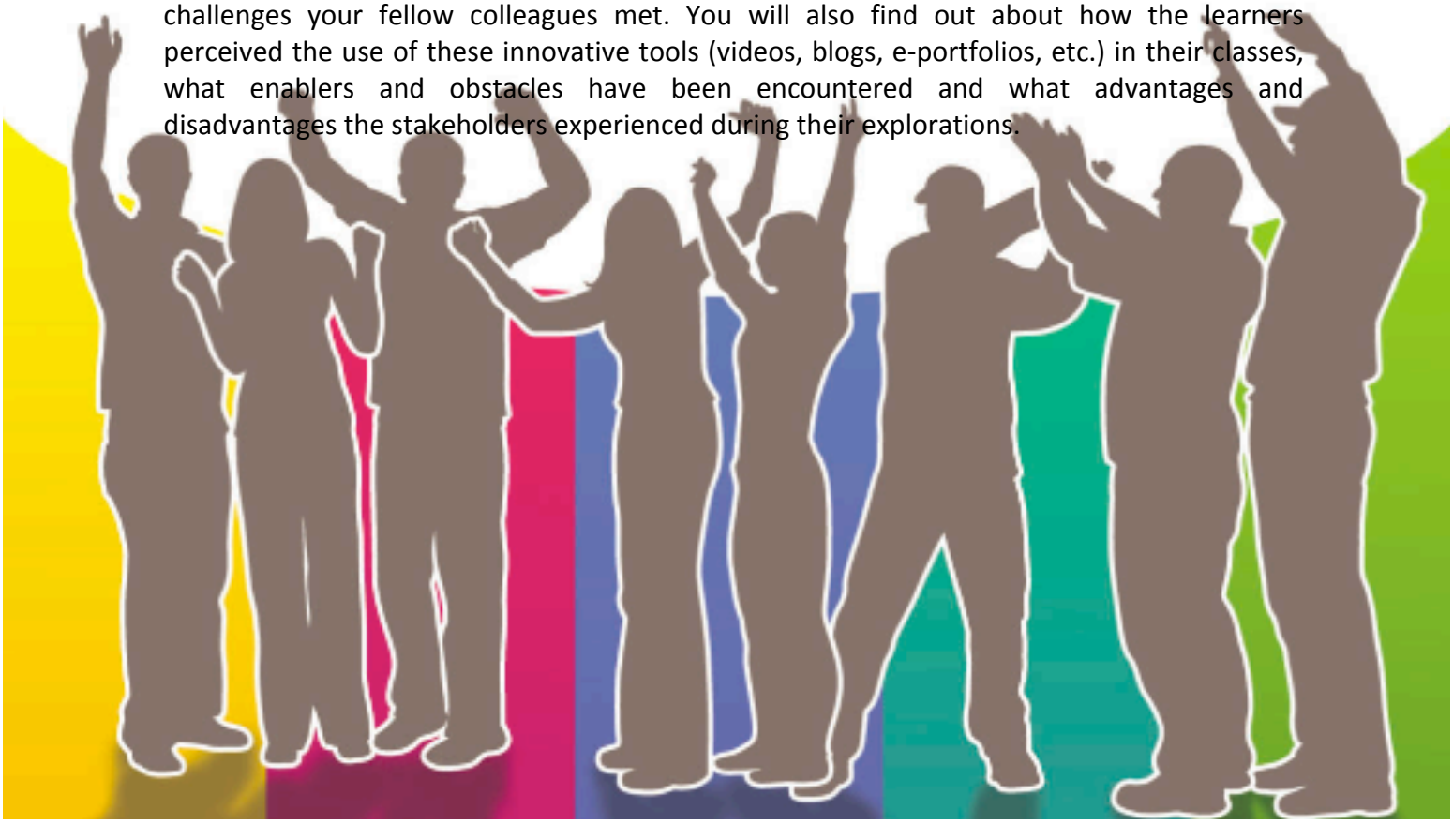
I Like to Learn… I Learn to Learn… eLene2learn

5th Newsletter – What do the teachers say?

