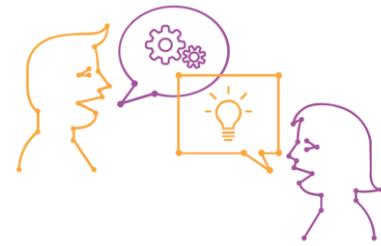# Erasmus+
Virtual Exchange

Top E+VE tips to transfer knowledge from theory to practice

2 April 2020 h 9.30 CEST
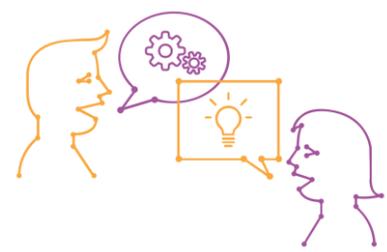
Agenda of the Masterclass

9.30: Welcome by Fabio Nascimbeni

9.35: Sara Pittarello, What you can do to introduce VE in your HEI

9.45: Ana Beaven, Basic and Advanced Training - hints and advice
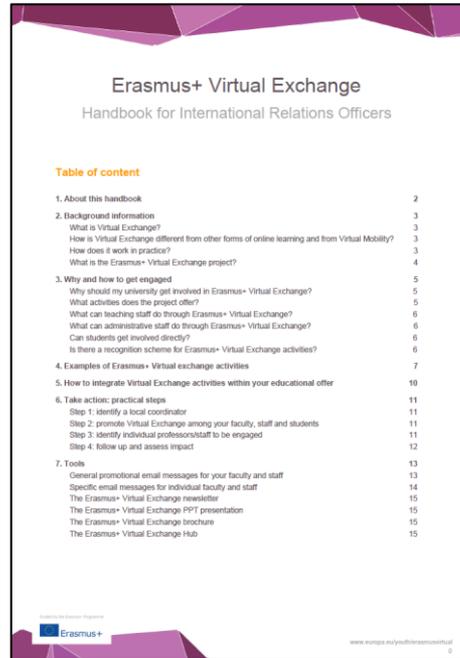
10.00: Questions and answers

10.10: End of Masterclass

What you can do to introduce VE in your HEI
Sara Pittarello

Handbook for International Relations Officers

https://europa.eu/youth/sites/default/files/eyp/eve/attachments/eve_-_handbook_for_iros.pdf

What can IROs do? Steps to get engaged

- **Step 1 - Identify a local coordinator** (better at central university level)

- **Step 2 - Promote VE among your departments, staff & students**

- **Step 3 - Identify individual professors/staff to be engaged**

  (Forerunners & innovators)

- **Step 4 - Counselling and support**

- **Step 5 - Looking for potential synergies**

  Integration in existing partnerships? In current/future projects? As CPD?

- **Step 6 - Systematic evaluation**

Why should you implement TEPs in your HEIs?

A **TEP** is a **Transnational Erasmus+ Virtual Exchange Project**
specifically designed to respond to your needs.

It all depends on YOU! What are your **targets**? What are your **needs/aims**?

Is VE addressed to **students**?

Is VE addressed to **staff**?

Is it part of innovative education **strategy**?

Is it a way to address current challenging times?

Examples of TEPs implemented

1. **Exploring entrepreneurial eco-systems** in European countries - Higher Institute of Technological Studies of Béja (Tunisia) and Cracow University of Economics (Poland) (example 3 in the Handbook)

1. Developing **language and intercultural skills of new IRO staff** - Germany, Italy & Morocco (example 4 in the Handbook)

1. **Pre-mobility project** addressed to local and international students - University of Padova (example 5 in the Handbook)
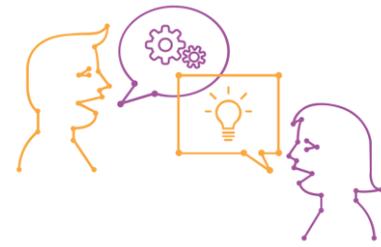
Basic and Advanced Training - hints and advice
Ana Beaven

Trainings to design a Virtual Exchange project

For **teaching & administrative staff** to learn how to create a Transnational Erasmus+ Virtual Exchange Project (TEP) (4/6 weeks, 2-3 h a week, in English or French), to enrich and expand existing courses and programmes.

Training Opportunities for HEIs:
https://europa.eu/youth/erasmusvirtual/activity/training-opportunities_en

- **Basic Training:** 10 May to 7 June 2020

- **Advanced Training:** 19 April to 31 May 2020

The Basic Training

Learning objectives:

- Understand VE from the perspectives of students and educators
- Explore ideas for VE projects from various disciplines, reflect and discuss these with peers
- Match Pedagogy and Technology
- Understand the logistics of setting up a VE project (how do you get people interested? who do you involve? what other aspects need to be taken into consideration?)
- Explore some real-life TEP Challenge scenarios and discuss them.

