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**MODERNISATION OF HIGHER EDUCATION
IN CENTRAL ASIA
THROUGH NEW TECHNOLOGIES
(HiEdTec)**



EVALUATION OF THE COURSES FOR TRAINERS FOR THE ACQUISITION OF DIGITAL SKILLS AND INNOVATIVE TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS OF TURKMENISTAN

**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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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The quality and benefits of the trainings for the acquisition of digital skills and innovative teaching and learning methods was evaluated considering the specific conditions in Turkmenistan.

An Evaluation of the institutional and online courses for the acquisition of digital skills and innovative teaching and learning methods will reflect the opinions of the participants. The aim of this evaluation is to determine whether the conducted trainings will be useful in higher educational institutions of Turkmenistan. This evaluation report will be annexed to the progress reports.

The courses were carried out in accordance with the project of Modernization of Higher Education System in Central Asia through new technologies (HiEdTec), WP5.7. Evaluation of the courses for trainers for the acquisition of digital skills and innovative teaching and learning methods in Turkmenistan.



INTRODUCTION

The purpose of evaluation was to collect feedback about the institutional and online courses for the acquisition of digital skills and innovative teaching and learning methods.

The institutional courses or trainings of the trainers were in Turkmen language and the main goal was to teach the lecturers about using learning management system such as Moodle in the education process and implementing the useful features of the system in the classes.

Online courses for the acquisition of digital skills and innovative teaching and learning methods were also attended by Turkmen partners as well and in the proceeding, the attendants prepared video lectures related to their courses in Turkmen language. The prepared video lectures were uploaded to the educational portal of each higher educational institution. Thus, the trainings were beneficial in delivering the knowledge to the students.

Trainers use the taught skills in improving their teaching methods and they admit that these trainings were indeed fruitful and beneficial for them.

Moreover, the trainings were also recorded and uploaded to the institutional portal so that lecturers other than the trainers can also reach the courses and learn the methods of using LMS Moodle on their own. During the trainings almost all the necessary steps of preparing effective video lectures and appropriate programs, using learning management system and implementing this knowledge in the lectures were taught.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Under the wise leadership of the Esteemed President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov, in our country, along with all sectors, the education system is developing both on an innovative and on a technological basis. Currently, with the development of computer technology, data exchange has taken on new forms. In this regard, on September 15, 2017, “The Concept for the Development of the Digital Education System of Turkmenistan” was adopted by the Decree of the President of Turkmenistan. The main goal of the Concept is to provide access to a wide range of learners to electronic, digital data, improve the necessary information and educational environment, and develop digital education system. Also, in our country, “The Concept for the Development of the Digital Economy for 2019-2025” was adopted by the Decree of the President of Turkmenistan. In consideration that in the modern information age Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and computer technology is developing rapidly.

In order to create and develop a digital educational system, it is essential to maintain its propitious software and technical. First of all, the network is created and the connection to this network is ensured. Then the server is connected in order to host electronic information resources on the network, i.e. lecture notes, manuals, books, video files, presentations and images. After installing the software and the corresponding server operating system, access to information resources is provided through the educational portal. Thus, network users will be able to use available resources using any browser.



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International projects on the introduction and development of a digital educational environment are also being conducted in the higher educational institutions of our country. One of them is the international project “Modernization of Higher Education in Central Asia through New - Technologies - HiEdTec”.

The duration of the program is 3 years, during which it is planned to implement all the tasks assigned. In turn, this is one of the types of activities for the implementation of “The Concept for the Development of the Digital Education System of Turkmenistan” approved by the Decree of the Esteemed President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov, as well as the study of international experience in this direction.

Adaptation of Higher Education to the digital generation on the basis of ICTs can play a crucial role in transforming teaching, learning and research practices for educators and students, in a top-quality 21st-century education system. Therefore, it is important to continue to develop skills and knowledge in order to keep pace with the constant innovations and new developments in the digital world. At the same time, the use of ICTs will significantly improve education management culture. The activity of scientific and methodological centers, departments, faculties, educational departments and other structural units in educational institutions requires the introduction of innovative approaches in the area of education.

The main goal of the project is to adapt the education system in the partner countries to the digital generation by introducing and effectively using innovative educational technologies and didactic models (IET & DM) based on ICT in the educational process.

The consortium consists of 24 full partners - universities from 4 EU countries and 5 PCs.

The project will help transform partner higher education institutions into innovative universities and improve the quality of trained specialists needed to carry out the digital transformation of industries (Industry 4.0).



