



# Lifelong Learning Programme: Leonardo Da Vinci – Transfer of Innovation

Project: Certification of Disadvantaged Women  
in Remote Areas (CEDIWORES)

## Interim Evaluation Report



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## **I. Introduction**

### **a. The Lifelong Learning Programme**

The European Commission has integrated its various educational and training initiatives under a single umbrella, the Lifelong Learning Programme. With a significant budget of nearly 7 billion euro for 2007 to 2013, the new programme replaces previous education, vocational training and e-learning programmes, which ended in 2006.

The programme enables individuals at all stages of their lives to pursue stimulating learning opportunities across Europe. There are four sub-programmes focusing on different stages of education and training and continuing previous programme:

- Comenius for schools
- Erasmus for higher education
- Leonardo da Vinci for vocational education and training
- Grundtvig for adult education

A transversal programme aims to ensure that they achieve the best results possible. Four key activities focus on policy co-operation, languages, information and communication technologies, effective dissemination and exploitation of project results.

Aiming for a geographical reach beyond Europe's borders, the Jean Monnet programme stimulates teaching, reflection and debate on the European integration process at higher education institutions worldwide.

### **b. Leonardo Da Vinci Programme**

The Leonardo da Vinci programme links policy to practice in the field of Vocational Education and Training (VET). Projects range from those giving individuals the chance to improve their competences, knowledge and skills through a period abroad, to Europe-wide co-operation between training organisations.

Part of the European Commission's Lifelong Learning Programme, the programme funds a wide range of actions, notably cross-border mobility initiatives, cooperation projects to develop and spread innovation and thematic networks. The potential beneficiaries are similarly wide, from trainees in initial vocational training, to people already in the labour market,



as well as VET professionals and private or public organisations active in this field.

Leonardo da Vinci enables VET organisations to work with European partners, exchange best practices, increase the expertise of staff and respond to the teaching and learning needs of different groups. It, therefore, supports effort to make vocational education more attractive to young people. By helping European citizens to acquire new knowledge, skills and qualifications, the programme also aims to boost the competitiveness of the European labour market.

Innovation projects have always been at the core of the Leonardo da Vinci programme. They aim to improve the quality of training systems through the development and transfer of innovative policies, contents, methods and procedures within vocational education and training.

### **c. Project: CEDIWORES**

Economic literature often puts the emphasis on the necessity of appreciation the value presented by the housework of women, especially during their parental leave. Experience gained during this period, though not supported by formal education, could be used a strong asset on the labor market. Various duties undertaken by woman in running their households requires a lot of initiative, planning and analysis, sometimes innovations – in general it is an opportunity to develop entrepreneurial skills.

On the other hand, the public awareness of relations between housework experience from one side and entrepreneurial skills from the other is not very high. Despite the activity of various social actors, still the value of women's housework activity and related skills are underestimated. As a result, women willing to enter labor market after the period of bringing up young children are in a disadvantaged position. For this reason the project aims towards the development of a certification system to evaluate and accredit non-formal and informal education and training and related skills in the area of entrepreneurship (knowledge, skills and competencies women have acquired through their experience in running households).

The project will lead to the development of an outline with the necessary knowledge, skills and competencies that employees should have in the area of entrepreneurship. Further, the project will develop a system of certification using three main steps: (1) CV evaluation, (2) on-line test and (3) case study preparation. The participants in the pilot process, in each of the participating countries, will be tested on their knowledge, skills and competencies, which they have acquired informally through their work. The



successful participants will receive a European Certificate for Informal Entrepreneurial Skills. Further, the project web site and e-learning platform will be developed with information and materials for all interested parties and a business plan will finally be composed for possibilities of commercialization of the European Certificate.



## II. Methodology of the Interim Evaluation

The evaluation of this project consists of both quantitative and qualitative indicators and indices for the assessment of the activities and actions of the project and it includes the methodology and tools for measuring the efficiency and effectiveness of the project in achieving the set objectives goals.

The objective of the evaluation process is to assess the overall implementation of the project and the results of the actions and whether the results were achieved.

