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DISSEMINATION REPORT

DIGITAL STORIES - Reducing Early School Leaving by Increasing Academic Achievement with Digital Applications in Storytelling Techniques

2022-1-TR01-KA220-SCH-000087898



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INTRODUCTION

DIGITAL STORIES - Reducing Early School Leaving by Increasing Academic Achievement with Digital Applications in Storytelling Techniques is a project funded by Turkish National Agency. It has partnership 6 European Union Programme countries. Among the partners, there are BAFRA İLÇE MİLLİ EĞİTİM MÜDÜRLÜĞÜ (Türkiye-the coordinator), EUROPEAN TRAINING AND RESEARCH ASSOCIATION FOR A COOPERATION KEY TO BUSINESS (Italy), VIRTUAL CAMPUS LDA (Portugal), YILDIZ TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY (Türkiye), UNIVERZA V LJUBLJANI (Slovenia) and ATATÜRK ÇAĞDAŞ YAŞAM ÇOK PROGRAMLI ANADOLU LİSESİ (Türkiye). The project started on the 31.12.2022 and lasted for 24 months till the 30.12.2024.

The main objective of our project is to prevent early school leaving by helping the student develop a positive attitude towards the lessons in which he/she has a negative attitude due to the subjects he/she has learning difficulties. In our project, we created a Digital Storytelling Techniques Training Module with Multi-Sensory Learning Model to improve students' four skills (listening-speaking-reading-writing) that form the basic dynamics of their learning processes. We aimed to ensure that students continue to school by reducing the problems that cause students to have learning difficulties due to the lack of these skills and to leave the school by getting away from the lessons. When this problem of students with learning difficulties decreases, their academic success will increase and their school attendance rate will increase.

Another goal of our project is to develop a new teaching model and approach to support teachers professionally. Professional equipment of teachers will be increased with learning modules, teacher guides and online learning platform, which are among the project products. Thus, it is expected that the academic success of the students will increase by providing a better and higher quality education to the students. The school attendance rate of students whose academic success increases will also increase. Another goal of our project is to contribute to the development of the student's key competencies by using digital content, technology and applications. It is expected that the key competencies of the students will increase with the new learning model that will be created by combining animation and video tools with the Storytelling technique. One of the other objectives of the project is to increase cooperation between project partner institutions and stakeholder institutions, thus improving institutional capacities and increasing internationalization.



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We have 5 Work Packages in Digital Stories project:

- 1) WP1 - Project Management
- 2) WP2-"Digital Storytelling Techniques " Training Programme
- 3) WP3 : Online interactive learning/teaching platform
- 4) WP4 : "Recommendation Programme"
- 5) WP5 : Evaluation Programme (Conferences,workshops,meetings)

This project dissemination report includes the necessary information on the dissemination activities of Digital Stories Project. It covers the background information of the Digital Stories Project, information on partners, information on dissemination plan (what, why, whom, how, tools to be used, rules to be cared). Moreover, it includese the partners' dissemination reports and a general revision at the end to understand how many people reached the project, whether it reached the intended number etc. This document has been created with the feedback of all partners.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Storytelling has remained an educational tool until today. Storytelling is the transfer of the past, present and future in a real or unreal way using language and gestures in a certain sequence (Gere, Kozolvich, & Kelin, 2002; Chung, 2007). Storytelling is a powerful pedagogical approach used to disseminate learning outcomes in the education of general, scientific and technological subjects (Sharda, 2007). Storytelling is also a preferred way by educators to better explain complex ideas, concepts, or information to students. Today, individuals continue to tell stories by using new digital media tools. However, with the modernization process that overturned traditional lifestyles, news and information based on individual relations left its place to mass communication and storytellers inevitably disappeared. "In the 19th and 20th centuries, which started to industrialize at an increasing rate, In addition to the need for character forming organs other than the family for the socialization of newly born people in their societies, the ability of adult people to receive information and news about the world and various phenomena of social life that they may need in order to keep their social relations functioning properly and effectively has also changed. These people's learning about the world has started to happen through the new form of communication we call Mass Communication" (Oskay, 2000). Our project has emerged with the aim of transferring the experiences and experiences of the past to the students, who are the stakeholders of education, on



