

# TIMS project

Training in Innovation  
Management System  
for Sustainable SMEs



## Newsletter n°1

TIMS project presents itself as a possible answer to successively manage labour market transitions (unemployment, digitalization, economic cycles/uncertainties – COVID19), by designing an innovative, digital and open access VET programme – suitable for distance learning – that will approach the work between VET providers (and other educational institutions such as NGOs) and businesses (SMEs), along the project cycle and beyond.

TIMS COURSE, developed within TIMS project, is “a flexible and learner-centred VET programme” with a practical “Handbook for Innovation Agents” and “TIMS Self-Assessment Tool for Innovation” will provide a holistic view for leadership and innovation by comprising managerial, interpersonal and reflective skills which will then be applied into building innovative modus operandi in European SMEs; based on the ISO 56000 series standards for IM.

### Actions implemented (03/22-04/23):

- 1) A Tailored Self-Assessment Tool for Innovation Management (IM), dedicated to ISO 56000 series;
- 2) TIMS Learning Lab – Training for project partners to develop learning outcomes in Lisbon, Portugal
- 3) Development of Learning Outcomes for Competence Units
- 4) A Competence Matrix based on Innovation Management ISO series, using the EQF approach and a EU micro-credentials approach;
- 5) Development of the Self-Assessment Tool for Innovation Management on-line platform
- 6) Dissemination activities and exploitation of result

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## Project news and Progress

The first phase of the project was dedicated to the development of the TIMS SELF-ASSESSMENT TOOL FOR INNOVATION. The aim of this instrument is to develop a tailored free online Innovation self-assessment tool for SMEs, so companies can easily measure their innovation maturity stage, according to reestablished criteria.

The TIMS SELF-ASSESSMENT TOOL FOR INNOVATION was developed by ISCN with input from all project partners and will be hosted on the official project website, in order to be open and free access to the ones who wish to test their innovation state, learn more about innovation and find out which Innovation Strategy should they take in order to turn their business more sustainable. **The system allows innovation process assessment and the determination of capability levels of the processes resulting in process rating and capability level profiles. The portal is supported by EuroSPI and available at <https://iso56000.eurospi.net>. The system allows self-assessment which requires to register with the system and perform the assessment.**

The innovation of the TIMS SELF-ASSESSMENT TOOL FOR INNOVATION is the direct connection with the ISO 56000 on Innovation Management. The results will address the organizations on which ISO part(s) they need to invest, by receiving dedicated training - TIMS COURSE using TIMS B-LEARNING MATERIALS - that will help them to develop their innovation performance, tackling their weaknesses, previously identified by the tool.

Also, the output TIMS COMPETENCE MATRIX & MICRO-CREDENTIALS APPROACH was developed. This output aims to develop a tailored COMPETENCE MATRIX for ISO 56000 series, using the European Qualifications Framework "translation tool", so TIMS B-LEARNING COURSE (and learning outcomes), "be adaptable to the labour market, facilitating the transfer, recognition and accumulation of learning outcomes leading to national qualifications", that are readable across Europe and outside.

## Project partners:

TIMS project partnership involves 7 partners in 7 countries.



**KVALB | LATVIA (Project Coordinator)**  
LATVIAN SOCIETY FOR QUALITY  
Non-governmental organisation/association



**ISQ | PORTUGAL**  
INSTITUTO DE SOLDADURA E QUALIDADE  
School/Institute/Educational centre – Vocational Training



**ISCN | AUSTRIA**  
INTERNATIONAL SOFTWARE-EXPERTS FOR COLLABORATIVE  
NETWORKS I.S.C.N. GESMBH  
Small and medium sized enterprise



**STP Consulting | SPAIN**  
SOLUCIONES TECNO-PROFESIONALES CONSULTING  
Small and medium sized enterprise



**SIGMA | GREECE**  
SIGMA BUSINESS NETWORK  
Small and medium sized enterprise



**SMRDA | ROMANIA**  
SOUTH MUNTENIA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY  
Non-governmental organisation/association



**DELORIS MUNDO | NIGERIA**  
DELORIS MUNDO LIMITED  
School/Institute/Educational centre – Adult education



## Transnational Project Meetings

In the first half of the project, project partners had the opportunity to meet in three partner countries. The **Kick off Meeting** of the project was organized by the Austrian partner ISCN in Graz, Austria. During the event, project partners had the opportunity to meet in person and discuss management and implementation of the project activities.

The **2<sup>nd</sup> Transnational Project Meeting** was organized by ISQ in Porto Salvo, Portugal. The event was organized back-to-back with the Learning Activities “**TIMS Learning Lab**”. Within the event the project partners have discussed about the status of the TIMS SELF-ASSESSMENT TOOL FOR INNOVATION. In addition, the learning activities continued with the definition of the COMPETENCE UNITS and objectives, the development of the LEARNING OUTCOMES and TIMS COMPETENCE MATRIX.

The **3<sup>rd</sup> Transnational Project Meeting** was organized in Athens, Greece, on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of April 2023. During the meeting, which was attended by the project managers of the TIMS project partners, details were discussed regarding the financial and technical reports, the stage of achieving the project results, as well as the activities to be implemented in the next period. Also, the ISCN team has presented the TIMS SELF-ASSESSMENT TOOL FOR INNOVATION that was developed within the project and how it works.

The Innovation Audit Tool, developed based on the ISO 56000 standard for Innovation Management will be applied to the companies that want to extend the existing quality management system to the innovation management system in order to launch a competitive strategy that supports their resilience and competitiveness.

### For more information:

 [www.timsproject.eu/](http://www.timsproject.eu/)

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