HiEdTEC QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS

General Information

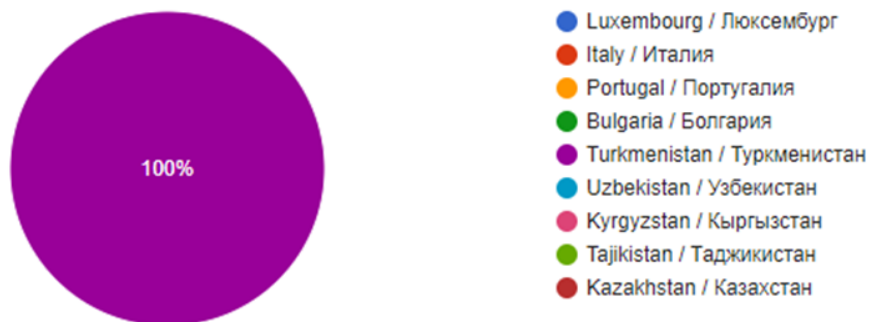
We received 18 answer to our questionnaire:

1. Which country are you from?

Turkmenistan -18 responses

1. Which country are you from? 1. Какую страну вы представляете?

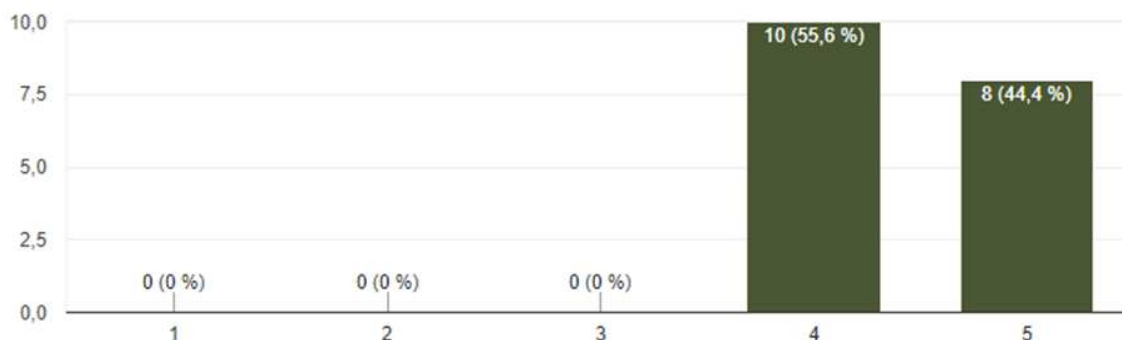
18 ответов



2. Overall, please tell us how well structured the training courses were - 1 means not at all well structured and 5 means extremely well structured.

2. Overall, please tell us how well structured the training courses were - 1 means not at all well structured and 5 means extremely well structured. 2. В целом, пожалуйста, сообщите нам, насколько хорошо структурированы учебные курсы - 1 означает не совсем хорошо структурированные и 5 означает очень хорошо структурированные

18 ответов



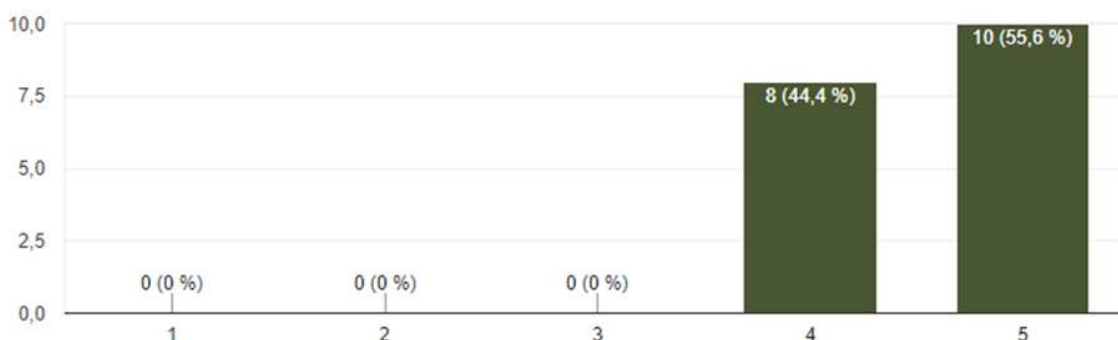


From 18 answers 44,4% of the responders find the structure of training courses extremely well-structured, 55,6 % as well structured.

3. Please tell us how you rate the quality using a 1 to 5 scale where 1 means very bad and 5 means extremely good.

3. Please tell us how you rate the quality using a 1 to 5 scale where 1 means very bad and 5 means extremely good. 3. Пожалуйста, расскажите нам, как вы оцениваете качество по шкале от 1 до 5, где 1 означает очень плохо, а 5 - очень хорошо.