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digital story creation platforms (iMovie, Slide.ly, Powtoon, Animoto, Storyjumper etc.) as a teaching model in the digital age. Our experts, who have a lot of experience in this field, are very eager to share their knowledge. Our digitally competent experts are very willing to transfer their experience in using different methods to the instructors who undertake the task of educating the generations in the age of education born in a digital world with the tools of their own age. The instructors we will provide training in the digital story creation workshops will discover how to learn while teaching, how to create stories with the digital language and digital language used by the generation they teach, and the entertaining and educational side of the story, thanks to this training. Thanks to this training, the negative attitudes of students who are at risk of learning difficulties towards the school environment and their resistance to learning will be eliminated. In case the necessary financing is provided for the necessary equipment and workshop equipment for this education model, modules and programs will be created to eliminate the risks in the educational environment, and a positive process will be created to ensure that students with learning difficulties do not break away from the education environment.

PROJECT PARTNERS

- BAFRA İLÇE MİLLİ EĞİTİM MÜDÜRLÜĞÜ (The Coordinator) TÜRKİYE
- EUROPEAN TRAINING AND RESEARCH ASSOCIATION FOR A COOPERATION KEY TO BUSINESS (The Partner) ITALY
- VIRTUAL CAMPUS LDA (The partner) POTUGAL
- YILDIZ TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY (The Partner) TÜRKİYE
- UNIVERZA V LJUBLJANI (The Partner) SLOVENIA
- ATATÜRK ÇAĞDAŞ YAŞAM ÇOK PROGRAMLI ANADOLU LİSESİ (The Partner) TÜRKİYE



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DISSEMINATION REPORT

Digital Stories Project dissemination activities aimed to reach all stakeholder groups, both direct and indirect, and widely promote all project outcomes, both tangible and intangible, including methodological frameworks, software tools, supporting content, and evaluation results. Outcomes were presented to each stakeholder group in a manner that addresses specific interests and needs.

Target Groups

The main target group of our project consists of students aged 6-18 who are at risk of leaving school and primary and secondary school teachers who need new expression techniques. The final beneficiaries of our project are universities, local and national educational institutions, decision makers, policy makers and NGOs operating in the field of education. Although this group is defined as the final beneficiary, they will also be direct beneficiaries by sending participants to conferences and workshops.

Dissemination Indicators-Success Indicators

- The number of articles published in traditional media, such as TV and newspapers, and an estimation of the breadth of audiences reached through these publications
- The number of presentations delivered to stakeholders in the context of dissemination
- The number of internet news published in thematic portals
- The number of visits to the project portal
- Number of learners to be engaged in pilot implementations
- Number of teachers to be engaged in pilot implementations
- Number of newsletters to be prepared (4),
- Number of articles published in media, the internet, and other news outlets (at least 1 per country, but more are expected)
- The number of educational providers reached through dissemination activities through all channels
- The number of educators reached through dissemination activities through all channels
- The number of learners reached through dissemination activities through all channels
- The number of registered users to the e-learning platform
- The number of visitors to the e-learning platform
- The number of visitors to social media accounts.
- The number of participants to small scale meeting with the stakeholders



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Dissemination Tools

The project was introduced in the project partner institutions as follows;

- meetings with institution employees
- messages sent via communication tools
- active participation in activities
- internal correspondence

The tools to be used for the promotion and dissemination of the project locally, regionally, nationally and internationally areas follows;

- project website
- project social media accounts
- brochures, posters, flyers
- news in local and national media
- online learning platform
- sharing project results and products on the Erasmus+ project results platform
- Sharing the project in the relevant areas of the School Education Gateway and E-Twinning platforms
- Presentation of the "Recommendation Program", which is among the project products, to the Ministries of Education
- Organizing small-scale meetings, conferences and workshops with relevant stakeholders
- Presentation of the project at the meetings where the people of the region are invited
- Presentation of the project on the websites and social media accounts of the project partner institutions
- Other dissemination materials (such as rollup, flags, etc.)

Digital Stories Project Website (<https://www.digitalstories-project.eu/>)

The development and maintenance of a project website was a key dissemination activity. A first version was available in the early months of the project implementation period. It was updated throughout project implementation with information on project activities and results and is being maintained after the completion of the project. The portal disseminates information such as project objectives, outputs, dissemination activities, events, reports, digital services, organized events, and more.



