



4th Newsletter, Octobre 2021

Welcome to the 4th issue of the **UPGRADE** Newsletter. In this newsletter we will tell you about the results of the implementation of the project activities, the 2nd partners meeting in Norway, the participation in the Erasmus Days 2021 and on future project plans.

The project pilots included **7 activities of cooperative learning**, prepared by the teachers, and based on the Upgrade methodology. Activities were implemented from February 1st, 2021, till end of the May 2021. In total more that **300 students and 15 teachers form 6 primary schools in 4 EU countries** – Italy, Norway, Spain, and Latvia. 3 of the activities were cross-border and **more than 150 students participated in cooperative learning activities** jointly with students from other countries. The students and teachers used different assessment tools: self-assessment, group assessment, continuous feedback from the teachers, peer review, individual grades, etc. Also, students and teachers used the [MyDocumenta eportfolio](#) for competency- based assessment and continuous follow-up. The Activities and Upgrade methodology will be available in the e-handbook, which is being developed as a website and will be available in January 2022.

The second meeting of the project partners took place on 14 and 15 October 2021 in Asker and Oslo (Norway). **The aim of the meeting** was to share and combine the results of the implementation phase and to analyze recommendations for improving the intellectual results.

The meeting topics was:

- Dissemination of project results (possible dissemination activities, social media).
- The final format of the e-handbook.
- Project quality control.
- Budget and calendar adjustments.
- Third project partners meeting.
- Sustainability of the project.

During the meeting, we had the opportunity to visit [Janslokka Primary School](#) in Asker - to meet with the school principal and discuss the school's values, mission, and the Norwegian education system, as well as to observe the lessons. Look our 2nd partners meeting photo video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wO8BYGMru5E&t=1s>





Innovative assessment methodologies for cooperative learning at primary schools

UPgrade Newsletters

The upgrade team participated in the [Erasmus Days 2021](#) by publishing a brochure on social media with the results so far, as well as informing the social media about the partners' 2nd meeting in Norway.

What is UPgrade?

UPgrade will develop, pilot and validate innovative assessment methodologies and tools for cooperative learning. Schools have gradually introduced new learning methods in their curricula, responding better to the current needs: more enquiry-based education, more inclusive, addressing rather the learning process than the results. One of the successful methods cooperative learning: it improves skills and competences; it gives a major social dimension to the learning process and increases students' motivation. UPGRADE will help teachers and students in the assessment of cooperative learning, providing them with the tools and methodology.

Project outcomes

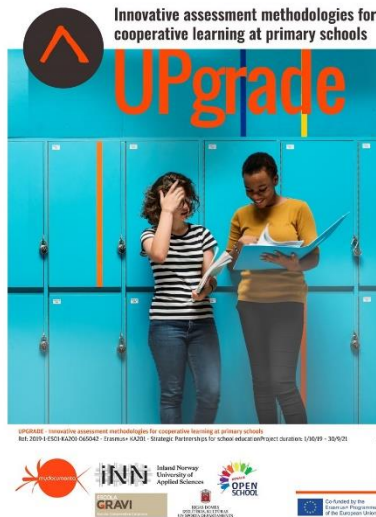
The **UPGRADE (online) handbook**, including learning resources and a lesson plan, to help future teachers to implement and assess cooperative learning with the use of ICT and with a cross-curricular approach.

An **e-learning platform**, based on the UPGRADE methodology, combining a suite of different, interconnected assessment methods, to help teachers visualize, follow-up and assess students and help students regulate their own learning.

The pilot

The methodology and tools were validated in a pilot in 6 primary schools in Spain, Latvia, Norway and Italy, both at local level and cross-border.

- Project Card:
- <http://upgradeproject.eu>
 - @UPgradeErasmus
 - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8vc2p8Suxpzy0ZZ0WNR1UJ40w>
 - Contact: mirjam.bellusius@mydocuments.com



"This is a wonderful cultural opportunity and being able to witness my students approach the activity with such openness and desire fills my heart with joy. We are all enjoying every second of this journey despite the current lockdown situation!" Kate, English teacher, Novalis Open School.

"This project has shown us a completely different way of learning English by applying it on our daily life. Students feel very motivated and are really trying to push their knowledge a step further in order to make themselves understood." Ingrid, English teacher, Escola GRAVI SCCL.

"I would be very interested in repeating the UPGRADE activities with other students." Roif, teacher at Moen Primary School.

"Through the UPGRADE project students develop both self-directed learning skills communication and digital skills." Margarita, teacher at Riga Sergey Zhotok Secondary School.

"We had a good connection with Spanish students. I was surprised that everyone was so friendly. The activities were not difficult. I was able to do everything in collaboration with my classmates." Student Tom (Latvia)

UPgrade



Pilot results

- ✓ More than **300 students** and **15 teachers** from **6 primary schools** in **4 EU countries** – Spain, Latvia, Norway and Italy.
- ✓ The pilot included **7 activities of cooperative learning**, prepared by the teachers of the project and based on the Upgrade methodology.
- ✓ Activities were implemented from February 1st, 2021, till end of May 2021.
- ✓ **3 of the activities were cross-border**: more than **150 pupils** participated in cooperative learning activities jointly with students from other countries.
- ✓ The students and teachers used **different assessment tools**: self-assessment, group assessment, continuous feedback from the teachers, peer review, individual grades, etc.
- ✓ The curriculum and scenarios are available in **5 languages**: English, Spanish, Catalan, Latvian and Italian.
- ✓ Students were **active participants** of the cooperative learning and evaluation process.
- ✓ Students and teachers used the **MyDocuments eportfolio** for **competency-based assessment** and **continuous follow-up**.

The Upgrade project is close to the finish; it ends on December 31, 2021. For now, the partners are working on summarizing the results, planning the multiplier events, and they are getting ready for the 3rd and final partners' meeting in Brescia (Italy). There will be also a 5th newsletter, where we will inform about the 3rd meeting of project partners and available project materials – project final.

That's all from now. We'll keep you updated on our project website www.upgradeproject.eu and on social media **#UPgradeErasmus**.

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