Grant Holders Meeting Erasmus+ Capacity Building in
Higher Education 2023

CAP4CITY

Strengthening Governance Capacity for Smart Sustainable Cities

ERASMUS+ CAP4CITY Project
Strengthening Governance Capacity for Smart Sustainable Cities

Two Continents

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Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

The CAP4CITY Project

OBJECTIVE: The projects objective was to support the modernization, accessibility, and internationalizationTion of the HEI in Latin America (LA) through cooperation with Europe in the field of Smart Sustainable Cities (SSC). The aim was to improve the quality of learning and teaching tools, methodologies, and pedagogical approaches in the LA region by developing teaching content and ICT-based learning outcomes to build specific competencies around SSC for students from diverse levels of education.

MOTIVATION: the increasing number of **competencies** needed and **interdisciplinary** characteristic to address societal challenges and local governance problems

C A P 4 C I T Y

Digital Transformation Challenges

- **Adapting the Project to the ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.**

- **Limited connectivity in LA countries**

- **Limitations to the purchase of equipment**

- **Modify and adjust planned activities to be performed online**

- **Transition to online teaching**

- **New mindset brought forward with the Project tools and plan.**

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Impacts

COVID-19 pandemic was a challenge that pushed us to create additional teaching material

- All University activities moved to online.
- Lockdowns in LA meant all education was virtual.
- Professors needed to adapt all their material without warning.
- The outcomes validated our motivation for introducing new tools, new methodologies, new approaches to teaching.

Courses taught in F2F, Blended learning, Distance learning and Hybrid

- 9 F2F courses
- 2 Hybrid courses
- 9 Blended learning courses
- 8 Distance Learning courses

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Impacts

The MOOC

- Was recorded in 6 different countries – 2 in Europe and 4 in LA. The LA recordings were conducted in the recording studios financed by equipment purchaches through Erasmus+.
- MOOC had over 1000 learners – and will relaunch in a self-paced 6 module course on edx.org platform in the upcoming month.
- Public authorities in LA reached out to see if the MOOC would be suitable for their public officials.

The recording studios in the LA Countries

- Have been a great solution to not being able to travel to TU Delft to record due to travel restrictions.
- Have given the LA Universities the posibility of recording a variety of educational material for blended learning, distance learning and hybrid learning,. And record short educational videos, interviews, etc. Diversifying their teaching.
- There was a knowledge transfer from the WP leaders in The Netherlands and Brazil to the LA partners on how to set up and use their recording studios.

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Impacts

Train The Trainers had a multiplier effect
- The target population was HEIs academic and administrative staff
- Information was distributed online and through emailing.
- Seeked to improve the competencias of staff in the field of Smart Sustainable City Education.
- Methodological aspect and course development

Digital Transformation on the agenda for HEI in LA
- New Projects and synergies with Governments, Enterprises, NGOs in all the universities.
- New financing for diplomas, and programmes in the field of SSC and Digital Transformation.
- New Project with EU partners and Argentine Partners for an Anthropocentric Digital Transformation of HEIs in Argentina.

New joint Master program in Argentina
- New Joint Master between UNS and UNLP, the first of the kind with two Public Universities in Argentina. With guest lecturers from EU.

Teaching cases e-book

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Conclusions

CAP4CITY had the goal of introducing new ICT-Tools for HEI's to improve the quality of learning and teaching tools.

- This was not only achieved but it became even more relevant in the worldwide context.

Most of the impacts depicted are just the beginning of a clear digital transformation of HEI in LA.

- Activities are expanding within the partner universities and to other HEIs in their countries.

Digital Transformation is not a goal on its own, but a reality.

The involvement of stakeholders in the Digital Transformation is key to success.

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Thank you!

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