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https://www.digitalstories-project.eu

Home Outputs Partners News Contact Platform

Reducing Early School Leaving by Increasing Academic Achievement with Digital Applications in Storytelling Techniques

The Digital Stories project aims to reduce students' early school leaving by supporting the teachers professionally with learning difficulties by using digital techniques based on a multi-sensory learning model and storytelling technique.

By making the educational environment more attractive, students who drop out of school due to this anxiety and negative attitude make peace with the educational environment again. In particular, the project intends to reach the following results:

- Decreased dropout rates of students with learning difficulties.
- Increasing the professional development of teachers with new tools and methods.
- Active use of the 'Recommendation Program', including the Digital Storytelling curriculum.
- Developing the professional capacity of teachers thanks to the online learning platform.
- Increasing the capacity of educational institutions.

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The project portal promotes information on project goals, activities, outcomes (interim and final), events, and more. It targets general audiences, presenting information in an easy to understand way. The project portal makes freely accessible to all interested parties project results, including reports, leaflets, software, information on dissemination events, media publications and more. It is in all partner languages (Turkish, Italian, Portuguese, Slovenian) and English.

Project Newsletters

The newsletters targets general audiences and includes information on the current status of the project implementation. Depending on the implementation phase of the project, it presents framework, learning module, learning platform, evaluation information, dissemination information, events, and more.



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During the project implementation process, a total of 4 newsletters were created in 6-month periods. A responsible partner was determined for the preparation of each newsletter. Newsletters were first prepared in English and then translated into the languages of the partner countries. Newsletters were shared with stakeholders via the project website, e-mail, social media accounts, etc.



First newsletter

21/07/2023

Link : https://www.digitalstories-project.eu/upload/web_comp/add/doc/000002277_1698931861.pdf



Second newsletter

19/02/2024

Link : https://www.digitalstories-project.eu/upload/web_comp/add/doc/000002282_1708329060.pdf



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NEWSLETTER

Newsletter 3

Activities in the project from December 2023 to April 2024

WP1 Teachers Training

TEACHERS TRAINING in Ljubljana-Slovenia

From the 18th to the 22nd of April 2024, educators and trainers from the partner's countries congregated in the city of Ljubljana, Slovenia, for a transformative Trainers' Training Programme.

Hosted in Ljubljana, this five-day event was a highlight of professional development and exchange of innovative teaching methodologies.

The event kicked off on Thursday, the 18th of April, with an inaugurating session led by Mr. Osman Çakar, introducing the Digital Stories Project. Participants were captivated as they explored the potential of digital storytelling in education. Dr. Bişra Tombak İlhan then went into crucial topics such as early school leaving, school climate, friendship dynamics, bullying, and socialization, setting the tone for insightful discussions to come.

During the afternoon there was also the presentation of the Module One, Two and Three.

Friday, the 19th, was dedicated to exploring innovative teaching approaches. Dr. Jeon Juyul led a session on game-based learning, igniting participants' creativity and enthusiasm. Dr. Inna Stanovska Serbec followed with an exploration of digital storytelling, empowering trainers with tools to engage learners through narrative-driven content. The afternoon session was finished by presenting Module Four and Module Five.

Third newsletter

30/04/2024

Link : https://www.digitalstories-project.eu/upload/web_comp/add/doc/00002400_1719738301.pdf

NEWSLETTER

Newsletter 4

Activities in the project from May 2024 to December 2024

WP2 "Digital Storytelling Techniques" Training Programme – Piloting training in the Partner countries

Pilot Training in Turkey

Bafra Milli Eğitim Müdürlüğü

The training took place from May 15-16, 2024, in Bafra, Turkey, as part of the "Digital Stories" project, which aims to reduce early school leaving by enhancing academic achievement through innovative digital storytelling techniques. A total of 12 participants were involved, including 8 teachers from lower secondary schools and 4 from upper secondary schools, primarily focusing on IT and Turkish language teaching.

The training was structured over four days, combining theoretical knowledge with practical applications, allowing participants to engage in hands-on activities and develop sample lessons.

Core outcomes included overwhelmingly positive feedback regarding the effectiveness and usefulness of the digital storytelling modules, with participants expressing confidence that the skills and knowledge gained would significantly benefit their educational careers and teaching methodologies.