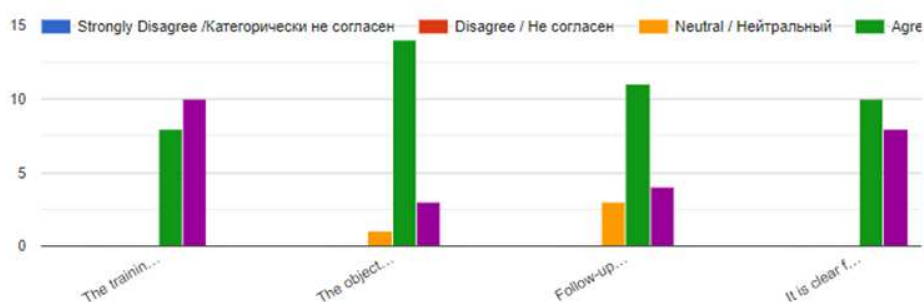
18 ответов



There were 18 answers for this question, from which 55,6 % find the quality of the training course extremely good, 44,4% as very good.

4. Now we have a few questions about the objectives of the trainings. Please tell us your level of agreement with the following statements about the training courses, 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 you, please select "NA."

4. Now we have a few questions about the objectives of the trainings. Please tell us your level of agreement with the following statements about the training courses, 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 you, please select "NA." 4. Теперь у нас есть несколько вопросов о целях тренингов. Пожалуйста, сообщите нам свой уровень согласия со следующими утверждениями о курсах обучения, используя шкалу от 1 до 5, где 1 означает, что вы категорически не согласны, а 5 означает, что вы полностью согласны. Если заявление к вам не относится, выберите «Нет».





The structure of the questions were following:

- The training objectives were clearly communicated
 - 10 responders from 18 strongly agreed
 - 8 responders agreed
- The objectives were met
 - 3 responders from 18 strongly agreed
 - 14 responders agreed
 - 1 responders neutral
- Follow-up actions resulted from the trainings
 - 4 responders from 18 strongly agreed
 - 11 responders agreed
 - 3 responder neutral
- It is clear for what the training is needed
 - 8 responders from 18 strongly agreed
 - 10 responders agreed
- The right people were addressed with the trainings
 - 11 responders from 18 strongly agreed
 - 7 responders agreed
- The technical equipment has been explained sufficiently
 - 5 responders from 18 strongly agreed
 - 12 responders agreed
 - 1 responders neutral
- The technical equipment is exactly the one explained in the trainings
 - 4 responders from 18 strongly agreed
 - 10 responders agreed
 - 4 responder neutral
- I use the skills I learned during the training in my institution
 - 5 responders from 18 strongly agreed
 - 12 responders agreed
 - 1 responder neutral
- I can correctly use and explain what I have learned during the trainings in my classroom
 - 8 responders from 18 strongly agreed
 - 10 responders agreed
- The trainings are exactly what was needed in the Institution to advance the learning processes
 - 4 responders from 18 strongly agreed
 - 13 responders agreed
 - 1 responder neutral
- The trainings provided help to develop the teaching in an innovative way
 - 5 responders from 18 strongly agreed
 - 13 responders agreed



- The students profit from the new innovative teaching
 - 7 responders from 18 strongly agreed
 - 11 responders agreed

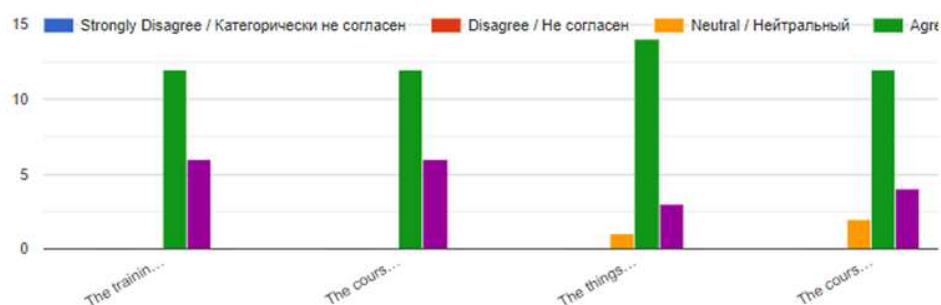
- 5. We would also like your feedback on the outcome of the trainings. Please tell us your level of agreement with the following statements using a 1 to 5 scale, where 1 means you strongly disagree and 5 means you strongly agree.