The aim of the external evaluation is to also provide an overview of the direction of the programme and specific project activities in order to ensure that any corrective action is taken in the event that this is necessary.

The activities that were carried out included the following:

- monitoring of the materialisation of the planned actions and activities according to the initial proposal
- assessment of the final products and deliverables according to the timetable and budget

The project was evaluated at the mid-term and included an overall assessment of the partnership and the activities that were carried out through the use of a questionnaire to which representatives of each partner responded to and provided feedback.

The evaluation that was carried out evaluated all activities materialised until date, as well as the cooperation of all partners and the abiding of the initial plan of activities and budget.

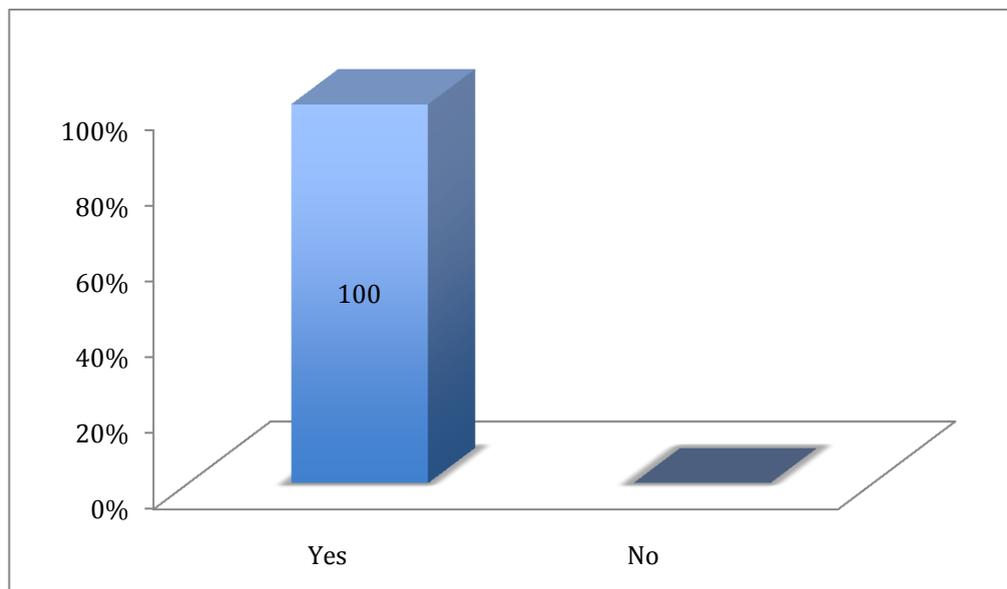
Synergon Consultants developed a questionnaire, as mentioned above, for the external evaluation. The questionnaire was distributed to each of the partners for the interim evaluation and a representative from each partner was expected to complete it. The questionnaire allowed for the evaluation of: the products and deliverables produced according to the initial plan and budget, main difficulties encountered, impact of the project on the target groups and potential beneficiaries, innovativeness of the project activities and deliverables, overall dissemination and promotion level and the overall achievement of the set objectives and goals.

### III. Results

The general overview from the interim evaluation that was conducted is highly positive, with the responses from partners indicating their positive outlook on the project activities and their positive impression on the overall work of the consortium and the achievement of the set goals and objectives.