Yıldız Technical University

The piloting training involved 17 participants from Yıldız Technical University, including student teachers and educators at the graduate level. The sessions took place from May 17 to May 21, 2024, focusing on equipping educators with skills in digital storytelling to address early school leaving and enhance academic achievement.

The training aimed to equip educators with digital storytelling techniques to enhance their teaching practices and address early school leaving. The training involved participants who initially expressed a moderate belief in the usefulness of digital stories, with 76% finding them beneficial before the training. However, post-training results showed a significant shift, with 100% of participants recognizing the value of digital storytelling in their teaching. The training

Fourth newsletter

23/12/2024

Link : https://www.digitalstories-project.eu/upload/web_comp/add/doc/00002530_1734973037.pdf



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Project Brochure :

An information brochure was prepared, including the project's aims, objectives, target groups, work packages and activities, expected results and links. This brochure was initially prepared in English and translated into the languages of the partner institutions. It was shared with stakeholders via e-mail, website and social media accounts.



PROJECT BROCHURE

Link : https://www.digitalstories-project.eu/web_news-s.php?id=8

Project Poster :



Proje hedeflerini mümkün olan en fazla sayıda insana yaymak için poster tasarlandı. Çok dilli versiyonlarda (EN, TK, IT, PT, SL), proje amaçları, faaliyetleri, sonuçları ve daha fazla bilgi için iletişim bilgileri yer almaktadır. Ortaklar tarafından düzenlenen konferanslar ve etkinlikler sırasında kullanılmıştır.

Link : https://www.digitalstories-project.eu/web_news-s.php?id=4



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Project Video :

A project promotion video was prepared in English and partner country languages to be used in project events and Erasmus Days events.



PROJECT DISSEMINATION VIDEO

11/10/2023

Link : https://www.digitalstories-project.eu/web_news-s.php?id=6

Meeting with Policy Makers and Decision Makers :

Within the scope of the "Recommendation Programme" studies developed within the scope of the 4th Work Package of the project, meetings were held with policy makers, decision makers, academicians, local governments, administrators and teachers in Turkey, Portugal, Slovenia and Italy. Within the scope of these studies, a meeting was held in Turkey hosted by the Ministry of National Education with the participation of Deputy Minister of the Ministry of National Education Ms. Celile Eren ÖKTEN, Deputy General Manager of YEGİTEK, Department Heads and representatives from the project partners.

In the meeting, information was given to the participants about the project products and activities. In particular, the educational tools, online platform and recommendation program developed within the scope of the project were discussed. It was decided to form a working group on uploading these contents to the Ministry's ÖBA system.

The EU partners of the project held similar meetings with decision makers and policy makers in the field of education in their own regions.

Link: https://www.digitalstories-project.eu/web_news-s.php?id=26



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Presentation of the Project at DiPP2023 Conference

In the framework of the Thirteenth International Conference on Digital Presentation and Preservation of Cultural and Scientific Heritage—DiPP2023 aimed at presenting innovative results, research projects and applications in the field of digitisation, documentation, archiving, representation and preservation of global and national tangible and intangible cultural and scientific heritage, the Digital Stories project was presented. In addition, the article was published in the conference proceedings indexed in Scopus.



Link : https://www.digitalstories-project.eu/web_news-s.php?id=7

DiPP 2023 CONFERENCE

07/09/2023

The Presentation of the Project on Slovenian Education Network

The Project products, activities and results are published in the SLOVENIAN EDUCATION NETWORK.



Link 1 :

<https://projekt.sio.si/2023/04/07/digitalne-zgodbe/>

Link 2: https://www.digitalstories-project.eu/web_news-s.php?id=3

SLOVENIAN EDUCATION NETWORK

07/04/2023



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The Project Presentation on EPALE :

Information about the products, activities and results of the project was published on platforms such as EPALE and School Education Gateway.

European Commission | eTranslate this page | EN English | Notifications

EPALE - Electronic Platform for Adult Learning in Europe

Home | Contribute | Collaborate | Learn | MyCommunity | About

News | 22 February 2025

DIGITAL STORIES PROJECT (ERASMUS+KA220-SCH)

The Digital Stories project aims to reduce students' early school leaving by supporting the teachers professionally with learning difficulties by using digital techniques based on a multi-sensory learning model and storytelling technique. By making the educational environment more attractive, students who drop out of school due to this anxiety and negative attitude make peace with the educational environment again.