- The trainings will have an impact
 - 6 responders from 18 strongly agreed
 - 12 responders agreed
- The courses were useful for the teaching at my Institution
 - 6 responders from 18 strongly agreed
 - 12 responders agreed
- The things I have learned in the courses will help me to attract better students to the institution
 - 3 responders from 18 strongly agreed
 - 14 responders agreed
 - 1 responder neutral
- The courses will help me to create innovative teaching inside the institution
 - 4 responders from 18 strongly agreed
 - 12 responders agreed
 - 2 responders neutral
- The learned information helps me to hold more interesting classes
 - 3 responders from 18 strongly agreed
 - 12 responders agreed
 - 3 responders N/A
- The courses help me to please the needs of my students better
 - 8 responders from 18 strongly agreed
 - 8 responders agreed
 - 2 responder neutral
- The courses deliver exactly the result that I expected when we started the project
 - 5 responders from 18 strongly agreed
 - 13 responders agreed
- The courses make my life as a teacher easier
 - 6 responders from 18 strongly agreed
 - 4 responders agreed
 - 8 responder neutral
- The learned information makes teaching more fun
 - 6 responders from 18 strongly agreed
 - 12 responders agreed
- The new learned methods make students learn better



- 6 responders from 18 strongly agreed
- 11 responders agreed
- 1 responder neutral
- The students seem to have more fun during the classes when I teach them in the new innovative way
 - 5 responders from 18 strongly agreed
 - 13 responders agreed

5. We would also like your feedback on the outcome of the trainings. 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. 5. Мы также хотели бы получить ваши отзывы о результатах тренингов. Сообщите нам свой уровень согласия со следующими утверждениями по шкале от 1 до 5, где 1 означает, что вы категорически не согласны, а 5 означает, что вы полностью согласны.



6. If the training was not what you expected, what would you have expected?

The answers were written in English. From 18 responders only 5 wrote their opinion.

- Courses met all my expectations.
- Expectation met
- Training was what i expected!
- Everything was organized in a professional and smooth way.
- All outcomes met the expectations.

7. If you disagree with any of the point above in No.5 or 6, please comment here mentioning the reasons.

The answers were written in English. 4 responders from 18.

- I agree with all statements.
- no disagreement
- I agree with all points
- No disagreements.

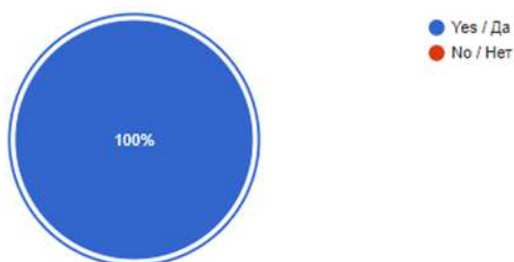


8. Were the training courses given on time?

From 18 responders 100% choose yes.

8. Were the training courses given on time? 8. Были ли учебные курсы проведены вовремя?

18 ответов

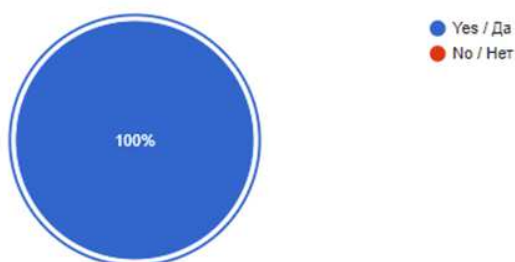


9. Did you get the chance for comments and criticism?

From 18 responders 100 % choose yes.

9. Did you get the chance for comments and criticism? 9. Вы получили возможность для комментариев и критики?

18 ответов



10. If the answer to question 10 was no, what comments or criticism would you have on the training courses?

The answers were written in English. 1 responders from 18.

- My answer was YES.

11. Any other comments:

The answers were written in English. From 18 responders only 7 wrote their opinion.

- I would like to appreciate everyone who took part in the preparation and deliver issues of the courses.
- No more comments



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- Further trainings should be conducted using Zoom or BBB technology in a real time
- Organizing online video courses would be better
- It was very productive!
- It was a positive experience.
- Trainings were interesting. Programming-based training should also be carried out which can be implemented in digital education.

CONCLUSION

This report is an evaluation of the institutional and online courses for the acquisition of digital skills and innovative teaching and learning methods. As a result, trainers learned how to organize innovative courses based on digital skills, how to benefit from Moodle learning management system and how to prepare effective video lectures.

We selected the questionnaire as a methodology for assessing the quality of work and evaluating results for future deliverables.

We can conclude from answers that:

- The structure of the training courses was well-organized;
- The quality of the training was very high;
- The quality of the layout and content was very good;
- The level of achieved objectives of the training was very high;
- Chance for comments, criticism and timing was provided well;
- The training was very useful for all users.