

ePortfolios in European projects

An increasing number of European projects are now integrating the ePortfolio into their activities and outcomes. The following is a description of those that EifEL is co-ordinating or participating in. We also indicate how the broader learning community can become involved in project activities and benefit from the outcomes.

EPICC (ePortfolio Initiatives Coordination Committee)



Funded under the eLearning Initiative, this project is focusing on interoperability between ePortfolio systems. It is co-ordinated by EifEL. Partners are CETIS (UK); Stichting IMS GLS- Europe; Giunti Interactive Labs (IT); EUN (B); University of Maastricht (NL) and Helsinki University of Technology (FI). The project aims to produce a European ePortfolio vision and strategy statement, to lead future development and practice and make Europe a leader in ePortfolio technology and practice. Key to achieving this will be ensuring the interoperability of ePortfolio and ePortfolio-related initiatives. The outputs of the project will be an ePortfolio Memorandum of Understanding; a European ePortfolio Consortium (Europortfolio); ePortfolio

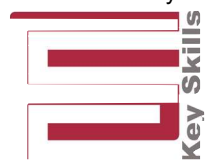
interoperability standards; demonstration platform(s) and ePortfolio white papers

How to benefit

All those working with ePortfolios – or considering it - will benefit from the work being carried out by this project. The involvement of IMS Europe will ensure that the results will be authoritative and the project will make a major contribution to the concept of a lifelong ePortfolio for all. Sign the Europortfolio MoU and join Europortfolio to contribute to the development of the ePortfolio in Europe through a professional network, and benefit from its outcomes. Attend the first ePPlugfest, which precedes ePortfolio 2005 on 27/28 October at Cambridge University, and see the advances made in ePortfolio solutions and interoperability.

See: www.eife-l.org/projects/epicc/

Key-Pal (ePortfolio for Key Skills)



The aim of Key-PAL is to establish the relevance and potential impact of the ePortfolio on the development and assessment of key-skills (basic skills / key competencies), a critical issue for Europe. Key-PAL will explore how the ePortfolio can support and valorise self-managed learning and development for the acquisition of key-skills. It will furthermore explore the ability of the ePortfolio to support young adults in interacting with all the actors that can contribute to their development and learning. Key-PAL is a Grundtvig project co-ordinated by EifEL. Partners are: Ecole de la Deuxième Chance de Seine St Denis (FR); Edinburgh University Settlement (UK); Careers Wales North West (UK); The MRS Consultancy Ltd (UK); Slovenian Institute for Adult Education (SI) – Slovenia; Deutsches

Rotes Kreuz, Kreisverband Bremen, e.V. (DE); PaperFree Systems Ltd (UK); Yinternet (CH). Outcomes will include a collaboration network of professionals; practical guides and implementation tools; recommendations to policy-makers and publishers regarding implementation; seminars and workshops.

How to benefit

You are invited to join the collaboration network, contribute your experience and ideas to the guides, and attend the workshops and seminars. Our next workshop will be in at DRK in Bremen from 29th June to 1st July 2005. If you are interested in attending contact us via

www.eife-l.org/projects/keypal/

GEARS (Getting Engineering Active and Ready for Strategy)



Gears is a Leonardo project concerned with the development of strategic skills for SME owners and managers, particularly in the engineering sector. It is co-ordinated by MRS Consultancy (UK). Partners are: EifEL, EEF (UK); My KnowledgeMap (UK); Polytechnic University of Marche (IT) and STPKC (SE). A dynamic strategic planning tool, Strategy Blueprint, already used by hundreds of companies in the UK, will be localised in France, Italy and Sweden. All partners are working on producing a model to provide elearning support to users. Among other outcomes of the project will be a study of the feasibility of obtaining accreditation for successful partici-

pants. EifEL will put in place an ePortfolio for its pilot participants to support the development of strategy in the broader context of professional and organisational development.

