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**Modernisation of Higher Education in
Central Asia through New
Technologies (HiEdTec)**



REPORT ON THE 3RD PROJECT MEETING IN TASHKENT

**Project: Modernisation of Higher Education in Central Asia through New
Technologies (HiEdTec)**

Project No: 598092-EPP-1-2018-1-BG-EPPKA2-CBHE-SP

Project Coordinator: ANGEL KANCHEV UNIVERSITY OF RUSE



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	6
1 HiEdTec 3 rd Project Meeting Feedback – Tashkent, Uzbekistan	11
2 Conclusion.....	19



List of Abbreviations & meanings

HiEdTec	– <i>Modernisation of Higher Education in Central Asia through New Technologies</i>
QA	– <i>Quality assurance</i>
MG	– <i>Management Group</i>
EB	– <i>Evaluation Board</i>
WP	– <i>Work Package</i>
WP LT	– <i>WP Leading Team</i>
MP	– <i>Management Plan</i>
UR	– <i>University of Ruse Angel Kanchev</i>
ATU	– <i>Almaty Technological University</i>
InEU	– <i>Innovative University of Eurasia</i>
AIU	– <i>Ala-Too International University</i>
IKSU	– <i>Issyk Kul State University named after K. Tynystanov</i>
KSTU	– <i>Kyrgyz State Technical University named after I. Razzakov</i>
KhoSU	– <i>Khorog State University named after M. Nazarshoev</i>
TTU	– <i>Tajik technical University named after academician M. Osimi</i>
TUT	– <i>Technological University of Tajikistan</i>
ENU	– <i>L.N. Gumilyov Eurasian National University</i>
IUHD	– <i>International University for the Humanities and Development</i>



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TITU	– <i>Oguz Han Engineering and Technology University of Turkmenistan</i>
SEIT	– <i>State Power Engineering Institute of Turkmenistan</i>
AndMI	– <i>Andijan Machine-Building Institute</i>
TSUE	– <i>Tashkent State University of Economics</i>
TUIT	– <i>Tashkent University of Information Technologies named after Muhammad al-Khwarizmi</i>
UPV	– <i>Università degli Studi di Pavia</i>
UL	– <i>University of Luxembourg</i>
UC	– <i>University of Coimbra</i>
MES	– <i>Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan</i>
MES	– <i>Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic</i>
MES	– <i>Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Tajikistan</i>
MET	– <i>Ministry of Education of Turkmenistan</i>
MHSSE	– <i>Ministry of Higher and Secondary specialized education of the Republic of Uzbekistan</i>



INTRODUCTION

The 3rd HiEdTec meeting was held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan from 02nd of December to 06th of December with the following Agenda:

02 December Monday	Arrival day	Accommodation Walk in Tashkent
03 December Tuesday	09:00 – 09:30	Hall of Main Study Building(#1) foyer, Lecture hall #138 Registration of the participants in the meeting
	09:30 – 09:40	WELCOME – Uzbek Traditional Music and Dance
	09:40 – 10:00	OPENING CEREMONY Speaker: Prof. Xodiev Baxodir Yunusovich – Rector of Tashkent State University of Economics Speaker: Prof. Teshabayev To'lqin Zakirovich – Rector of Tashkent University of Information Technologies Speaker: Prof. Beloev Hristo Ivanov – Rector of University of Ruse Speaker: Mr. Uzokboy Begimkulov Representative Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Deputy Minister Speaker: Ms. Aziza Abdurahmonova – Head of the Erasmus National office in Uzbekistan Speaker: Prof. Angel Smrikarov – Coordinator of HiEdTec
	10:00 – 10:20	Brief introduction of participants Speakers: each participant
	10:20 – 10:30	Presenting the Tashkent State University of Economics Speaker: Dr. Azizjon Bobojonov
	10:30 – 10:45	Presenting the Evaluation of the Second Project Meeting. Conclusions and recommendations. Speaker: Stefanie Östlund
	10:45 – 11:00	Presenting the monitoring results in Uzbekistan Speaker: Ms. Aziza Abdurahmonova
	11:00 – 11:30	Coffee Break - foyer
	11:30 – 12:00	Presenting an evaluation of project work. Information about the CAREN Regional Network Conference CRNC2019. Speaker: Prof. Robert Janz - project evaluator
	12:00 – 12:10	WP3: Presenting the Project Office, Centre for Innovative Educational Technologies and 3 Active Learning Classrooms. Speaker: representative of university P2