Skills developed during the course

To what extent do you agree with the following statements? Participating in this training helped me develop:
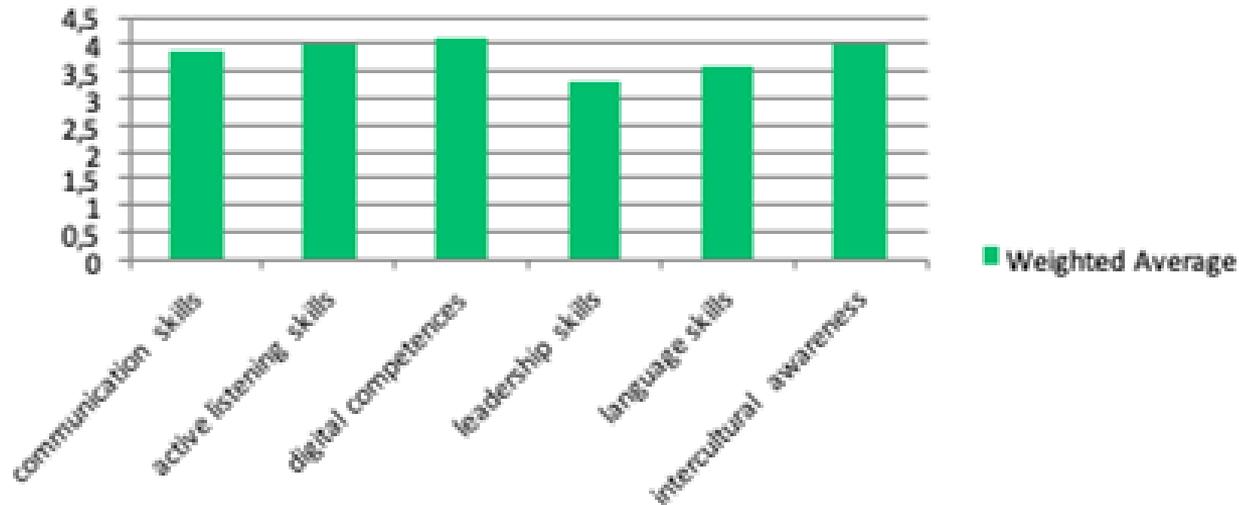
Feedback from participants

"What I have learned during this month is that you never stop learning! I became interested in VE because I wanted to improve my students' skills but what I found is much more. I can see that there are many other professionals looking to exchange ideas and willing to work together to make things possible. I was pleasantly surprised by the variety of projects and the many ways in which different subjects and courses can collaborate, even for those in administrative roles" (S.)

"I feel very privileged to have had the opportunity to participate in this course and meet colleagues from a variety of countries and institutions. This experience is exactly what I needed. Now, I have a better understanding and an appreciation for the role of the student participating in a VE project. Therefore, when I run my own VEs, I shall value different time zones better, linguistic competence, allocate time for synchronous and asynchronous activities to promote networking and fostering personal bonding". (A.)

"I liked the way the course was managed and organized, the effective and inspiring discussions, and above all, the spirit of cooperation between all of the participants. I learnt a lot from this experience, what is VE, its possibilities and tools, how we could benefit from the VE activities to the most, and heard great ideas about how to inspire our students to get involved in such projects. I learnt from my colleagues in this course a lot of innovative solutions for the potential problems and challenges that could arise, and I liked a lot their respect and acceptance for the ideas and opinions of each other". (M.)
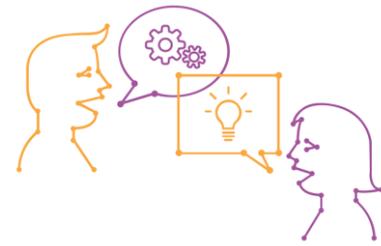
The Advanced Training

Aim: to take partnering educators and their support teams through the **steps** required to design and implement a successful **Virtual Exchange**, including **logistics**, **learning objectives**, **tasks** and **tools**.

Duration: 6 weeks, 2-3 hours per week, including regular **contact between partners**, and **online synchronous sessions**. At the end of the training, partners will have designed their own project in detail and will be ready to implement their exchange, usually in the following semester, with the support of the course tutors.

The Advanced Training is designed for educators who have already **established a partnership** and have a general idea for the primary aims of the Virtual Exchange they would like to design and implement.
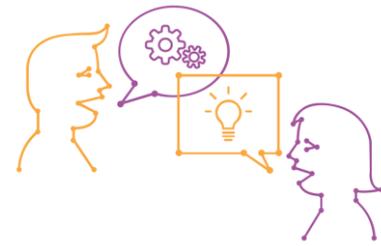
Recap: upcoming opportunities

TEPS Training for HEIs:

Basic Training (English): 10 May - 07 June

Advanced Training (English & French): 19th April - 31 May

Please register asap online!

Recap: what to do next?

- Visit The **Hub** and read the **Higher Education Handbook**

- If you are interested in following the **TEP training**, please connect with <sara.pittarello@unicollaboration.org>

- If you still have questions, please join the next **Drop In session** (6 April, info on the hub) or the next **online mini-lessons** with examples (9 April, 16 April)

Thank You

Find out how you can get involved:

www.europa.eu/youth/EU_env