How to benefit

The Strategy Blueprint tool (in English) is currently freely available. If you live in one of the partner countries, contact us to become involved in the pilot programmes. The programme will be continued on a self-sustaining basis after the end of the project and will be available to organisations that wish to become licensed users.

www.gears.euproject.org

The purpose of eTTTCampus, which is funded under the eLearning Initiatives is to raise the level of implementation of eLearning by improving the skills and motivation of teachers and trainers by developing and consolidate a European Virtual Campus for teachers and trainers,



ers, in which collaborative project work across borders will be the main learning strategy. The project is co-ordinated by the Finnish National Board of Education. Partners are ISFOL (IT); GREENWICH University (UK) UNIFF-UPB (ES), EDEN, EIFeL, Employment Training Corporation (MT); Hungarian National observatory (HU); Innove Foundation of Tallinn (EST); Institut Supérieur Metiers (FR), Comenius university Slovakia (SK) and CEDEFOP. The outcomes of the project will be a resources base integrated

in the collaborative learning platform; 500 teachers and trainers involved in the pilot learning initiatives; services to learners established and validated; conclusion and recommendations on the establishment of an European competencies certification scheme. EIFEL is leading the work package on the competencies scheme for teachers and trainers and will be using an ePortfolio in the pilot programmes.

How to benefit

All teachers/trainers and their trainers, as well as education and training policy-makers are welcome to join the virtual community and contribute to the activities. You are welcome to participate in the pilot programmes and the consultation exercises on the resources base and the competency framework.

www.saveriopescuma.it/ettcampus/modules/news/

Osmosys

The Osmosys Grundtvig project aims to break the barriers between corporate, formal and informal learning by reviewing and introducing a context-based approach to modeling Adult Learning Centers (ALC) and a negotiated and integrated way to report learning results. The OSMOSYS project is expected to have impact on "hard to reach" adult learners, under-represented in the participation in LLL opportunities, improving their accessibility, stimulating demand for learning among adult employees of SMOs and valuing the knowledge and competencies they have acquired through informal and non-formal learning. The project is co-ordinated by Nationellt Centrum for Flexibelt Larande (SE). Partners are FIM New Learning (DE); Instituto Municipal de Formacion y Empleo, Ayuntamiento de Granada (IMFE) (ES); EIFEL; SCIENTER (IT); FAPER Consorzio Formazione Aziendale Permanente (IT); Careers Wales Gwent (UK); Universitatea Politehnica din



Bucuresti (RO). Outcomes will include a study of the state of the art of Adult Learning Centres regarding the integration of learning provisions developed in non formal and informal contexts; the integration and presentation of best practice; operational approaches to LLL opportunities provision to employees of SMOs (small and medium organisations) through ALCs, by constituting local networks of SMOs and public-private partnerships for development of ALC; the development of an ePortfolio tool for use within the models of ALC considered by the project and further adaptation and diffusion in Europe. EIFEL is leading the work on ePortfolios.

How to benefit

OSMOSYS will organise a series of pilot programmes that will use ePortfolios for validation of non-formal and informal learning.

See www.osmosys.se

INFLOW (Informal Learning in the workplace)

The INFLOW project will develop a model(s) for the identification of informal learning taking place within SMEs (i.e. IT skills /communication/ teamwork / other generic skills). INFLOW aims to find a model for making informal learning more visible and extendable to other employees. The ePortfolio will be looked at as a tool enabling employees to record the evidence of this informal learning and share it with their colleagues and employers. INFLOW will develop a methodology for the accreditation of the achievements of Informal Learning by a QCA accreditation body in the UK (Edexcel) initially to produce reliability and validity linked to reference points and / or standards of achievement. This methodol-



ogy will be piloted in the engineering sector in the UK and modified where appropriate. The transferability of the model will also be tested between Member States by piloting the methodologies with the Engineering Sector in France, Germany and Sweden and between production and service sectors by piloting in the Hotel and Hospitality sector in Spain, France and the UK. The project is coordinated by MRS Consultancy (UK) and partners include EIFEL (for the ePortfolio element), BDF (E), Edexcel (UK), Doncaster Education City (UK), RKW (D), STPKC (S), TAF (LV), Greta du Velay (F) and MyKnowledgeMap (UK).

How to benefit

If you are an SME and interested in how to develop and support Informal Learning in your organisation please contact us through www.inflow.eu.com/



www.europortfolio.org

