

# Learn, Engage, Apply and Perform

Newsletter 3, January 2019

# 4th transnational partner meeting

ISQ, the Portuguese partner of Erasmus+ LEAP project, hosted the  $4^{th}$  Transnational Project Meeting, in Oeiras, Portugal, on the  $10^{th}$  and  $11^{th}$  of October 2019.

During these two days, the LEAP project plan was assessed and reviewed regarding management, implementation and reporting.

British partners from Exponential provided feedback and explanations of recent changes and updates made by Greek partners from Best Cybernetics to the e-portfolios platform.

Partners also had the opportunity to make some questions and suggestions for the usage improvement of LEAP.



### Irish courses on LEAP

In November 2019, Dr. Kristin Brogan and Valerie McGrath undertook three piloting sessions with students in the Institute of Technology Tralee, Ireland. Final year students from the Early Childhood Care and Education programme (at left) participated in the piloting sessions. The participants were from several countries, including Malaysia, Canada, Germany, France, Italy, and Ireland.

Although these students are familiar with virtual learning environments currently used in the Institute, they were excited to learn about a new e-portfolio platform that they could use to upload their assignments. The students commented that it was very easy to upload files, which is important when they have to upload several assignments during the academic year.

Further piloting plans for 2020 include students of Word Processing from the Limerick Adult Education Centre and students from the English Learning Programme of Castel International.





### Bar Service course on LEAP

DEKAPLUS Business Services, the Cypriot partner of LEAP project, manages a Vocational Education and Training centre – the Innovative Hospitality Education Academy –, that offers initial and continuous training to hospitality staff that can lead to certification.

One of the most popular courses in the Academy is "Bar Service". This course requires the completion of 15 units, and it is normally completed within two years. It requires 40% of theory and 60% of practical engagement.

To monitor and facilitate learner progress, the Academy is deploying the LEAP ePortofolio Platform with this course. The platform is expediting the assessor-learner communication: for example, assessors can provide to their learners the different bar practices' schedule as well as their assignments. In addition, if assessors need to change or cancel any of the scheduled course activities, they can communicate this to their learners using the platform's communication features. The assessors can also monitor both the theoretical and the practical learning through the platform, thus becoming the mean to acknowledge progress. At the end of the training, learners will receive digital badges for accomplished achievements.

## Partnership













# Next steps in LEAP project:

- Good Practice Handbook based on pilots, partners will identify and share examples of good practices linked to moderation, learner development, assessment, and use of LEAP e-portfolios platform, that will be converted into a good practice guide;
- Policy Report Taking the LEAP it will present the argument for the use of a learner-centred pedagogical process model incorporating digital badges within eportfolios in the delivery of VET courses;
- Multiplier Events they will take place in the 6 countries of the consortium during the first semester of 2020, to disseminate the project outputs.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Project Meeting the last meeting will take place in Corby, United Kingdom, on the 14th and 15th of May.