	12:10 – 12:20	WP3: Presenting the Project Office, Centre for Innovative Educational Technologies and 3 Active Learning Classrooms. Speaker: representative of university P3
	12:20 – 12:30	WP3: Presenting the Project Office t, Centre for Innovative Educational Technologies and 3 Active Learning Classrooms. Speaker: representative of university P4
	12:30 – 12:40	WP3: Presenting the Project Office, Centre for Innovative Educational Technologies and 3 Active Learning Classrooms. Speaker: representative of university P5
	12:40 – 13:00	Photo of the Project Meeting participants in front of the main building of the University
	13:00 – 14:00	Lunch Break – University Restaurant
	14:00 – 14:10	WP3: Presenting the Project Office, Centre for Innovative Educational Technologies and 3 Active Learning Classrooms. Speaker: representative of university P6
	14:10 – 14:20	WP3: Presenting the Project Office, Centre for Innovative Educational Technologies and 3 Active Learning Classrooms. Speaker: representative of university P7
	14:20 – 14:30	WP3: Presenting the Project Office, Centre for Innovative Educational Technologies and 3 Active Learning Classrooms. Speaker: representative of university P8
	14:30 – 14:40	WP3: Presenting the Project Office, Centre for Innovative Educational Technologies and 3 Active Learning Classrooms. Speaker: representative of university P9
	14:40 – 14:50	WP3: Presenting the Project Office, Centre for Innovative Educational Technologies and 3 Active Learning Classrooms. Speaker: representative of university P10
	14:50 – 15:00	WP3: Presenting the Project Office, Centre for Innovative Educational Technologies and 3 Active Learning Classrooms. Speaker: representative of university P11
	15:00 – 15:10	WP3: Presenting the Project Office, Centre for Innovative Educational Technologies and 3 Active Learning Classrooms. Speaker: representative of university P12
	15:10 – 15:20	WP3: Presenting the Project Office, Centre for Innovative Educational Technologies and 3 Active Learning Classrooms. Speaker: representative of university P13
	15:20 – 15:30	WP3: Presenting the Project Office, Centre for Innovative Educational Technologies and 3 Active Learning Classrooms. Speaker: representative of university P14
	15:30 – 15:40	WP3: Presenting the Project Office, Centre for Innovative Educational Technologies and 3 Active Learning Classrooms. Speaker: representative of university P15
	15:40 – 15:50	Courses - preliminary preparation Speaker: Prof. Angel Smrikarov



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	15:50 – 16:00	Visit of the virtual library of the project Speaker: Prof. Angel Smrikarov
	16:00	Visit of the Tashkent State University of Economics Visit to the Museum of the University
	19:30	Joint dinner: University Restaurant Address: 49, Islam Karimov Street, Tashkent, Uzbekistan

04 December Wednesday	09:30 – 09:50	Lecture 1: What should we be able to do to begin the digital transformation of education? Speaker: Angel Smrikarov
	09:50 – 10:10	Lecture 2: DEVELOPING TRADITIONAL LEARNING Why use and how to choose an interactive board? Speaker: Tzvetomir Vassilev
	10:10 – 10:30	Lecture 3: DEVELOPING TRADITIONAL LEARNING How to make a presentation more interesting for the digital generation? An example. Speaker: Angel Smrikarov
	10:30 – 11:00	Discussion, questions Discussion leader: Angel Smrikarov, Tzvetomir Vassilev
	11:00 – 11:30	Coffee Break - foyer
	11:30 – 13:00	Practical exercise 1: How to use an interactive board? Room: 138 Speaker: Angel Smrikarov Room: 137 Speaker: Tzvetomir Vassilev
	13:00 – 14:00	Lunch Break – University Restaurant
	14:00 – 15:30	Practical exercise 2: How to make a presentation more interesting for the digital generation? Room: 138 Speaker: Angel Smrikarov Room: 137 Speaker: Tzvetomir Vassilev
	15:30 – 16:00	Room 138 Discussion, questions Discussion leader: Angel Smrikarov, Tzvetomir Vassilev
	16:00	Sightseeing 



