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



REPORT ON THE 6TH PROJECT MEETING

**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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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>
IUHD	– <i>International University for the Humanities and Development</i>
TITU	– <i>Oguz Han Engineering and Technology University of Turkmenistan</i>
SEIT	– <i>State Power Engineering Institute of Turkmenistan</i>



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



INTRODUCTION

The 6th HiEdTec meeting held online 18th November 2021 due to Covid-19 pandemic as replacement of originally planned meeting in **Kyrgyzstan** with following Agenda:

Bulgaria – 10:00 local time, Portugal – 08:00 local time , Italy and Luxembourg – 09:00 local time , Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan – 13:00 local time, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan – 14:00 local time.

	Opening Speaker: Angel Smrikarov, Coordinator of HiEdTec
10:10 – 10:20	Greetings Speaker: Academician Hristo Beloev, Rector of the University of Ruse
10:20 – 10:40	Brief introducing all partner universities
10:40 – 10:50	Information about the participation of the project HiEdTec in Erasmus+ Capacity Building in Higher Education Online Fair in October Speaker: Anastasiya Aliyasova
10:50 – 11:00	Film about HiEdTec in Kazakhstan
11:00 – 11:10	Presenting the Innovative Educational Technologies Center and Active Learning Classrooms of Oguz han Engineering and Technology University of Turkmenistan Speaker: Rovshen Ishangulyev
11:10 -11:40	Presenting a Distance Learning Concept Speaker: Angel Smrikarov
11:40 – 12:00	Discussion
12:00 – 12:20	Virtual coffee or/and sandwich break
12:20 – 12:30	Guidelines about developing web-based courses Speaker: Tzvetomir Vassilev
12:30 – 12:45	Presentation of the web based course “Mathematical problems in the electric power industry” – Kyrgyz State Technical University named after I. Razzakov Speaker: Nurzat Taabaldieva
12:45 – 13:00	Presentation of the web based course “Introduction to Web Technologies (Front-End Development)” – Ala-Too International University Speaker: Ruslan Isaev



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13:00 – 13:15	Presentation of the web based course “Quality audit” – Almaty Technological University Speaker: Mira Serikkyzy
13:15 – 13:45	Discussion
13:45 – 14:00	Financial matters Speaker: Stoyanka Smrikarova
14:00 – 14:15	Discussion
14:15 – 14:30	View of the external project evaluator Speaker: Robert Janz
14:30 – 14:45	Any other business - develop a Sustainable academic network
14:45	Taking a common photograph
09:30 – 10:00 Bulgaria Time	Entering and “taking a seat” in the virtual classroom. When entering the hall, the microphone is automatically muted. If someone wants to take the floor, they must first turn on their microphone.
10:00 – 10:10	Closing :-)





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



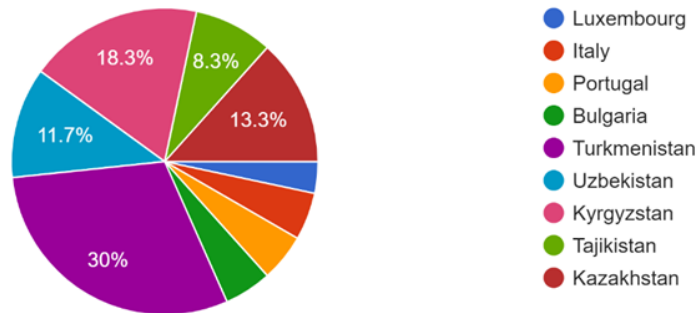
1 HiEdTec 6TH PROJECT MEETING FEEDBACK, ONLINE

Based on consortium agreement, University of Luxembourg 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 60 partners responding and they evaluated the quality of the sixth HiEdTec meeting Online, Kyrgyzstan.

The evaluation questions were the following:

1. Which country are you from?

60 responses

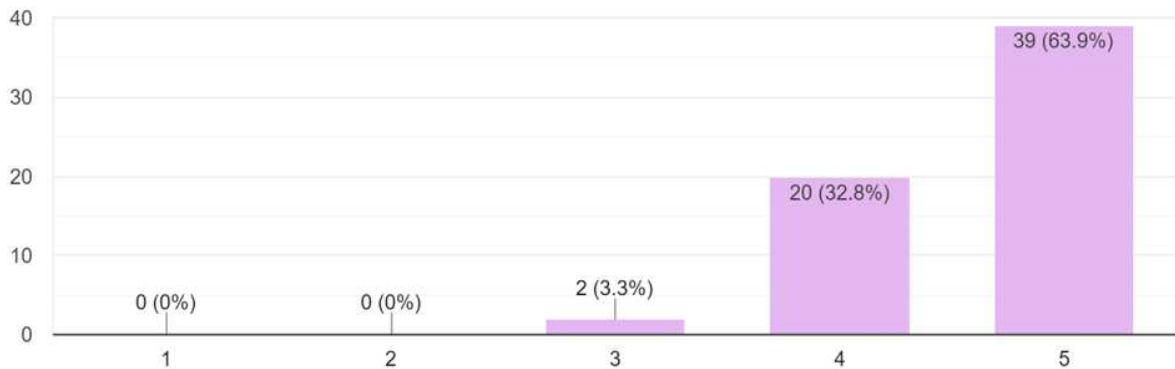


We get 60 responses what is maximum from beginning of the project. Partners of the project used to use answering questionnaires and validating quality of the meetings. This is in line with Project Quality management.



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.

61 responses



- The meeting validate 61 partners with 63,9% of participants found meeting extremely productive, 32,8% high productive and 2,3% as productive
- Overall there is slightly increasing satisfaction of responder's compare especially for high productive and productive. Especially in the view that current and previous meeting were online.

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

40 responses

- I got all rules about web based course.
- The quality of the presentations and the evident engagement of all the people present or online.
- The meeting was very nice organized!
- Although it occurred online, the meeting provided a clear idea about the current status of the project, illustrating the achievements of the various partners.
- I believe this meeting enables us to see the progress of the work being carried out, namely as regards the development of e-learning courses. It also fostered motivation among partner countries that are still behind on course development but that will have to fulfil this task very soon to meet the deadlines.



- Although there were some connection problems, I think partners that still didn't develop their courses got a clear idea about what it is expected from them.
- Despite the fact that the meeting was held online, there was enough opportunity and time to discuss about the meeting issues.
- .Everyone was able to learn about the progress of the others, which is very important in the current advanced stage of the project.
- The meeting was very productive since this was a very good platform for exchanging experiences.
- For us such type of meetings have a huge importance since we get opportunity to talk with foreign partners.
- The meeting was very good organized!
- It was very informative.
- Meeting environment was friendly.
- Necessary measures were taken.
- All partners presented what was done.
- Clarification and information about a course development and financial part of the project was helpful to manage project.
- The meeting was mainly to review progress and give hints to CA partners how to develop their web based courses. Three partners demonstrated their ready courses that meet requirements, which was a good example.
- We had things too discuss and motivation to fresh restart some process.
- I guess, all tasks prepared and performed in right way.
- The most basic problems of the project were considered and answers to all questions were received.
- Acquainted with the experience of other partners in the development of courses.
- If the meeting had been in English it would have been more productive.
- The rally was well organized.
- Partner universities has shared with there experience of creating web courses.
- It was interesting.
- Project did a large step in the progress.
- I have some problems with connection.
- The outcome of the meeting contributes to:
 - high-quality development of electronic courses
 - improving the quality of higher education
- Everything was clear and understandable.
- The issues of interest to me were discussed.
- The productivity of the meeting was duly.
- Because our coordinators are very responsible and request everything from us to be done on time.
- Got a lot of useful.



- I think that listening to each other's opinions in a discussion and concluding as a team always shows a high level.
- The meeting environment was friendly.
- Such meetings help us to see the interim situation of the progress. Everything was organized in a perfect way.

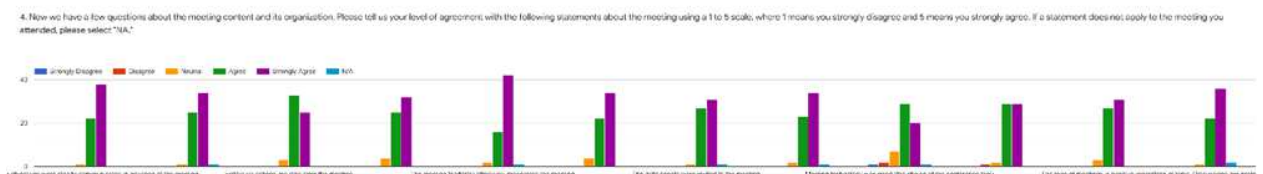
4. Now we have a few questions about the meeting content and its organization. Please tell us your level of agreement with the following statements about the meeting using a 1 to 5 scale, where 1 means you strongly disagree and 5 means you strongly agree. If a statement does not apply to the meeting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

The questions structure and answers:

- The meeting objectives were clearly communicated in advance of the meeting
 - 38 responders from 61 strongly agreed
 - 22 responders agreed
 - 1 stayed neutral
- The meeting objectives were met
 - 34 responders from 61 strongly agreed
 - 25 responders agreed
 - 1 responder stayed neutral
 - 1 responder N/A
- Follow-up actions resulted from the meeting
 - 33 responders from 61 strongly agreed
 - 25 responders agreed
 - 3 responders stayed neutral
- Owners of follow-up actions were assigned
 - 32 responders from 61 strongly agreed
 - 25 responders agreed
 - 4 responders stayed neutral
- The meeting leader(s) effectively moderated the meeting
 - 42 responders from 61 strongly agreed
 - 16 responders agreed
 - 2 responders stayed neutral
 - 1 responder N/A
- Meeting attendees had an opportunity to participate
 - 34 responders from 60 strongly agreed
 - 22 responders agreed
 - 4 responders stayed neutral
- The right people were invited to the meeting



- 31 responders from 60 strongly agreed
- 27 responders agreed
- 1 responder stayed neutral
- 1 responder N/A
- Participants know what is expected of them in advanced and are ready to contribute
 - 34 responders from 60 strongly agreed
 - 23 responders agreed
 - 2 responders stayed neutral
 - 1 responders N/A
- Meeting technologies (computers, projectors, screens, phones) are working, prompted, and ready to go. Remote attendees included.
 - 20 responders from 60 strongly agreed
 - 29 responders agreed
 - 7 responders stayed neutral
 - 1 responder N/A
 - 2 responders disagree
 - 1 responder strongly disagree
- Meetings are practical, dynamic and interactive. Participants are involved, excited, empowered and informed
 - 29 responders from 61 strongly agreed
 - 29 responders agreed
 - 2 responders stayed neutral
 - 1 responder disagree
- There is a sense of accomplishment and a feeling of progress. People look forward to meetings that assist their work
 - 31 participants from 61 strongly agree
 - 27 participants agree
 - 3 responders stayed neutral
- The tone of meetings is positive regardless of topic. Discussions are professional, respectful, all opinions valued
 - 36 responders from 61 strongly agreed
 - 22 responders agree
 - 1 responder stayed neutral
 - 2 responders N/A



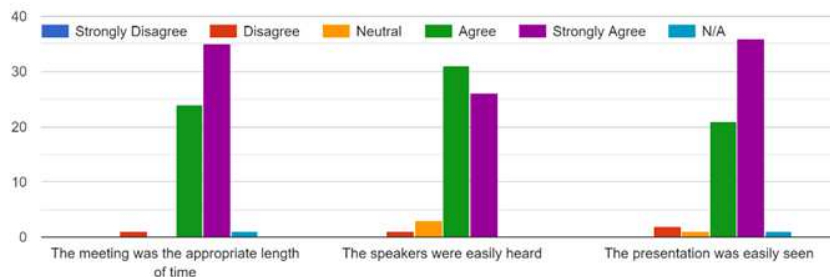


5. We would also like your feedback on the meeting logistics. Please tell us your level of agreement with the following statements using a 1 to 5 scale, where 1 means you strongly disagree and 5 means you strongly agree. If a statement does not apply to the meeting you attended, please select "NA."

The questions structure and answers:

- The meeting was the appropriate length of time
 - 35 responders from 61 strongly agree
 - 24 responders agree
 - 1 responder N/A
 - 1 responder disagree
- The speakers were easily heard
 - 26 responders from 61 strongly agree
 - 31 responders agree
 - 3 responders stayed neutral
 - 1 responder disagree
- The presentation was easily seen
 - 36 responders from 61 strongly agree
 - 21 responders agree
 - 1 responder stayed neutral
 - 1 responder N/A
 - 2 responders disagree

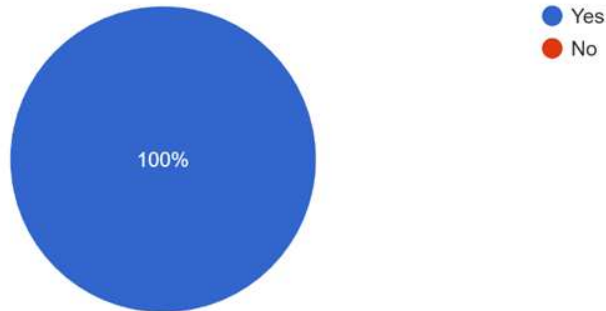
5. We would also like your feedback on the meeting logistics. Please tell us your level of agreement with the following statements using a 1 to 5 scale, ...ly to the meeting you attended, please select "NA."





