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Digital Internship Model for Higher Professional Studies

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INTELLECTUAL OUTPUT 1 REPORT

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PROJECT AND DOCUMENT INFORMATION

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Title of deliverable: Intellectual output 1 report for the period March-June

VERSIONING AND CONTRIBUTION HISTORY

<u>Version</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Partner (Person) Responsible</u>
v.01	30/06/2021	Draft	VTSNS (Branko Savic)

ABBREVIATIONS IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER

DIMPS	Digital internship model for higher professional studies
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
GA	Grant Agreement
NA	National Agency
PHE	Professional Higher Education
PMU	Project Management Unit
PSC	Project Steering Committee
QAMC	Quality Assurance and Monitoring Committee
TPM	Transnational Project Meeting
UNIWA	University of West Attica
UR	University of Ruse "Angel Kanchev"
VI	Virtual Internship
VTSNS	Visoka tehnicka skola strukovnih studija u Novom Sadu Higher Education Technical School of Professional Studies in Novi Sad
WSAAS	Western Serbia Academy of Applied Studies



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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This document presents the Intellectual output 1 report for Erasmus KA226 project “Digital Internship Model for Higher Professional Studies” 2020-1-RS01-KA226-HE-094527.

The goal of this Intellectual output is to develop a digital/virtual internship model for professional higher education, directed at finding solutions to the problem of transferring field-specific formal requirements and learning outcomes into the digital format. The focus is placed on the creation of the model suitable for the internship for different economy sectors, but it primarily focuses on the technical sector and tourism, as a common interest of involved partners.

The model is supposed to support the needs of the internship triangle: student-PHEI-world of work. It will allow students to select and approach the digital internship position in the workplace; PHEIs to perform monitoring and validation of student progress, assessment of achieved learning outcomes, knowledge, skills and competences during the digital internship, support of companies in terms of training of internship mentors; and for the companies it will facilitate the internship implementation, which includes designing of complete or partial digital internship positions, selection and delegation of particular tasks to the students, monitoring of student progress and program accomplishment.

VTSNS is partner in charge to coordinate the group activities and it is responsible for output compliance with the adopted timeline and preparation of the digital internship model draft.

This report presents the achievements regarding IO1 output production for the period March-June, i.e., first 4 months of the project implementation.



DIMPS IO1 – stuff involved

COORDINATING PARTNER – VISOKA TEHNIČKA ŠKOLA STRUKOVNIH STUDIJA U NOVOM
SADU

IO coordinator – Branko Savic

Expert group members:

VTSNS

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Dr Bozo Ilic, prof.

WSAAS

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Assoc. Prof. Plamen Zahariev, PhD

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UNIWA

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IO1 – background criteria

The model for digital internships in professional higher education is created taking several criteria into account:

- the state of work-based learning in professional higher education;
- perceived opportunities and challenges of representatives of key stakeholders for the development of digital internships in professional higher education;
- the best existing practices and recommendations for carrying out digital internships;
- the quality framework for internships and
- the expected learning outcomes of digital internships in professional higher education

The model is envisioned to support the needs of the internship triangle: student-PHEI-world of work. It allows students to select and approach the digital internship position in the workplace; PHEIs to perform monitoring and validation of student progress, assessment of achieved learning outcomes, knowledge, skills and competences during the digital internship, support of companies in terms of training of internship mentors; and for the companies it facilitates the internship implementation, which includes designing of complete or partial digital internship positions, selection and delegation of particular tasks to the students, monitoring of student progress and program accomplishment.

The development of the digital internship model targets the PHEIs in emergency situations, but it also increases the responsiveness of PHEIs to the challenges of the Fourth Industrial Revolution. Accordingly, it targets students, particularly those enrolled in economic sectors that are less directed towards the digital mode of work, providing them with more efficient work-based learning. In particular, it will widen the spectrum of internships that will be accessible to students with difficulties. The digital internship model also targets the world of work, perceived opportunities and challenges of representatives of key stakeholders for the development of digital internships.

