

December 2017 Newsletter

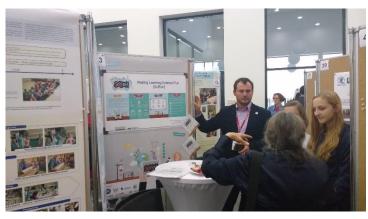
SciFUN's 6th Newsletter

SciFUN Project has been presented by University of Lodz, Polish partner, during three important conferences

The first was the <u>Congress of Polish Physics Teachers</u>, an important meeting, gathering hundreds of scientists every 2 years not only from Poland, but also from Europe and many other countries. In 2017, Wrocław (academic city in south-western Poland) was the host for this event, organized together by Polish Physics Society, University of Wroclaw, Technical University of Wroclaw and Polish Academy of Science. Nobel Prize winners, famous scientists, doctoral students and a big group of Physics teachers had the chance to visit the poster session, where the SciFUN Project was presented, among many other science and popular-science posters.

The SciFUN Project's presentation has also raised quite interesting discussions during the <u>ADVED 2017 conference</u> - 3rd International Conference On Advances In Education And Social Sciences, which took place in Istanbul, 9-11 October 2017. ADVED is an interdisciplinary, international conference that gets together academics, independent scholars and researchers from around the world, to meet and exchange the latest ideas and discuss issues concerning all fields of Education. A presentation of the

project's assumptions, objectives, research results and intellectual outputs, was then given during the session. Ideas of *making learning science fun* were enthusiastically recognized and appreciated.



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The SciFUN parnter's Final Meeting – an overview

The final face-to-face meeting of SciFUN partners opened with the evaluation of the Final Conference. Overall all partners were very pleased with the implementation and results of the Conference and commented on the positive feedback from educators as well. The detailed overview of the project's outcomes (O1-O9) to date, was a very important part of the discussion that followed as well as the final remaining tasks that were scheduled in detail. The partners' main concern was to ensure that all deliverables are completed as described in the project application and that they will be ready to use for European educators after the completion of the project. The e-services and e-learning platform were also discussed as they are considered a very valuable outcome of the project. The project's dissemination was presented and discussion covered past and future actions in this respect. Finally, the sustainability of the project was discussed in depth in order to make sure that the project's results will be exploited in the most efficient way by European educators.



Final conference of the SciFUN project in Pitești, Romania

On 23rd of November 2017, the University of Piteşti - the coordinator of the SciFUN project - has organized at his premises the Final Conference of the project. 109

participants have been welcomed in the Atrium, where the opening of the Conference was achieved in the presence of representatives from the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research in Romania, School Inspectorate of the Argeş





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County and the Rector of the University of Piteşti. Together with the Romanian teachers, guests from Egypt, Cyprus, Greece, Poland and Ireland have attended the activities. A project fair was organized at the beginning of the Conference works, where participants could find out about the projects of the University of Piteşti and could receive dissemination materials. The SciFUN Toolkit and e-learning platform have been presented during the plenary session, but in the three workshops, the teachers could learn how to efficiently use them and could interact with each-other in order to discuss about the utilization of SciFUN resources and digital tools in their teaching activities. The presentation of five scientific projects by pupils from the Argeş schools, who all won the 1st prize at "SICEA: Salon of Innovation and Creativity of Pupils from Argeş County" in May 2017, have impressed the audience. The highly positive feedback we got from participants proved that the SciFUN Final Conference was a real success!



LMETB's thoughts on the SciFUN final conference in Pitești, Romania

We were amazed by the scale and the endeavour of the students who came to display their work at the Scifun final conference. This was something else from the students who gave their time to give to our futures. Their work, confidence and English was outstanding. There are teachers all over Europe lighting the flame to inspire you people and give them opportunities to follow their dreams. It is the ambition of Scifun to have the best education delivered in a fun and imaginative way so we can see more inspirational young people like the ones we saw today. Congratulations to them, their teachers and their schools.



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CARDET presented Cyprus' case study during the SciFUN final conference

During the final conference of the SciFUN project in Pitesti (Romania) on the 23rd November 2017, CARDET had the opportunity to present Cyprus' pilot implementation of the SciFUN toolkit. Overall, the main objectives of the Intellectual Output 9 (Pilots and Case studies) were presented, accompanied by the material produced for the purposes of the pilot testing, the pilot implementation and case study on behalf of Cyprus, the important issues raised by the teachers and conclusions in relation to other partner countries' data, such as Romania and Greece.

Modules 1, 2 and 3 were delivered during the period of 18th October to 3rd November 2017 in Cyprus. Among others, teachers discussed about the attitudes of students, their interest in science education, their stereotypic conceptions, the effect of gender and race on achievement, the effective use of digital literacy tools in the classroom for the purposes of science education, the cross-curricular units prepared for teachers and the units prepared by the teachers, who participated in the training. In general, all teachers agreed that the toolkit constitutes an extremely useful tool for them and that more time should be provided to them in order to receive this kind of trainings. The comparison between the data of each country focused on the fact that Romania's teachers mentioned that nothing had to be revised in relation to the toolkit, while Cyprus and Greece's participants experience an issue with the school time. All



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countries' participants expressed a great interest in the state of the art research on science education and the collaborative work. In particular, Romania's participants enjoyed working online.



INNOVADE LI presented the SciFUN website and the e-learning platform during the final conference

INNOVADE LI, within the framework of the project SciFUN, participated to the final conference, which was held on the 23rd of November 2017. During the final conference, INNOVADE's representative had the opportunity to present the e-learning platform and the Online Toolkit. During the final conference, participants were introduced to the main sections of the SciFUN website and the e-learning platform.

The participants got familiarized with the online toolkit through presentation on the main functions of flip-book. Some of the main digital literacy tools were presented, more specifically, an example of the digital tool PowToon presented to the participants, which can be integrated in teaching to make learning science fun.





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