#### a. Outputs and Deliverables

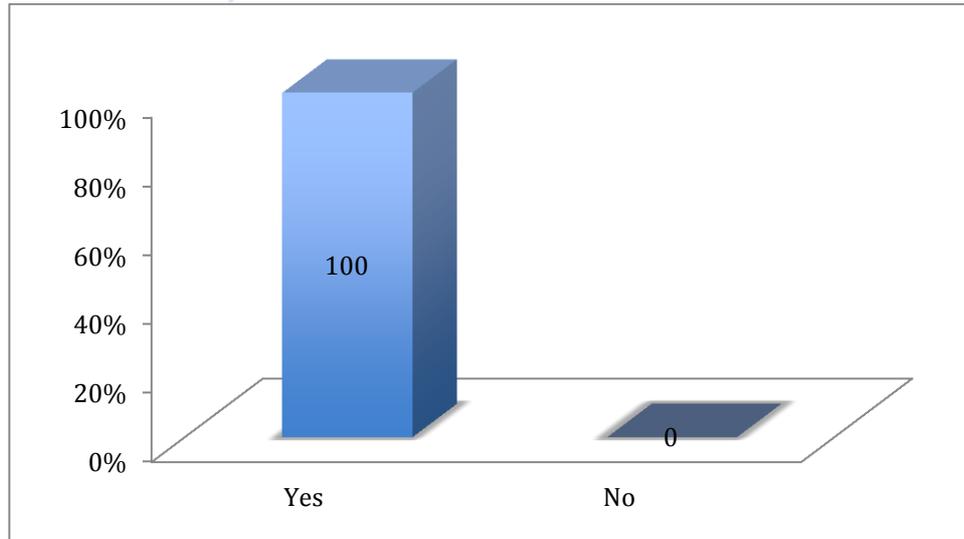
In terms of the overall satisfaction of the partners with the outputs and deliverables that were produced for the first part of the project (1st year) all partners agreed that they were satisfied with no negative responses.



Graph 1: Outputs and Deliverables

#### b. Participants and target groups

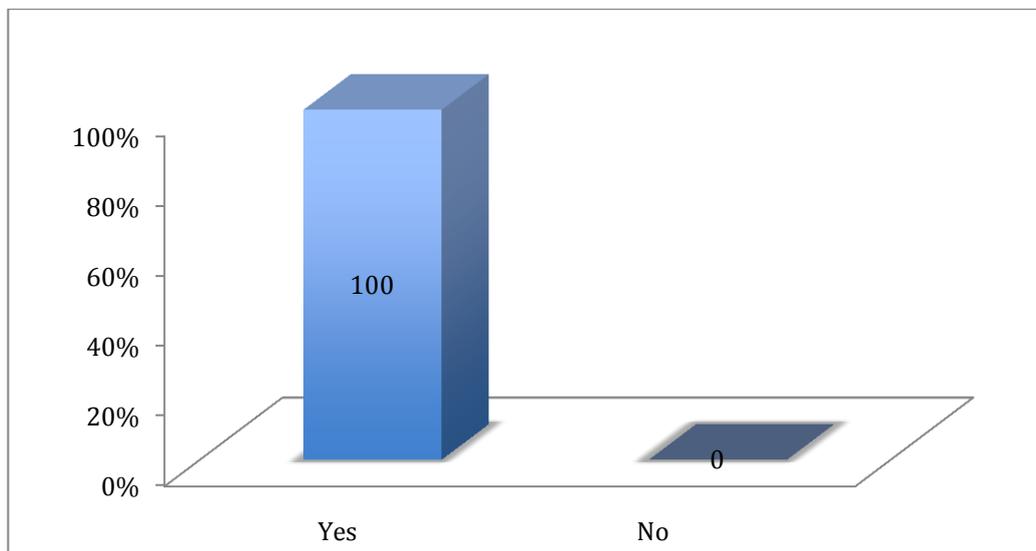
With regards to the satisfaction of partners with the overall number of participants in the project and the general interest that the project has received by the target groups all partners once again indicated their satisfaction (5 out of 5 responses were positive).