Contributing to the supply of digital education opportunities, this intellectual output impacts the digital education readiness of project partners, but it is readily transferable to the other professional higher education institutions. By adjusting learning requirements and outcomes, this digital internship model can be adopted at other qualification levels, particularly those in dual education.

Intellectual output 1 timeline

IO1 THE MODEL FOR DIGITAL INTERNSHIPS IN PROFESSIONAL HIGHER EDUCATION		2021										2022	
		mar	apr	may	jun	jul	avg	sep	oct	nov	dec	jan	feb
ACTIVITY	INDICATOR	M1	M2	M3	M4	M5	M6	M7	M8	M9	M10	M11	M12
Desktop research: best practices for carrying out virtual internships	report on best practices		X	X									
Defining learning outcomes: knowledge, skills and attitudes to be developed through a digital internship program	draft of Learning outcomes		X	X									
Adapting the existing quality recommendations for internships			X	X									
Writing methodology: concrete steps to be undertaken in order to carry out the digital internship program. Alignment of the proposed methodology with defined learning outcomes of internships and quality standards	methodology written			X	X								
Peer review	Peer review report				X	X							
Obtain world of work feedback on the proposed methodology and adapting the methodology in line with the suggestions	report from national workshops (one workshop for all 3 IO)									X			

Intellectual output 1 tasks

The expert group prepared the model by accomplishing the following tasks:

- Desktop research: best practices for carrying out virtual internships
- Defining learning outcomes: knowledge, skills and attitudes to be developed through a digital internship program
- Adapting the existing quality recommendations for internships
- Writing methodology: concrete steps to be undertaken in order to carry out the digital internship program. Alignment of the proposed methodology with defined learning outcomes of internships and quality standards.

Intellectual output 1 deliverables

	Deliverables	Due date	Task division	Status
IO1-1	Report on best practices for carrying out virtual internships	June 2021.	UR UNIWA	Delivered by UR
IO1-2	Report on learning outcomes: knowledge, skills and attitudes to be developed through a digital internship program	June 2021.	VTSNS WSAAS	Delivered by VTSNS and WSAAS
IO1-3	The model for digital internship in professional higher education, including learning outcomes and methodology for its implementation	June 2021.	VTSNS WSAAS UR UNIWA	Delivered by VTSNS WSAAS UR Still needed UNIWA contribution

Intellectual outputs 1 status

IO1-1

Title of deliverable: Methodology for digital internship in professional higher education

VERSIONING AND CONTRIBUTION HISTORY

Version	Date	Status	Partner (Person) Responsible
v.01	01/07/2021	Draft	UR (N. Bencheva and P. Zahariev)
v.02			

IO1-2

Title of deliverable: Learning outcomes: knowledge, skills and attitudes to be developed through a digital internship program

VERSIONING AND CONTRIBUTION HISTORY

Version	Date	Status	Partner (Person) Responsible
v.01	01/05/2021	Draft	VTSNS (Branko Savic)
v.02	15/05/2021	Revision	WSAAS (Tatjana Marinkovic, Milorad Muric)

IO1-3

Title of deliverable: Methodology for digital internship in professional higher education

VERSIONING AND CONTRIBUTION HISTORY

<u>Version</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Partner (Person) Responsible</u>
v.01	20/04/2021	Draft	VTSNS (Branko Savic)
v.02	30/04/2021	Modified	WSAAS (Tatjana Marinkovic)
v.03	14/05/2021	Modified	UR (N. Bencheva and P. Zahariev)

CONCLUSION

Proposed intellectual output 1 deliverables are produced and delivered within expected timeframe, with the exception of UNIWA contribution to the IO1-3.

Produced intellectual outputs are sent for the expert group evaluation and acceptance, that is planned for the second transnational meeting.

Intellectual output 1 remaining tasks

Upon final adjustment during second expert group transnational meeting, the Intellectual outputs 1 will be subjected to the peer review. The list of peer reviewer will be accepted by PSC during TPM2.

Final version of the IO1-3 “The model for digital internship in professional higher education, including learning outcomes and methodology for its implementation” will be presented to the world of work in order to obtain world of work feedback on the proposed methodology. The strategy for the presentation of the DIMPS outputs to the world of work will be adopted by PSC during TPM2.