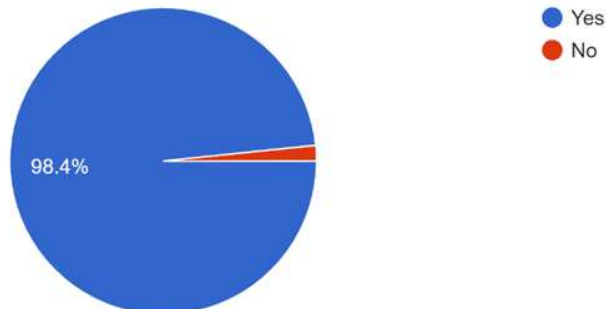
6. Did the meeting start on time?

60 responses



7. Did the meeting end on time?

61 responses



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

36 responses

- Experience exchange.
- The Ruse University organized meeting in high level.
- the involvement of participants.
- Efficiency, participation of all partners, except representatives of two ministries.
- The positive and proactive attitude of the participants, as well as the excellent management by the organizers.
- Planning and fulfilment of the plan for the meeting. Follow-up on project activities.
- The overall collaborative atmosphere.
- Agenda of the meeting.



- It was focused on getting the planned result.
- Web based courses.
- The sense of friendship and collaboration.
- It was good to get the latest updates about project implementation.
- It was a long time since we had a chance to meet face-to-face, that's why it was another opportunity to get the chance for discussions.
- Everything.
- Presentations of the new centers and courses.
- The meeting wasn't very long, but met its objectives.
- See and speak to each other about future work.
- Experience by other digital educational centers.
- The effectiveness of the meeting lies in the fact that all issues related to our project are considered.
- Whole the meeting was effective.
- The new approaches on the learning platform.
- Exchange of experience.
- I got more specific knowledge about create online course.
- The fact that partners can present their developed courses.
- Agreements.
- Sharing experience.
- New methods.
- Well structured and orchestrated meeting.
- Introduction of courses.
- Coordination.
- I was satisfied with everything.
- The efficiency of the meeting was well, as we could share all the concern regarding the project.
- That we could address all our questions.
- Clearly defined tasks.
- Discussions on issues..

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

31 responses

- Nothing.
- That it was not in presence.
- Difficult online link of the partners from Turkmenistan. Non - participation of representatives of ministries in the discussions.



- A few small technical problems that sometimes didn't allow the speakers to be heard well (besides the fact that some presentations were in Russian - which, however, was a relative problem, since the slides were in English).
- The fact that most participants do not present in English and this does not make it easy for European partners to participate.
- Some difficulties with connection. The presentations in Russian are difficult to follow by people that doesn't speak the language (although I understand the reason to use it)
- There were no weak points.
- Some (few) presentations were not completely clear (not only because they were not in English, but also for the organization of the slides).
- Overall, there were no any problems.
- Nothing.
- Problem still the language. Mostly in Russian. Was much better though this time. Some more text on slides, not only pictures and more translations done.
- That not all participants had ability to switch on their cams to be seeing by others.
- It is necessary to take more information about information technologies used in European universities.
- New methods for creating the platforms.
- The fact that the presentations were mostly in English.
- Time.
- As long as the time of meeting the internet connection was bad, some parts of the meeting I could not see.
- My connection.
- Selected software.
- Everything was fine.
- All equally effective.
- Almost noting.
- Some problems with connection.

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

29 responses

- Hope to see all partners in the next meeting face to face.
- Let us hope for the end of Covid!
- We have a wish that the next meeting will be face to face!
- If possible make face to face meeting.
- There should be considered future cooperation or joint projects.
- Zoom or MS teams will be better.
- We wish that all participants will be able to participate in the future meetings.
- We want more participants to be in the future meetings.



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- Missing face to face meetings.
- Another meeting environment can be chosen.
- It will be good, if we can organize a face to face meeting.
- More collaboration and discussion of work.
- It's just my opinion, but I think using Zoom on the next online meeting will be better. Accepting that most partner countries use Zoom on on-line meetings.
- To organize discussing sections.
- Offline meetings will be better.
- I want to meeting face to face.
- I hope to have the next meeting offline.
- My suggestion is to use other technology .
- Hopefully personal meeting in the future.
- All is good.
- Please, select more available communication software.
- Looking forward to face to face meetings.
- We wish we could dedicate more time to inter discussions.
- To adjust the time (maybe).
- I think everything going in right way. For sure face to face meetings is much better. Hope later we'll have such opportunity 😊.
- Improve quality.



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2 CONCLUSION

Overall, we get most answers after the project meeting.

The outcome is very positive feedback from meeting participants, with a high satisfactory score, especially in the condition caused with Covid-19 pandemic and just online communication.

The project did large progress and the project partners highly appreciate the achievements of the project.

The whole meeting was online without any connection problem.

Anyway, a lot of partners are asking for personal meetings in the future.