Graph 2: Participants and target groups

**c. Added value for the organisation**

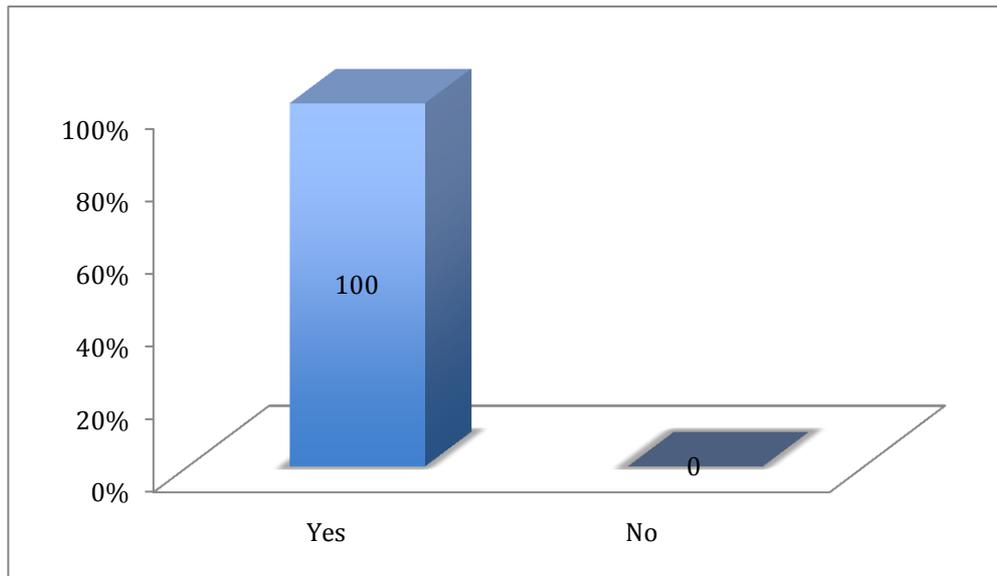
We can observe once again the positive outlook of the project with 100% of respondents indicating that the specific project has been useful for their organisation, creating added value.



Graph 3: Added value for the organisation

#### **d. Coordination of the project by the Cracow University of Economics**

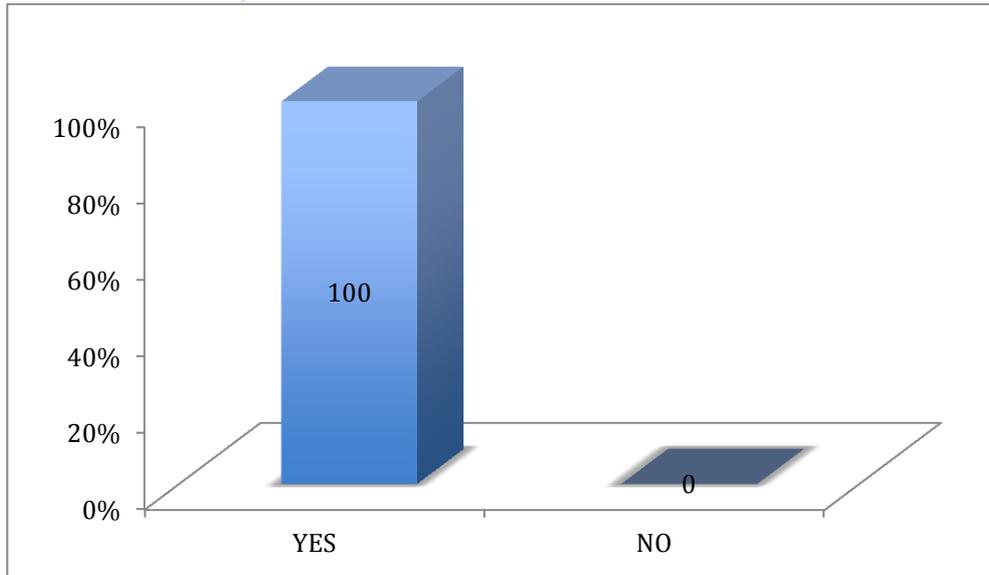
In the question referring to the overall coordination of the project by the coordinator – Cracow University of Economics – the partners once more indicated that they are satisfied with the way the University is managing the project.