05 December Thursday	09:30 – 09:50	Lecture 4: DEVELOPING SYNCHRONOUS DISTANCE LEARNING (in real time): How to use videoconferencing? Speaker: Tzvetomir Vassilev
	09:50 – 10:10	Practical exercise 3: How to use videoconferencing? Room: 138 - 137 Speaker: Tzvetomir Vassilev
	10:10 – 10:30	Lecture 5: DEVELOPING SYNCHRONOUS DISTANCE LEARNING (in real time): How to use virtual classroom Speaker: Tzvetomir Vassilev
	10:30 – 10:50	Practical exercise 4: How to use virtual classroom? Room: 138 - 137 Speaker: Tzvetomir Vassilev
	10:50 – 11:00	Discussion, questions Discussion leader: Angel Smrikarov, Tzvetomir Vassilev
	11:00 – 11:30	Coffee Break -foyer
	11:30 – 12:00	Lecture 6: DEVELOPING ASYNCHRONOUS DISTANCE LEARNING (at any time): How to make interactive multimedia teaching materials Speaker: Tzvetomir Vassilev
	12:00 – 12:30	Lecture 7: DEVELOPING ASYNCHRONOUS DISTANCE LEARNING (at any time): How to make a video lecture Speaker: Angel Smrikarov
	12:30 – 13:00	Discussion, questions Discussion leader: Angel Smrikarov, Tzvetomir Vassilev
	13:00 – 14:00	Lunch Break – University Restaurant
	14:00 – 14:30	Lecture 8: DEVELOPING ASYNCHRONOUS DISTANCE LEARNING (at any time): How to make a virtual laboratory? Speaker: Angel Smrikarov
	14:30 – 15:00	Lecture 9: DEVELOPING ASYNCHRONOUS DISTANCE LEARNING (at any time): How to make a virtual library? Speaker: Angel Smrikarov
	15:00 – 15:30	Lecture 10: DEVELOPING BLENDED LEARNING Speaker: Angel Smrikarov
	15:30 – 15:45	Discussion Discussion leader: Angel Smrikarov, Tzvetomir Vassilev
	15:45 – 16:00	How to ensure the sustainability of the project? Speaker: Mamadamon Abdulloev
	16:00 – 17:00	WP7



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		Project Management & Coordination Speaker: Stoyanka Smrikarova
	19:30	Joint dinner: Laby Hauz Restaurant Address: 87, Kichik Beshagach Street, Tashkent

06 December Friday	9:30 – 11:00	Practical exercise 5: How to make interactive multimedia teaching materials How to make a video lecture Room: 138 Speaker: Angel Smrikarov Room: 137 Speaker: Tzvetomir Vassilev WP7 Individual work with the partners Room:138 Stoyanka Smrikarova
	11:00 – 11:30	Coffee Break - foyer
	11:30 – 13:00	Practical exercise 6: How to make a virtual laboratory? How to make a virtual library? Room:138 Speaker: Angel Smrikarov Room:137 Speaker: Tzvetomir Vassilev WP7 Individual work with the partners Room:138 Stoyanka Smrikarova
	13:00 – 14:00	Lunch Break – University Restaurant
	14:00 – 14:30	WP3 – Future tasks. What we have to do to the next meeting in Coimbra Speakers: Angel Smrikarov, Tzvetomir Vassilev
	14:30 – 15:00	4 th project meeting plan Speakers: Angel Smrikarov, Silvia Nolan
	15:00 – 15:30	Final discussion Speaker: Angel Smrikarov
	15:30 – 16:00	Closing time
07 December Saturday	Departure day	



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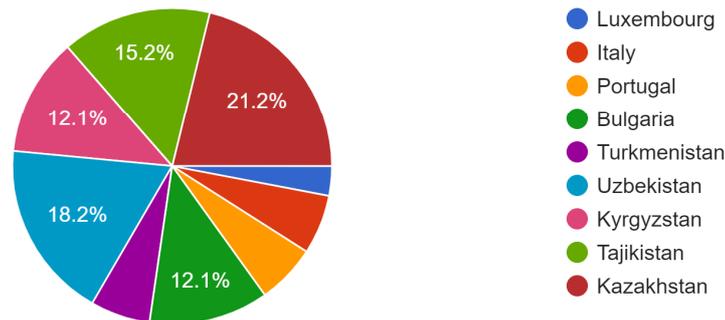
1 HiEdTec 3RD PROJECT MEETING FEEDBACK – TASHKENT, UZBEKISTAN

Based on the consortium agreement, the University of Luxembourg (P18) created a questionnaire to get feedback from all participating partners. This work is related to the projects' Internal Evaluation System and Quality and Assurance Plan (D5.1). There were 34 partners responding and they evaluated the quality of the third HiEdTec meeting in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

The evaluation questions were the following:

1. Which country are you from?

33 responses

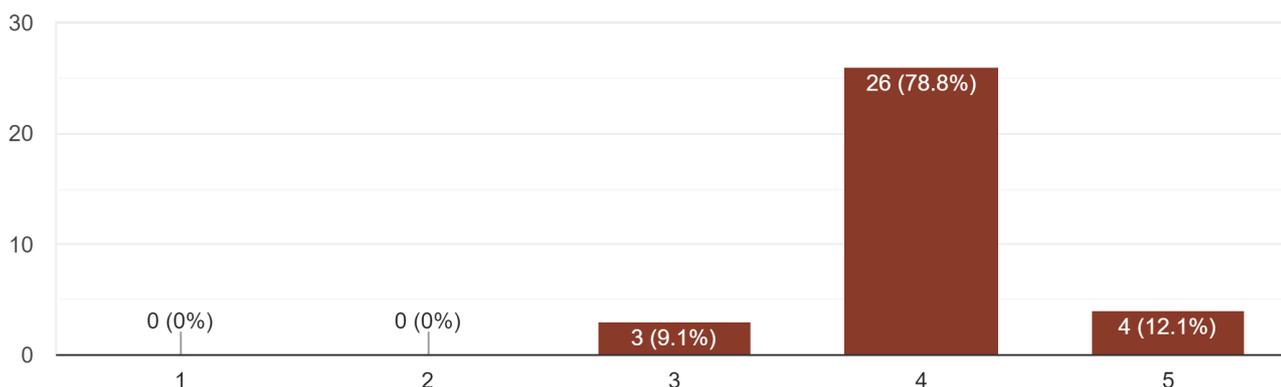


We got 12 responses more than for the previous second meeting evaluation. Partners of the project get used to answering questionnaires and validating the quality of the meetings. This is in line with Project Quality management.



2. Overall, please tell us how productive the meeting was using a 1 to 5 scale where 1 means not at all productive and 5 means extremely productive.

33 responses



- The meeting objectives were clearly communicated in advance of the meeting
- The meeting objectives were met
- Follow-up actions resulted from the meeting
- 12,1% of the participants validated the meeting as extremely productive, 78,8% high productive and 3% as productive
- Overall, there is a slightly increasing satisfaction of responders compared to the previous meeting in Almaty, Kazakhstan, where 68,2% of the responders marked the meeting as very productive.

3. Please tell us why you feel that way about how productive the meeting was.

30 responses

- During the meeting, there was a real training with all PC (Asian Partner Countries) participants on the methods and technologies for developing interactive lectures and laboratory work
- Everything was organized perfectly
- Because everything was at a new level, the latest technology, modernization and a new methodology for introducing lectures.
- Someone noticed a high involvement of participants and a real collaborative "spirit"
- All



- The meeting was organized and held really well. The current project progress was reported in detail. The lectures and practical training sessions in innovative educational technologies covering topics like: using interactive boards, using videoconferencing, virtual classroom, recording video lecture, etc. were really useful!
- Trainers showed everything people need to teach their teachers
- There were trainings
- The meeting was mainly in Russian and there was no way for a non Russian speaking to contribute to the Russian parts. The other parts were well prepared presentations. I would like to have more parts with interactions and discussions between the partners so that there will be real work done TOGETHER at the meetings
- Because I could get all interesting information.

4. Now we have a few questions about the meeting content and its organization. Please tell us your level of agreement with the following statements about the meeting using a 1 to 5 scale, where 1 means you strongly disagree and 5 means you strongly agree. If a statement does not apply to the meeting you attended, please select "NA."

The questions structure and answers:

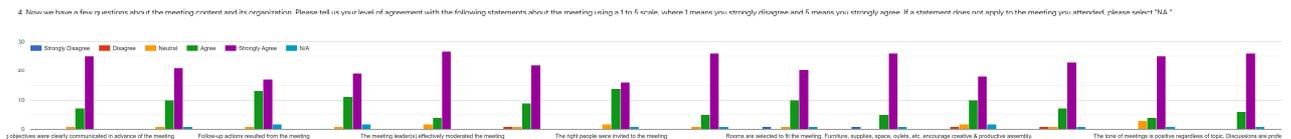
- The meeting objectives were clearly communicated in advance of the meeting
 - 25 responders from 33 strongly agreed
 - 7 responders agreed
 - 1 responder stayed neutral
- The meeting objectives were met
 - 21 responders from 33 strongly agreed
 - 10 responders agreed
 - 1 responder stayed neutral
 - 1 responder NA
- Follow-up actions resulted from the meeting
 - 17 responders from 33 strongly agreed
 - 13 responders agreed
 - 1 responder stayed neutral
 - 1 responder NA
- Owners of follow-up actions were assigned
 - 19 participants from 33 strongly agreed
 - 11 participants agreed
 - 1 responder stayed neutral
 - 2 responders NA
- The meeting leader(s) effectively moderated the meeting
 - 27 responders from 33 strongly agreed



