

“Interuniversity Learning in Higher Education on Advanced Land Management Egyptian Country”

Duration: October 15, 2015 – October 14, 2018



ILHAM-EC Project _ Zagazig University Team _ Official Newsletter , Issue # 1 – August 2016

The Project is Funded by the European Union within the Erasmus + KA Capacity Building Program.

Project coordinator: Professor Luciano Gutierrez, University of Sassari , Italy .

Zagazig University Contact Person : Professor Bassem Ashour



THE CONSORTIA :

PROGRAM EGYPT UNIVERSITIES: Alexandria University, Cairo University, Damanhour University and Zagazig University.

EU PARTNERS: University of Sassari – NRD , Italy, the School of Earth and Environment of the University of Leeds-England, the Department of food and agriculture of the University of Thessaloniki-Greece, UNIMED -Italy, and Advanced Computer System, which will develop computer applications dedicated to the introduction of new teaching tools .

ILHAM-EC aims at improving the level of theoretical and practical knowledge of Egyptian teachers and to develop new teaching methods for university courses with a strong multidisciplinary character.

The ultimate goal of the project is the establishment of a new joint Master in the Egyptian Universities coopted in the project training students in order to find new opportunities in the labor market on the theme of sustainable land management, a strong necessity for many countries but particularly for the countries of North Africa.

Road Map for a new Master on SLM



Kick off Meeting of ILHAM-EC Project:



The project was officially opened at the Faculty of Agriculture, Cairo University in the 7th of March 2016.

The 1st Steering Committee was held in the 8th of March 2016 at Flamenco hotel , Cairo .



Needs Assessment:

Needs Assessment of the Universities of Cairo, Alexandria, Zagazig and Damanhour was carried out. This represents the first step to plan a new master course. Through this survey, the curricula already provided by the Universities, together with the perception on the skills and educational level provided by each involved University, in terms of level of satisfactions, have been deeply analyzed.

The results and findings of the survey reveals a series of strengths and weaknesses of the current education system that can be used as a basis for discussion and analysis in the educational system in order to develop new higher educational policies and improve and enhance program curricula better facing labor market needs. Furthermore, thought this survey, it is now possible to better understand the expectations of students ,teachers and entrepreneurs as users of the educational system and how these expectations are met so far.

The good news from the survey is that both students and teachers recognize the importance to implement a Master based on innovative learning methods aiming at improving the quality of teaching and learning while ensuring high quality educational curricula.

The result of survey

- ☑ Teacher and student are satisfied about the quality of the teaching staff.
- ☑ A lack or shortage in practical and technical skills.
- ☑ Strengthen the cooperation between enterprises and universities.
- ☑ The importance of foreign language skills
- ☑ Strengthen the quality of teaching and learning.

Enhancement action: Promote the use of new technologies and innovative learning approaches with innovative learning materials behind the traditional reference material, such as interactive games, videos, e-learning and distance lectures, should be a prior approach in new Master course.

Achievements

The Project Coordinator Meetings at the Egyptian Partner University-July 2016



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Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union



"Interuniversity Learning in Higher Education on Advanced Land Management Egyptian Country"

Duration: October 15, 2015 – October 14, 2016

ILHAM-EC Project _ Zagazig University Team _ Official Newsletter , Issue # 2 – January 2017

The Project is Funded by the European Union within the Erasmus + KA Capacity Building Program.

Project coordinator: Professor Luciano Gutierrez, University of Sassari , Italy .

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ILHAM-EC Partners:

- P1. Desertification Research Centre - University of Sassari NRD-UNISS, Italy
- P2. University of Leeds – UNIVLEEDS , England
- P3. Aristotle University of Thessaloniki – AUTH, Greece
- P4. Mediterranean Universities Union – UNIMED, Italy
- P5. Advanced Computer Systems A.C.S. S.p.A. ACS Italy
- P6. University of Cairo – UNICA, Egypt
- P7. Alexandria University, Faculty of Agriculture - UNIAL, Egypt
- P8. Institute of Graduate Studies and Environmental Research, Damanhour University – IGSER, Egypt
- P9. Zagazig University – ZU, Egypt



Master Curriculum Development .

A meeting for Preparation of Draft Master Curriculum Proposal in the field of sustainable land management (SLM) was held in Alexandria University October 5th, 2016 .

- WP2 CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT
- Preparation of Draft Master Curriculum Proposal-October 2016



National Erasmus+ Day 2016 .

The event was held in the Social club of the Faculty of Engineering, Cairo University – Monday, 7th November 2016. Dr. Bassem Ashour presented an overall of ILHAM-EC project.

ILHAM -EC Scientific Group Meeting .

The meeting was held in November 28th, 2016 in Cairo University .The European and Egyptian Scientific Group members participated and a SLM Curriculum was finalized . The new developed Master is in line with the Bologna requirements .

Participatory workshop : How to Enhance Teaching and Learning Practices - November 29th – 30th , 2016 .

The workshop was held at the Faculty of Agriculture, Cairo University. Participants: 32 Egyptian teachers (8 from each university) and 10 European teachers .

The workshop highlighted strategies and methodologies aiming at improving teaching and learning processes. It was an exchange of experiences and best practices where traditional learning methodologies and innovative ones were compared. As a result, a guideline on best practices in teaching was shared among partners. The best practices will be then used by European teachers within the 10 digital technical modules that will be uploaded on the e-learning platform. The modules will provide Egyptian teachers with the necessary knowledge to allow them to teach the same topic in the new

Pilot Master program. In addition, the information provided in each module will be used by ACS's technicians for the creation of the educational game whose content and logical frameworks will be provided by teachers.



Presentations of teaching practices .

- ⇒ Luciano Gutierrez, Sustainable Land Management" postgraduate masters in the world. Project road map. Main results coming from the analysis of curricula, teaching methodologies and assessments presented during the SG meeting.
- ⇒ Pier Paolo Roggero: Systems diagramming: when diagrams are louder than words!
- ⇒ Giovanna Seddaiu: Case study-based learning: integrating hard and soft system approaches
- ⇒ Salvo Camiolo: Teaching through the Moodle platform and the power of long distance learning
- ⇒ Alberto Atzori: Teaching complexity: System Dynamics applied to animal science and food.
- ⇒ Stephen Whitfield: Flipped classroom teaching
- ⇒ Damian Howells: Making group work work
- ⇒ George Bilas: Existing web tools for Sustainable Land Management"
- ⇒ Cristina Stefanelli: Open Approaches to teaching and learning (Open Educational Resources & Licenses, Open Pedagogy & Practice)



Social activities .The participants celebrated the birthday of one of Zagazig University team .



Coordinating Meeting .

The Project coordinator , the project manager, representatives from the four Egyptian universities held a coordinating meeting on November 30, 2016 . The budget lines and allocations were discussed .

MSLM Courses Specifications .

Zu team held several meetings to prepare course specs for the developed Master curriculum .

Monitoring Visit for ILHAM-EC Project .

A Monitoring Visit was implemented by the Deputy National Erasmus+ Coordinator at the National Erasmus + office on Monday 9th January at Alexandria University. The contact persons of the Egyptian partners and members of the project team participated . The activities realized, products developed so far as well as the implementation process were discussed



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