Graph 4: Coordination of the project by the Cracow University of Economics

#### **e. Undertaking activities by the consortium**

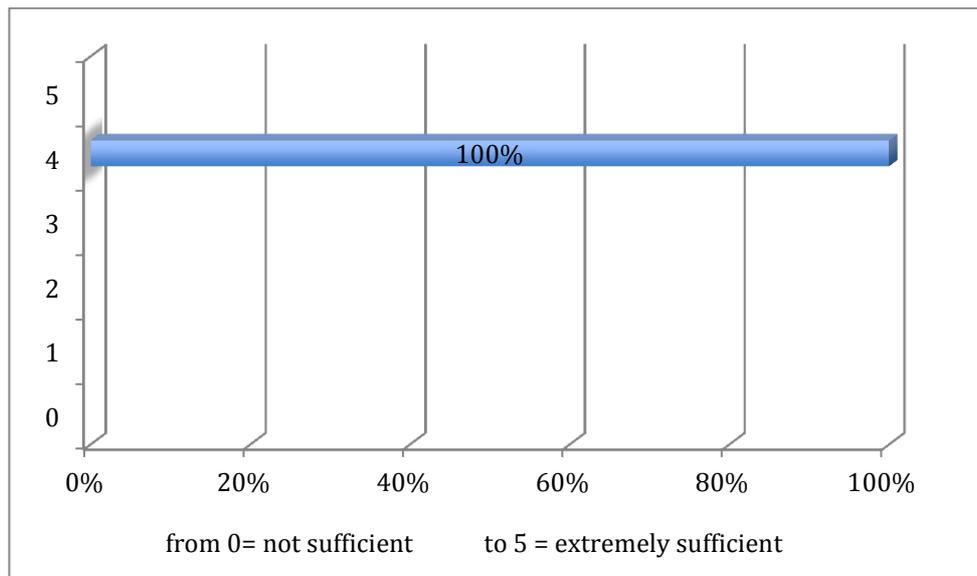
In terms of the materialisation and implementation of the project activities according to the initial plan, the partners once again provided with positive responses that all activities are going according to plan and that there are no major deviations from the original proposal.



Graph 5: Undertaking activities by the consortium

**f. Effectiveness of the implementation of the programme as far as the quantity of deliverables/outcomes are concerned**

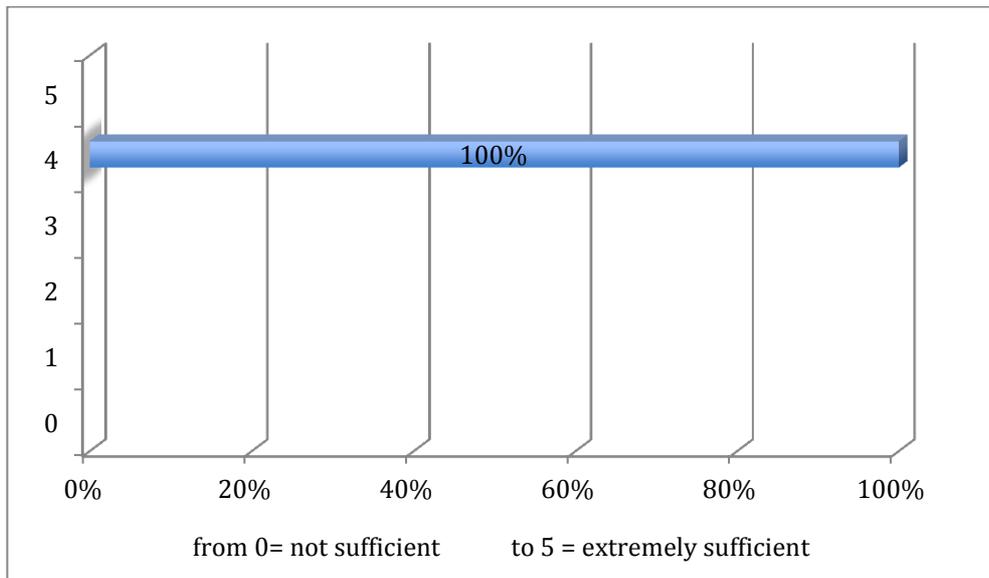
100% of respondents also noted that they agree that the programme is being effectively implemented as far as the quantity of deliverables/outcomes and the fulfilment of objectives.



