

Education for Equity

Output 2: Digital Platform

As stated in the application, the three partners in this Erasmus+ project have contributed to creating and developing a digital platform as an information and communication channel during and after the project. The aims of the digital platform are described in the application as it follows:

Setting up a digital platform for information and communication during and after the project. The platform will become a sustainable dissemination tool for the outcome of the project. It will also function as a forum for professional discussions open to other organisations within EU. The digital platform also has the function of a learning platform for the multipliers.

The digital platform consists of:

- An external website for information during and after the project:
www.educationforequity.eu
- An internal communication platform for the multipliers during the project, which was created within Uppsala university's intranet system

The website functions as a dissemination tool for the outcomes of the project. During the project's initial phase the website was used for publishing general information about EFE and descriptions of the various in-working-progress subprojects. Other project activities, as seminars and courses, were mainly promoted through the website. The main products, which are the project anthology and the film, are available on the website. The book can be downloaded in PDF-format or ordered in printed edition. FBA is responsible for delivering the book within the EU, until the printed edition is over. The digital edition of the anthology will be available from August 2017.

The process for setting up the digital platform was longer than expected. One main problem the coordinating partner faced was the administrative and bureaucratic difficulties to hire a third part for setting up the digital platform. After considering these difficulties we decided to engage Uppsala University's IT-department. This decision of using the university systems was taken based in the following arguments:

- A lower amount of economical resources destined to setting up and maintaining the digital platform, which would lead to a more sustainable platform.
- Uppsala University status as a worldwide recognised educational institution.
- Support and security directly provided by Uppsala University's IT-department.

However, there were technical limitations on the used CMS system that did not allow fully availability for the contributions of partner organisations external to Uppsala University. In practice we opened for website contents and other contributions of all partners by having regular meetings and workshops within the output group and by communication via e-mail.

In the following timeline we summarise the various activities that took place within the development of digital platform intellectual output.

Phase I - Preparation

- Establishing an output group with representation of all partner organisations
- Internal discussions about needs and functionality
- Contact with different IT service providers
- Uppsala University CMS and intranet systems were chosen for the project

Phase II – Implementation

- Establishing the digital platform: all internal data and sharing of information through a communication platform within Uppsala University's intranet
- An initial website with general information about Education for Equity and a description of each partner are published
- Training sessions for FBA web editors take place in Uppsala University, at the IT department. Web editors from BWK and AVCT enjoy online training sessions by Adobe Connect.
- Workshops for developing the website structure and contents at transnational meeting in Liverpool.
- Modifying contents and structure on the website

Phase III – Follow-up

- Main outputs are published on the website.
- Workshop in connection with Joint Staff Training in Uppsala for discussion about modification needs, updating contents and expansion of the platform to professionals in education and sustainability.
- Work with content updates
- In order to provide a forum for professional discussions and networking within the educational field in EU, the digital platform will be expanded by creating a blog extension permanently linked from www.educationforequity.eu. Each partner organisation will provide at least one editor for this blog.