The eLene2learn project continues to explore and study the ways in which **ICT and digital media support the development of learning to learn competencies in lifelong learning transitions**. The project has engaged old and new representatives from schools, colleges and Universities in discussion, and in an exchange of strategies and practices used to support the transition of pupils', students and adults from secondary school to university. Emphasis is also placed on adults moving back into training and higher education to re-skill and upgrade competencies. The third and fourth newsletters introduced to you the 'How to' guide and an ever-growing collection of case studies. The newsletters also served to invite you to, and report on our events including national focus groups and international workshops. You have been invited to join our discussions and benefit from our expanding eLene2learn Facebook group (166 members in May 2014) and to explore our revised project portal. In the current newsletter edition we have further results and achievements we are proud to share.

Video testimonials on YouTube

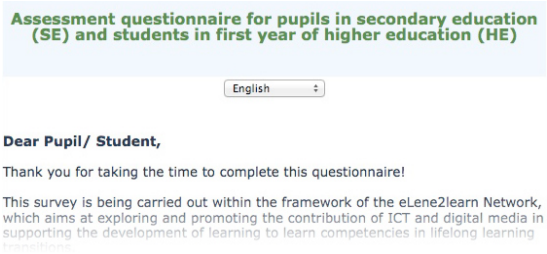
The eLene2learn partners spent a lot of time and effort recording user testimonials about working processes and experiences from a diverse range of regions and countries, namely Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Catalonia (Spain), Poland and Scotland (UK). To ensure the availability of a greater resource variety written reports and video interviews with teachers, trainers, professors and their pupils and students are published about the results. Please, visit the eLene2learn YouTube channel to browse our 20+ videos and learn about the challenges your fellow colleagues met. You will also find out about how the learners perceived the use of these innovative tools (videos, blogs, e-portfolios, etc.) in their classes, what enablers and obstacles have been encountered and what advantages and disadvantages the stakeholders experienced during their explorations.



Note from the classroom – Lessons learned

"Creating videos with my students was my first digital experience within the frame of teaching in a classroom. Creating videos with my students made me see how this procedure enhanced their creativity while conveying messages in a different way. The experience made us teachers more willing to integrate technology in our lessons and try ideas like digital storytelling, blogs, creating groups in sites like scoop.com and uploading videos to a YouTube channel. We visualized writing, helped weaker students through our tips for successful studying, launched an anti-bullying campaign and basically we applied our own interpretation of digital media and ICT tools to a more personal message." Read the complete testimonial of a secondary school teacher – Olympia Befa – here.

Your feedback is important to us – online survey results


Assessment questionnaire for pupils in secondary education (SE) and students in first year of higher education (HE)

English

Dear Pupil/ Student,

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire!

This survey is being carried out within the framework of the eLene2learn Network, which aims at exploring and promoting the contribution of ICT and digital media in supporting the development of learning to learn competencies in lifelong learning transitions.

Having completed the implementation of more than 30 case studies, the eLene2learn team is now surveying the participants' learning experiences with the view to producing a set of recommendations for future users and learning settings. Here is a short extract from the preliminary results that will soon be available on the project portal: "Teachers were underlining the importance of **collaboration, creativity and communication** and pupils/students emphasised the **development of their self-regulation and self-management**. As for the recommendations for the future, teachers suggest that the systematic analysis of pupils, students' and teachers' feedback will contribute to an even more successful implementation. Pupils and students stress that teachers should devote more time to the selection of the most appropriate tools. They also emphasise the need for both teachers, pupils and students to become familiar with the functionality of the tools before implementation, so that they are used in the most efficient and effective manner."