Graph 6: Effectiveness of the implementation of the programme as far as the quantity of deliverables/outcomes are concerned

**g. Effectiveness of the implementation of the programme as far as the quality of the deliverables/outcomes are concerned**

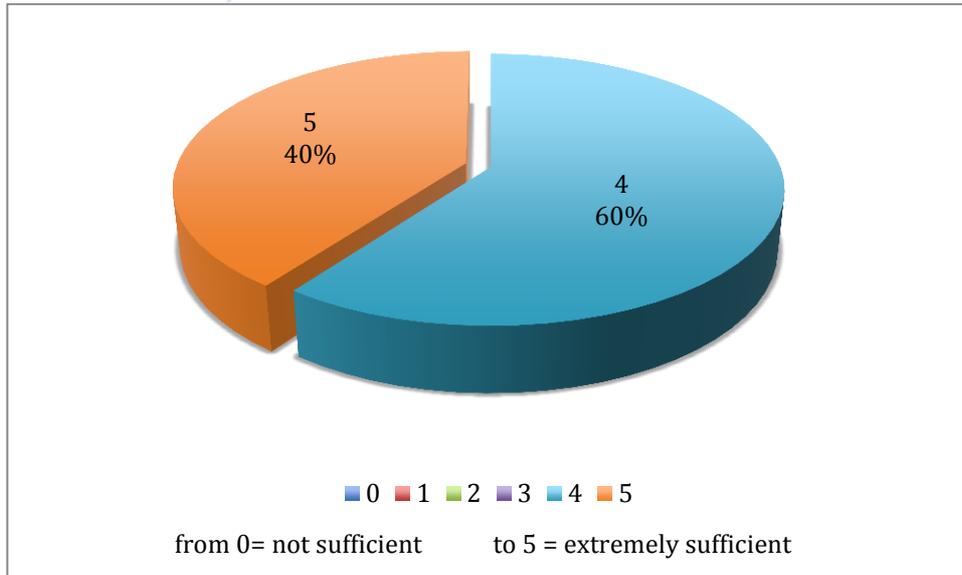
The same applies to the effectiveness of the implementation of the programme as far as the quality of deliverables/outcomes are concerned, with all respondents indicating their satisfaction.



Graph 7: Effectiveness of the implementation of the programme as far as the quality of the deliverables/outcomes are concerned

**h. Prospects of success in achieving the set objectives**

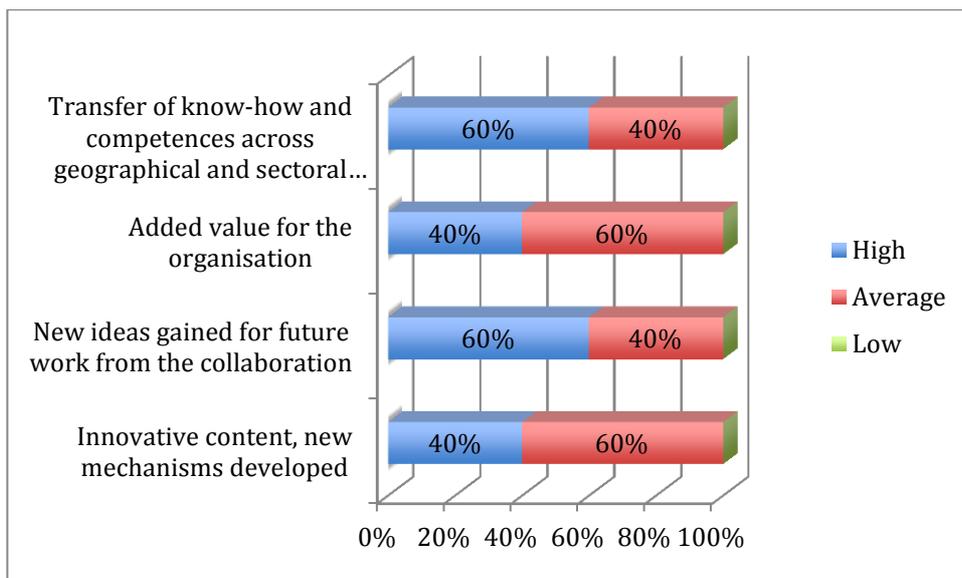
When asked to rate the prospect of success in achieving the set objectives of the programme we can see that 60% indicated a level of 4 (with 5 being the highest) and 40% indicated the highest possibility of achievement.