In particular, the project intends to reach the following results:

1. Decreased dropout rates of students with learning difficulties.

Link : <https://epale.ec.europa.eu/en/content/digital-stories-project-erasmuska220-sch>

The Project Dissemination on ERASMUS DAYS :

Various events were organized by our project partners within the scope of the ERASMUS+ DAYS event. An example of an event can be found at the link below:



Link : https://www.digitalstories-project.eu/web_news-s.php?id=5

PROJECT DISSEMINATION VIDEO



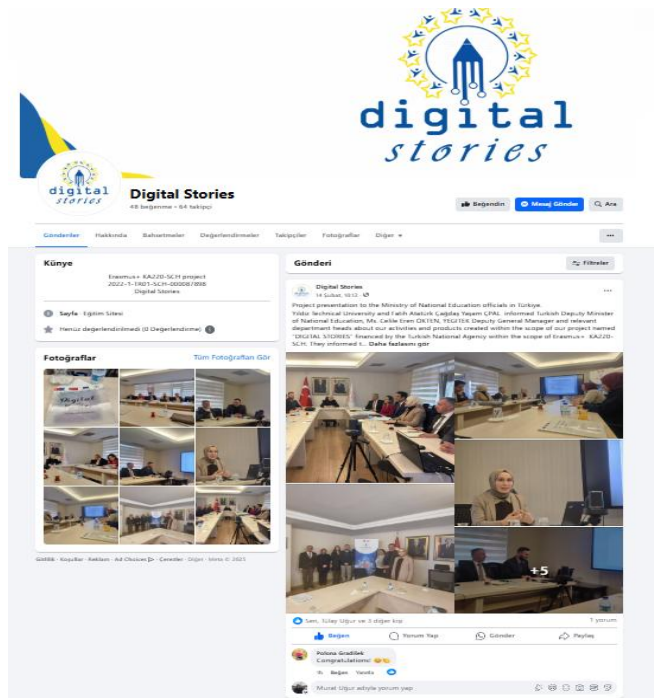
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Presentations in Social Media and Other Internet Resources

The project has its own social media presence, with pages on popular media such as Facebook(R) and Twitter(R). Furthermore, publications were pursued to other social media pages where the audiences may have an interest in project activities and results, such as the social media pages of project partners and more.

Project Facebook Page:	https://www.facebook.com/DigitalStories2023
Project Twitter Page:	@DigitalStories5





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Presentation of the Project via Small Scale Meetings :

Within the scope of project activities, 11 small-scale meetings were held for the purpose of both product development and project promotion. A total of 110 people attended these meetings, including relevant stakeholders such as teachers, school administrators, academicians, and representatives from decision-making public institutions. Project products and activities were presented to the participants in these meetings.



Links for the news :

https://www.digitalstories-project.eu/web_news.php



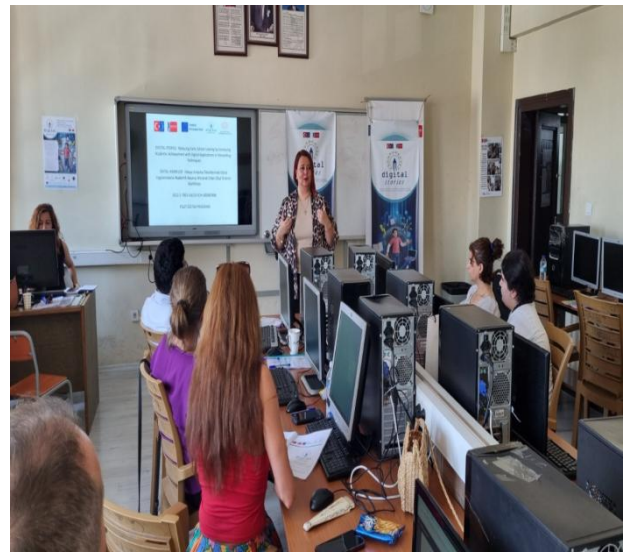
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Presentation of the Project via Pilot Trainings in Partners' Countries :

99 teachers from 4 countries participated in the Pilot Training program, one of the project activities.

In this activity where pilot training was held, a presentation was made to the participants about the project products and activities.



