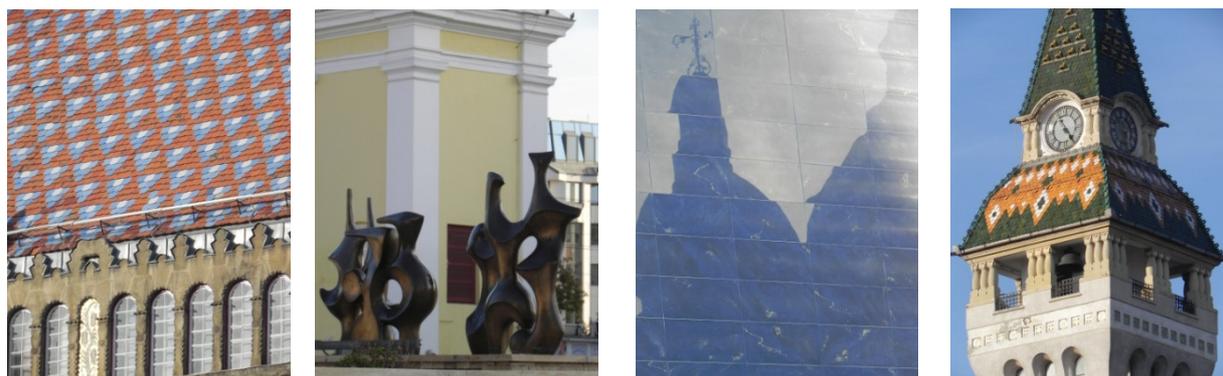


Global SRS

Newsletter 4



Pictures from Tirgu-Mures, Romania

Final Conference

The presentation of the final results of the European Project “Global SRS” took place on 10 October 2013 in the Interdisciplinarity in Engineering Conference at “Petru Maior” University of Tirgu-Mures in Romania. The latest achievements in mobile learning methodology were thus presented and demonstrated by the project partners from Sweden, Norway, Portugal and Romania at the conference.

The usefulness and innovative aspects of the Student Response System, SRS, was demonstrated to the conference participants by **Dr. John B. Stav**, Sør-Trøndelag University College, Norway, who presented the methodology of the product and carried out a live testing session via video conference from Norway. Questions were asked in Norway and displayed on the video screen in Romania. The participants in the conference then answered via their smartphones, laptops or tablets and the result was returned to Norway to be displayed on the screen for all participants at the conference in Romania to see.



More than 100 people attended the conference. Participants came from many different countries in and outside Europe; Hungary, Germany, Thailand, Malaysia, Iran, Turkey and Pakistan, just to mention a few. For many of the participants at the conference the Student Response System offered completely new opportunities and new ways of adapting courses to the needs of the students. As SRS presents both a technical system and a methodology it challenges lecturers and teachers to grab the opportunity and incorporate the system in their everyday teaching in order to improve the performance of students.

The overall objective of the conference was to bring professionals in different areas of engineering together to exchange and share knowledge through motivating discussion and presentations in order to promote dialogue on how to comprehend and develop advanced engineering technologies. As the project Global SRS offers a mobility learning methodology for European trainers and VET system quality improvement it was well suited to be presented at the Inter-Eng Conference in Tirgu-Mures.



The promoter of the project, represented by **Stefan Wiik**, Centre for Flexible Learning, Söderhamn, Sweden, introduced the on-site presentation of the project.

Dr. Liviu Moldovan, Vice- Rector of Petru Maior University of Tirgu-Mures in Romania, and host of the conference, explained how the SRS had been used in the university and its positive outcomes. He stressed the methodological innovative aspects for the lecturers when they can receive instant feedback from all the students. He also highlighted the interest that had been shown in the project by the media; regional newspapers as well as the radio.



Christina Almeida, coordinator of the project, ISQ, Lisbon, Portugal, described the background and scope of the project. She explained that the SRS had previously been developed by the Sør-Trøndelag University College in Norway and that the objective of the project was to transfer it to the rest of the partnership countries. She presented the innovative aspects of the system, its methodology, immediacy and gave a brief description of the technical aspects as well as the process.

Ms. Almeida also explained how the system had been tested in a 90-hour course for teachers in Portugal and presented the positive outcome of that training.

She elaborated on the work which had been done within the project to include SRS in the ECVET system in order to improve VET training in Europe and facilitate mobility and mutual recognition all over Europe for VET trainers.



Anette Ramstrand, Centre for Flexible Learning in Söderhamn, presented the pilot course in Sweden and explained about the pedagogical and methodological aspects of the course and the teachers' and students' experiences. The presentation focused on the types of questions asked, when they were asked and to whom. She also stressed the importance of following up the results of the students' answers by adapting the delivery of the lectures to the outcome of the students' feedback by choosing appropriate follow-up questions.

Guidelines

During the Global SRS Project, a **Common Guideline to Integrate the European Profile for VET Trainer** focused on mapping the core competencies (KSC) of trainers and preparing for a harmonized ECVET SRS methodology enhancing trainer's mobility and mutual recognition in the future in Europe.

Moreover, the present guideline was produced with the main objective to support the future integration of the Global SRS trainer profile in existing VET programmes and systems in partners' countries and operational partnerships through the Memorandum of Understanding.

The global SRS guideline for integration of the EU Global SRS Training of Trainers Module consists of:
Global SRS Trainer European Profile: Qualification Descriptor and Learning Units

- National overview of corresponding VET programmes
- ECVET state of art implementation in partners countries
- Memorandum of Understanding
- Learning Agreement
- Personal Transcript
- Assessment Methodology
- Glossary

Like all pedagogical tool, SRS must be tested and tried before being integrated into a training session. This is also one of the reasons to associate some work based learning hours to Global SRS training module. The incorporation of Global SRS Module, whether incorporated in an initial pedagogical training of trainers or as an independent training module will provide to trainers new pedagogical methods that enhance interactive and dynamic teaching models by enhancing communication and instructional feedback loops.

Final words

After 2 years' of hard work, where the software and methodology have been transferred from Norway to the other partnership countries, we can conclude that it has been a fruitful experience in many respects. The project has enriched us in the pedagogical, methodological and intercultural area and we have reason to believe that the positive outcomes of the project will have long-lasting impact on VET education in Europe and that mobile learning is here to stay.