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Catalyst Observation Summary Report on 1st Piloting conducted by TU Dresden in Vietnam

September 9 – 23, 2018

Observations

This is a to-the-point summary report based on the Piloting 1 core curricula observations conducted by TU Dresden in 6 locations in Vietnam in the above time period. The actual observations can be accessed for a more detailed insight into the Piloting conducted (here we used but adapted the EHU observation form).

Attached is also the program itinerary used.

Firstly given the missed deadlines for the submission of the modules with their 4 component parts the Piloting visit was certainly appropriate. As this is a new experience for Vietnamese partners participating in their first EU Erasmus+ Capacity Building in Higher Education process we understand that colleagues required more time together to complete the parts and with the necessity to adhere to a module format.



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Overall the Communicative Approach was satisfactorily used although this will take more time for both students and tutors to get used to.

Issues that were brought up requiring resolution were:

- **For the ECTS Module it would be more appropriate for trainers to present participants with a clear objective, give them input on what ECTS is, and then get them to develop a real lesson plan with the desired learning outcomes. Focus on practice as well as theory.**
- **We need to see more extensive development of module descriptions, training guides, materials folders and lesson plans in terms of content, detail or simply formatting to validate a new curricula.**
- **At each institution we repeatedly stated that the above modules with the four component parts in their complete form need to be forwarded by the Vietnam Regional Coordinator to EHU immediately, as deadlines have failed.**
- **The module titles in all cases must comply with the officially agreed module titles as agreed in Dresden meeting in February 2018.**
- **Although lesson participants seemed motivated some sessions had elements of scripted reality.**
- **Standard formatting of module documents, e.g. font size, layout, etc necessary throughout as agreed in February 2018 meeting. This can be achieved by more effective communication between the Module Leaders and their respective teams.**



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- **Separate Module Descriptions were requested by Vietnamese and Laos colleagues at the February 2018 meeting in Dresden. These separate formats should now be adhered to.**

Specifically observed is the following as preparation for 2nd Piloting:

- **Module 4 Further training on examination creation and assessment necessary (general and language). We are awaiting OK from Brussels to use Saxon Ministry of Education expert.**
- **Module 5 - The focus of this module is CEFR is recognition and validation. Although this lesson was very good in terms of communicative approach and the recap of knowledge on CEFR from previous lessons, further compatibility with module objective was not clearly evident. Writing essays does not really play a role here.**
- **Overlap between Module 6 and 8 needs to be eliminated.**
- **In ECTS Module it was underlined in Dresden and even in Bucharest that participants need to study ECTS Guide in depth. All participants require additional ECTS training. Confusion in terminology which is being passed on to future generations needs to be avoided. Some elements of ECTS, etc. came through very well but more needs to be accomplished. In particular we noted confusion between module objectives & learning outcomes. The EU observers in all cases made this correction.**
- **Inter university communication was an issue brought up frequently by partners particularly commenting on a North-South divide. Each university needs one person to assume overall responsibility.**



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- CEFR can be better understood using a comparison with Vietnamese system & IELTS.
- In some cases we noted unfamiliarity with both the Management Plan and the Dissemination & Exploitation Plan & QA link.
- Persons who had attended all training showed very strong grasp of project objectives and on CA.

All these issues need to be successfully addressed as instructed by EU observers during the first piloting and checked at the UK November 2018 before any 2nd Piloting can proceed.

Marketing training for National PC Project Status Awareness Day Conference

Additionally all universities received marketing training for their National PC Project Status Awareness Day Conference to be held by HCMC partners and Vinh on December 1 and by Hanoi and Hung Yen partners on December 17 with video conferencing connections on both days with all partners.

Partners were instructed to contact and then submit Strategic Marketing Plans to LIT and furthermore after the event prepare a Status Report and a SWOT Analysis for Year 2.

Finally the programme was very intensive given jet lag, climate, travel distances, etc. We would ask that in future there be a break day in each week and a two day departure allowance and return in order to be “fit” for the job. Both observers suffered illness due to the schedule but nevertheless achieved all observations and marketing trainings.



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We would like to thank all Vietnam partners for hosting us. In addition we would like to sincerely thank the Pyramid Group and Sven Riddell, TUD for reviewing our observation form content which was much appreciated.

TU Dresden Observation Team (Sandra Erdmann & Gerry Cullen).