Graph 8: Prospects of success in achieving the set objectives

**i. Transfer strategy**

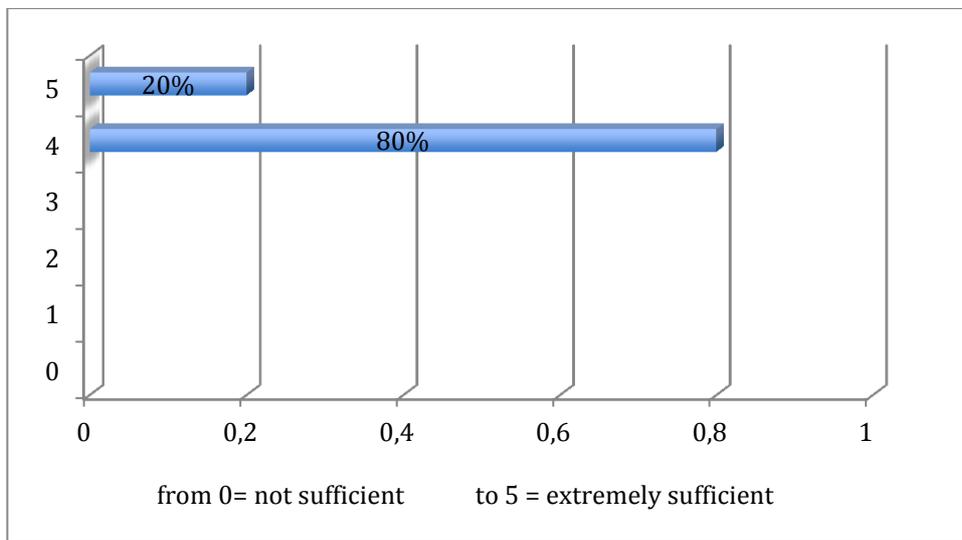
We can see below once again the positive responses in terms of a the transfer of know-how and competences, added value for the partner organisations, development of new ideas for future work and the overall innovative content of the project. Most responses indicated either a “high” or “average” level with no response being “low”.



Graph 9: Transfer strategy

**j. Success in following the planned budget**

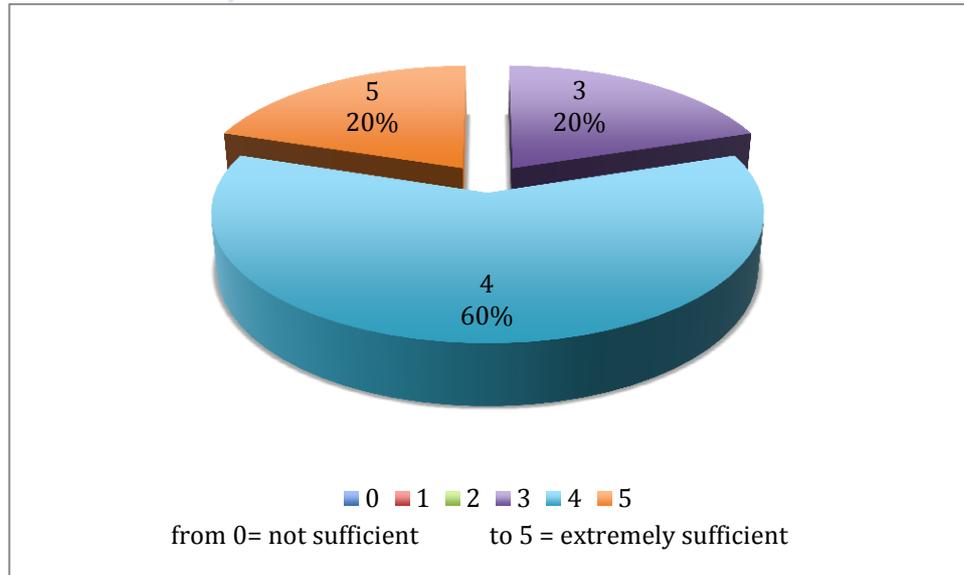
With regards to the timetable and budget we can see from the graph below that 20% responded with the highest possible score (5) and 80% responded with a still high score of 4. Therefore, the partners reported that they are successful in following the planned budget that was set out at the beginning of the project.