- 4 responders agreed
- 2 responders stayed neutral
- Meeting attendees had an opportunity to participate
 - 22 responders from 33 strongly agreed
 - 9 responders agreed
 - 1 responder stayed neutral
 - 1 responder NA
- The right people were invited to the meeting
 - 16 responders from 33 strongly agreed
 - 14 responders agreed
 - 2 responders stayed neutral
 - 1 responder NA
- Participants know what is expected of them in advanced and are ready to contribute
 - 26 responders from 33 strongly agreed
 - 5 responders agreed
 - 1 responder stayed neutral
 - 1 responder NA
- Meeting technology (computers, projectors, screens, phones) are working and prompted and ready to go. Remote attendees included.
 - 20 responders from 33 strongly agreed
 - 10 responders agreed
 - 1 responder stayed neutral
 - 1 responder NA
 - 1 responder strongly disagree
- Rooms are selected to fit the meeting. Furniture, supplies, space, outlets, etc. encourage creative & productive assembly.
 - 26 responders from 33 strongly agreed
 - 5 responders agree
 - 1 responder stayed neutral
 - 1 responder NA
 - 1 responder strongly disagree
- Flip charts, markers, supplies or technology for group memory are ample for any length meeting
 - 18 responders from 33 strongly agreed
 - 10 responders agree
 - 2 responders stayed neutral
 - 2 responders NA
 - 1 responder disagree
- Meetings are practical, dynamic and interactive. Participants are involved, excited, empowered and informed
 - 23 responders from 33 strongly agree



- 7 responders agree
- 1 responder stayed neutral
- 1 responder NA
- 1 responder disagree
- There is a sense of accomplishment and a feeling of progress. People look forward to meetings that assist their work
 - 25 participants from 33 strongly agree
 - 4 participants agree
 - 3 responders stayed neutral
 - 1 responders NA
- The tone of meetings is positive regardless of topic. Discussions are professional, respectful, all opinions valued
 - 26 responders from 33 strongly agreed
 - 6 responders agree
 - 1 responder NA



5. We would also like your feedback on the meeting logistics. Please tell us your level of agreement with the following statements using a 1 to 5 scale, where 1 means you strongly disagree and 5 means you strongly agree. If a statement does not apply to the meeting you attended, please select "NA."

The questions structure and answers:

- The meeting was the appropriate length of time
 - 19 responders from 32 strongly agree
 - 12 responders agree
 - 1 responder stayed neutral
- The meeting location fit all of the attendees comfortably
 - 23 responders from 32 strongly agree
 - 5 responders agree
 - 4 responders stayed neutral
- The speakers were easily heard
 - 27 responders from 32 strongly agree
 - 5 responders agree



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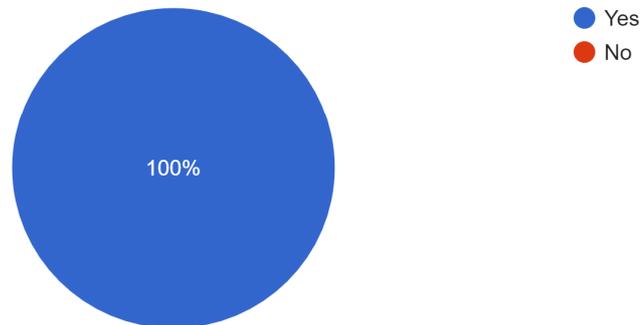
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- The presentation was easily seen
 - 28 responders from 32 strongly agree
 - 4 responders agree

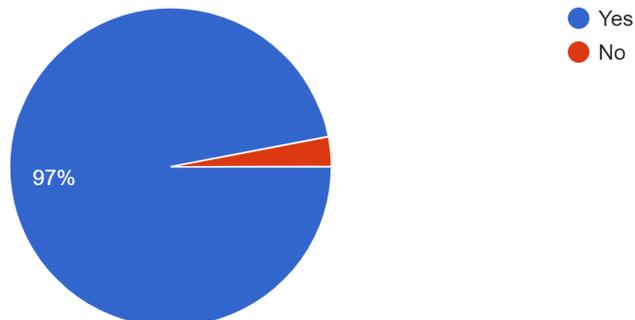
6. Did the meeting start on time?