For your diary

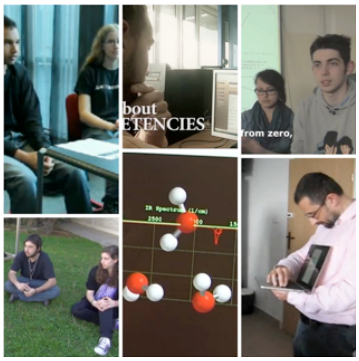
eLene2learn has always applied an inclusive approach to its events. If our participants could not travel to a public event they could participate online or download the recordings afterwards. However, we know that it is difficult to replace the personal and social element of a conference and it is always a pleasure to meet you face to face.

Our next public appearance will be at the EDEN 2014 Annual Conference in Zagreb on the 11th and 12th of June, where eLene2learn will actively participate in the conference's Synergy Strand, aiming to meet and collaborate with projects, researchers and practitioners dealing with the question of using ICT tools to develop and improve learning to learn competencies.

We have also started the preparation of the **eLene2learn Final Conference** that will be organised on the 10th and 11th of October 2014 in Barcelona (Cibernarium, Mediatic building, Roc Boronat, 117). The aim is to present the lessons learned and recommendations formulated from 3 years of network activity. The c.a. 100 participants (primary, secondary and higher education teachers, teacher trainers and policy makers) attending this conference can not only learn about the eLene2learn achievements, but will also be provided with space for debate and contributions from other related European (Lifelong Learning Programme) and national projects and initiatives.

If you have any questions about our events and services please don't hesitate to either leave a note in our Facebook Group, contact the main local organiser Teresa Guasch or the project management at info-elene2learn@eden-online.org.

Refreshed elene2learn portal



The portal has been revised in order to beter position and highlight the latest project outputs:

- Added to the existing scenarios there are 25 new case studies coming from direct experimentation in schools. Click on "Explore case studies" to see the enriched database.
- We are in the process of publishing a growing number of video interviews with students and teachers using ICT to improve their learning experiences and results.

Soon a new web section will be launched where you will find the results of the above introduced survey that more than 100 participants filled in. A multimedia web documentary will also be available in the near future, telling the story of the eLene2learn experiences through the voices and images of students and teachers.

From the homepage you will have direct access to these features and other web contencts either from the menu or the infographics.

Meet the person behind the username

The eLene2learn consortium is a group of dedicated flesh and blood individuals. In every newsletter a core partner introduces themselves and their research interest as well as their tasks within the project. In this newsletter we would like to introduce you to some members of the team whose contribution in the elene2learn project is focused on the analysis, development and implementation of social networks in the development of learning to learn competences.

Päivi Virtanen is a planning officer and teacher trainer at the University of Helsinki: Palmenia Centre for continuing education. During the last decade Päivi has been developing and researching (for her PhD thesis) ICT's pedagogical use, web-based learning and study support, and tutoring the learning to learn skills in higher education and teacher training.

Teresa Guasch is Dean of Psychology and Education Department at the Open University of Catalonia (UOC). She has been director of the Educational Psychology Programme (2006-2011) and she is also lecturer of the Doctoral Programme on e-learning and the Master of Secondary School Teachers Training. Her research area is focused on the process of teaching and learning in online learning environments, with special focus on teachers training and educational supports in writing processes in online environments. Together with another eLene2learn colleagues, Anna Espasa, Teresa is focusing on the analysis, development and implementation of social networks in the development of learning to learn competences.

Anna Zoakou is a social scientist with theoretical background and practical experience in the management of European and national programs related to the creative exploitation of digital media in education, capacity building in disadvantaged social groups, teacher training, anti-bullying policies, dropout studies and prison education. Her research activity has a particular focus on the educational aspects of the migration policies and their impact on integration effectiveness. She has a background as consulting pedagogue for schools and teachers helping them in finding appropriate educational software and was a lecturer for the use of ICT in schools for both teachers and children.

Keep in touch and help to extend the network

Please feel free to forward this newsletter to your colleagues and encourage them to visit the project web site and/or join the eLene2learn Facebook group. For questions and enquiries, please contact:

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