Graph 10: Success in following the planned budget

**k. Success in following the planned timetable**

Finally, with regards to the success of partners in following the planned timetable we can see that the responses vary from average to high, with 60% indicating they have been quite successful in following the planned timetable, 20% indicated they are very successful and 20% indicated an “average” response.



Graph 11: Success in following the planned timetable



#### **IV. Conclusions**

It can be concluded, from the above graphs and analysis provided, that the overall implementation and materialisation of the project activities and actions are so far going according to the initial plan and budget and that partners are working closely together, in unison to ensure that all objectives are being met and achieved in all participating countries.

The responses provided are always positive, with partners indicating their satisfaction in the work they are undertaking. It is important to note that there were no negative responses. This, therefore, leads us to believe in the overall success of the project until date.

Finally, through evaluating the questionnaires and reviewing the comments provided by some of the partners we must emphasise the need for the most effective and active promotion and dissemination of the final products and deliverables and the examination of the possibilities of commercialisation of the project and the Certificate to be produced as partners indicated their interest in this.



## V. Annex – Questionnaire of Interim Evaluation

### Leonardo Da Vinci Project – Transfer of Innovation Lifelong Learning Programme

**Project Title:** Certification of Disadvantaged Women in remote areas  
(CEDIWORES)

#### Interim Evaluation Questionnaire

(to be completed by the responsible person of each partner organisation)

#### **PART I: PROJECT ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN UNTIL THE END OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR**

1. Did the consortium undertake all project activities foreseen for this period? If not, did you undertake more/less/difference activities and why?

- Yes  
 No

2. Are you satisfied with the outputs and deliverables produced for this period?

- Yes  
 No



3. Are you satisfied with the number of participants and interest received by the target groups? If not, please explain why.

- Yes
- No

4. So far, has this been a useful project for your organisation: does/will this project have an added value for your organisation? If so, how? If not, why?

- Yes
- No

5. Please rate the impact on your organisation of the following:

	High	Average	Low
Innovative content, new mechanisms developed			
New ideas gained for future work from the collaboration			
Added value for the organisation			
Transfer of know-how and competences across geographical and sectoral boundaries			



6. Please rate the following:

<b>Please Rate from 0= not sufficient to 5 = extremely sufficient</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Effectiveness of the implementation of the programme as far as the quantity of deliverables/outcomes and the fulfilment of the objectives are concerned							
Effectiveness of the implementation of the programme as far as the quality of the deliverables/outcomes are concerned							
Prospects of success in achieving the set objectives of the programme							
Success in following the planned budget							
Success in following the planned timetable							

**PART II: PROJECT ACTIVITIES PLANNES UNTIL THE END OF THE PROJECT DURATION**

1. Which activities will you undertake from the mid-term until the end of the project? Are these inline with the initial proposal?



2. What are your expectations for these forthcoming activities: what do you hope to achieve in the second half of the project?

3. Did you budget sufficient time and money to implement the entire project? If not which parts are taking up more/less time and money than initially foreseen?



### **PART III: COORDINATION OF THE PROJECT**

1. Are you satisfied with the way this project is coordinated by the Cracow University of Economics? Which parts of their tasks are particularly well done and which parts can be improved?

- Yes  
 No

2. Are there any issues you would like to include in the report? If yes, please state them.

- Yes  
 No

### **PART IV: CONCLUSIONS**

1. Please provide your overall assessment of the project until date:

- Very satisfied  
 Somewhat satisfied  
 Not satisfied