Links for the news :

https://www.digitalstories-project.eu/web_news.php



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Presentation of the Project via Final Conferences in Partners' Countries :

Within the scope of project activities, final conference events were organized by 6 project partner institutions from 4 countries. In the last 3 months of the project, final conference events were held with the participation of 364 representatives from relevant stakeholders in 4 countries. In these events, project products, activities and results were shared with stakeholders.



Links for the news :

https://www.digitalstories-project.eu/web_news.php

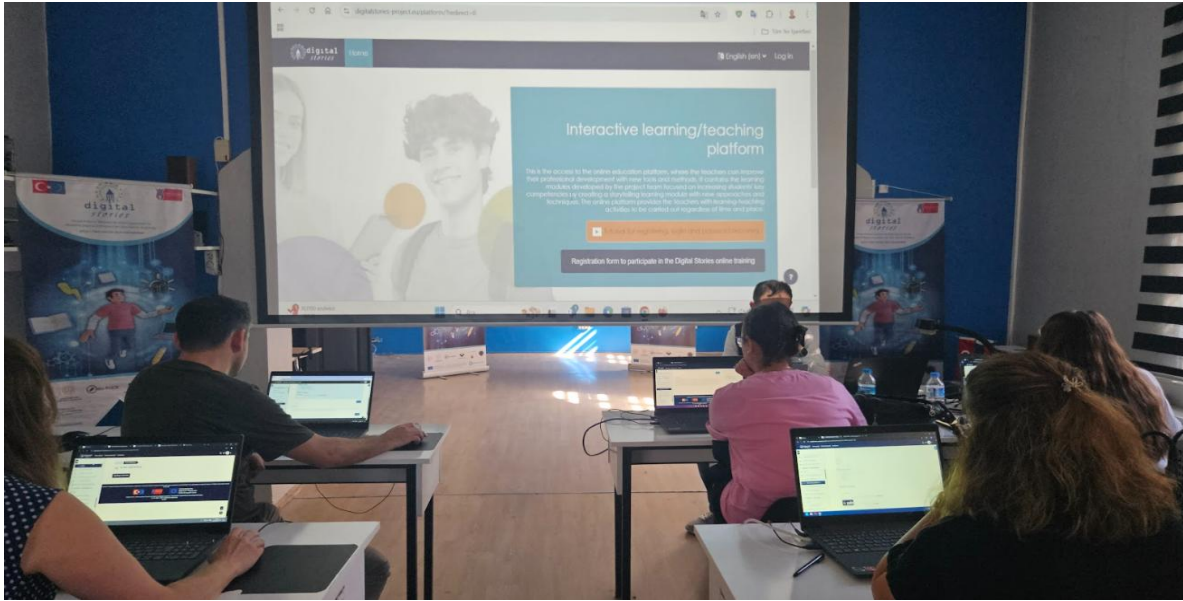


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Presentation of the Project via Platform Testings in Partners' Countries :

Within the scope of project activities, platform testing events were organized by 6 project partner institutions from 4 countries. 80 representatives from relevant stakeholders from 4 countries participated in this event. In these events, project products, activities and results were shared with stakeholders.



Links for the news:

https://www.digitalstories-project.eu/web_news.php



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Dissemination via Partners Social Media Accounts:

Partners effectively used their own social media accounts to disseminate the project and its results. They posted news per activity and label the related partners and hashtags to increase the interaction.

The Partner	Accounts/Profiles Links		
	Facebook	Twitter	Instagram
Bafra İlçe MEM	https://www.facebook.com/Bafrailcemem/?locale=tr_TR	https://x.com/bafra_mem	https://www.instagram.com/baframem/
EU-Track	https://www.facebook.com/eu.track/?locale=it_IT	https://twitter.com/eu_track	https://www.instagram.com/eutrack/?hl=it
Virtual Campus	https://www.facebook.com/virtualcampuseral		https://www.instagram.com/virtualcampus_pt/
Yıldız Technical University			
University of Ljubljana	https://www.facebook.com/pedagoskaljubljana/	https://twitter.com/pedagoska	https://instagram.com/faculty_of_education_ljubljana?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=
Atatürk Çağdaş Yaşam ÇPL	https://www.facebook.com/ACYCPL/?locale=tr_TR		https://www.instagram.com/fatihaturkcagdas/?hl=en

Project Logo :

Bafra İlçe MEM developed the project logo in collaboration with the partners. Different versions were rated before the opening meeting. The one selected the most became the project logo.

