



EMSTEP

2nd Newsletter

Issue No. 2 | February 2025 – July 2025

Bridging Innovation and Inclusion

There is a significant opportunity to optimize the next six months of the EMStep project by leveraging the successful results of our recent Digital Learning Platform (DLP) pilot study to refine our training tools and strengthen our upcoming international collaboration in Oslo.



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KA220 SCH - Cooperation partnerships in School Education
Empowering Middle School Teachers for Social Inclusion through Observation-based Professional Development.
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NEWS

The upcoming phase of the EMStep project (Feb 2025 - July 2025) marks a critical transition from tool development to intensive field implementation across our six partner countries.

Refining the Digital Learning Platform (DLP)

Following the comprehensive pilot study conducted by Academia, we are entering a "polishing" phase for the DLP. The platform currently hosts 210 minutes of video content across six professional development modules: Social Inclusion, Classroom Observation, Observation Tools, Leadership, Informal Observation, and Professional Development. Based on teacher feedback, we are prioritizing:

- **Visual Enhancements:** Moving beyond static slides to include classroom photos and illustrative graphics.
- **Practical Case Studies:** Integrating real-world scenarios from partner schools to demonstrate the BEST (Building Essential Skills Today) framework in action.
- **Accessibility:** Finalizing subtitles in all seven partner languages to ensure seamless use by non-native speakers.

The Road to Oslo: Collaborative Synergy

A pivotal milestone in this period is the project meeting in **Oslo, Norway**. This meeting serves as the strategic hub for:

- Finalizing the diagnostic observation procedures.
- Reviewing the translated versions of our quantitative scales for students and teachers.
- Aligning the six-country implementation plan to ensure data consistency across the 2,880 students and 144 teachers involved in the pre-test phase.



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Group meetings at Oslo

At a glance

IMPACT & PROGRESS

- 210 Minutes: Total video training content developed for the DLP.
- 5 Dimensions: The core of the BEST framework: Self-Awareness, Initiative & Ownership, Goal Setting & Planning, Engaging & Managing, and Monitoring & Adapting.
- 6 Countries: Pilot study successfully completed in Bulgaria, Italy, Türkiye, Slovenia, Portugal, and Norway.
- 100% Relevance: The Classroom Observation module received a perfect 5/5 relevance rating from multiple partner countries.

WHAT WE ACHIEVED SO FAR

We have successfully navigated the foundational stages of WP2, establishing a robust infrastructure for teacher professional development:

1. **DLP Architecture Finalized:** The platform is live with a structured learning path for educators.
2. **Observation Tool Suite Developed:** A comprehensive set of tools, including Checklists, Classroom Diagramming, and Open Narrative forms, has been created to support structured data collection.
3. **Successful Pilot Execution:** One lead teacher from each partner country tested the DLP, providing the qualitative and quantitative data necessary for our current refinements.
4. **Inquiry Strategy Integration:** We have developed specific teacher inquiry strategies focused on "Goal Setting and Planning," helping students break down complex projects into actionable steps.



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Follow the EMSTEP journey as we
continue working to make
classrooms more inclusive,
collaborative, and effective across
Europe.

Empowering teachers. Enabling
inclusion. Inspiring change.



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