33 responses



7. Did the meeting end on time?

33 responses



8. What did you find most effective about the meeting?

32 responses

- Group and individual trainings on interactive teaching methods. Presentations by project participants on achievements
- Productivity
- Everything for me was effective in this meeting



- Well-defined schedule, positive attitude of participants
- Presentation of Prof. Angel Smrikarov
- practical part, individual work with trainers
- The meeting followed a detailed agenda. The premises were convenient with all the necessary equipment provided. Very useful training sessions
- A lot of things, for example, how to make a presentation more interactive? how to create virtual labs
- Easy communication
- The networking and the discussions besides the meeting with WP partners
- Strength of the material
- New software for education
- The excellent organization
- Collaboration
- An evident involvement of the participants
- Time efficiency
- discussion, exchange of experience
- The use of interactive technology in the learning process
- On-line education
- Organization
- Exchange ideas, feedback
- Communication with different people and listening their point of view about the usage of modern technology and its effect on the future of higher education
- Training courses
- communication, exchange of experience, useful materials
- Practical lessons
- The training was well organized and trainees were motivated
- The individual training of trainers in using innovative educational technologies
- Organization of the working process by Ruse team
- How to make a presentation?
- The organization and coordination of tasks

9. What did you find least effective about the meeting?

29 responses

- All working days of the meeting were extremely effective
- N/A
- NA
- Nothing
- Everything was great!



- Most discussions were in Russian only (of course, this was a problem only for the few non-Russian speaking participants in the meeting)
- During the last days of the meeting the trend from the previous meeting to not translate everything in English continued!
- Presentations and video lectures
- Getting skills for preparing presentation materials
- The Russian presentations. Some of them translated, but since most of the slides only had pictures, the slide translations did not help. Simultaneous translations would be useful
- Almost nothing
- making efficiently presentation for lecture
- The difficulty of understanding communications in Russian
- Discussion
- Sometimes I had the feeling of problems with the English language
- More practical work
- everything was efficient and useful
- Wi-Fi speed
- n/a
- There was not any weak side of the meeting
- Training courses
- Nothing
- Organization of the first joined dinner
- I haven't question
- There are still several moments where Russian is the only language talked. Although presentations in English are available, sometimes, because they are mostly composed of pictures, it is difficult for European partners to follow

10. Ideas for future meetings, suggestions, comments, etc

30 responses

- Listening to brief information from countries participating in the project on the progress of work packages. Information of representatives of the Ministries of Central Asian countries on assistance in fulfilling the tasks of the project. Continuation of trainings on the use of new technologies in higher education
- More jokes from the grantholder University
- Maybe, English versions of presentations (if available) could be sent in advance to attendees. Anyway, overall, the participation in the meeting has been a very positive experience
- Give more time to the training
- Thank you! everything was in high level



- n/a
- So that everyone sticks to the plan
- More practical skills
- Simultaneous translations with headphones or similar - rr extra sessions only for Russian speaking countries where the non Russian speaking EU countries do not need to be present (communicated in advance). More interactive work together. Discussions about future work to be done. They need to be interactive so everybody can contribute
- Maybe to prolong meeting period for 6 working days
- using new information technology in group team working in education
- Simultaneous translation in english and russian
- to organize the transfer, hotels by recommendation (in Tashkent we were forgotten at the airport, the hotel by recommendation of Tashkent coordinators were terrible). Good luck) and thanks to Steffi for evaluation)
- Insist with the English language and multimedia presentations
- More teamwork
- group work
- future meetings were also interesting and productive
- more better working based on practice
- Test Wi-Fi with 50 users
- I want the meetings to be like in Ruse
- More meeting like this
- more practice work
- Meetings should be in Central Asia
- Accommodation could be a bit closer to the university
- Thanks to the hosts for brilliant organization
- No comments, everything is fine
- I suggest that the next meeting would be more practical
- N/A

2 CONCLUSION

Overall, there is very positive feedback from meeting participants, with a high satisfactory score. Anyway, there are some valid suggestions to enhance next project meetings such:

- This is high priority for project and it repeats from very first meeting in Ruse:
 - Presentations in English language!
 - Using language - more English in consortium!
- Better organisation of social events
- Better Wi-Fi connection



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- And there are first time responders who strongly disagree with:
Optimum place, space meeting, presentation tools, connection etc.