


COVID-19



Home-Based VET in Albania

Seals: **semiaquatic** marine mammals.

Just like seals, education should develop into a hybrid, properly combining **face-to-face** with **online learning**. A revolution has just begun. Either we wait and then react or pro-act now.

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Welcome!



Patrik Meier
Deputy Head of Mission
Swiss Embassy in Albania



Fation Dragoshi
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This webinar will be recorded



Tony Hegewald / pixelio.de



Franz Kehl
Managing Director
KEK-CDC Consultants



Albania: COVID-19 and VET

- All schools closed since 09 March
- Remote learning: National TV, other platforms
- Impact on Employment and VET not yet clear
- Major challenge: upcoming state exams (June)
→ Major impact on youngsters in many aspects



Patrik Meier
Deputy Head of Mission
Swiss Embassy in Albania



- Learning/education can/should continue
 - E-learning platform: result of long-term approach to boost digitalisation
 - Involvement of national agencies and line ministry crucial
- Rethink VET today – vision for VET tomorrow?



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Topics to be covered

- > Context and design of S4J project
- > COVID-19: what impact for learning
- > Our approach: promote online learning (MesoVET)
- > Lessons Learnt

15 mins



Fation Dragoshi
S4J Project Manager

- > Answer to your questions
(now and later in written)

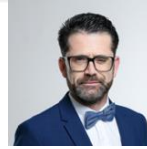
30 mins



Sidita Dibra
Deputy Project Manager
Line Manager for NWoL



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S4J Project Manager



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Context and Design S4J

> BASELINE (2015):

- 16.5% choose VET | last resort | the building is 'THE school' | poor digital skills - 'who needs them' | lack of teaching materials | limitations in pedagogical skills | low output rate || low relevance of skills for the labour market - 35% employed ||

> VISION and DESIGN:

- New Ways of Inclusive Learning (**Blended Learning** incl. Online Learning)
- Bring Business to Schools and Schools to Businesses
- In-built Labour Market Insertion Facilities

Skills for Jobs BIO

Inception Phase:

10/15 - 04/16 || 0.3M

Phase 1:

5/15 - 4/19 || CHF 7.5M + VAT ||

10,094 beneficiaries


Phase 2:

5/19 - 6/23 || CHF 9.6M + VAT ||

16,000 beneficiaries (est.)



Map of Albania
with locations of
VET providers (10)
S4J supports

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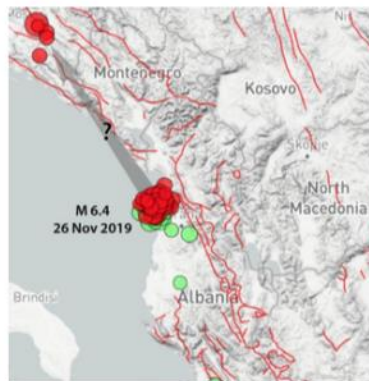
Context and Design S4J (2)

> IN ACTION:

- **Soft Infrastructure** (in partnership with companies)
 - Wifi || labs || computers
 - VLP (moodle-based)
- **Continuous Professional Development**
 - Technologies for education (use + methodologies)
 - Develop (digital) content
- **Size of it**
 - 4 schools | 48 teachers | ±600 students
- **Take up**
 - Slow and small (in 2 years - resistance to change)
 - No endorsement from policy-makers / leadership

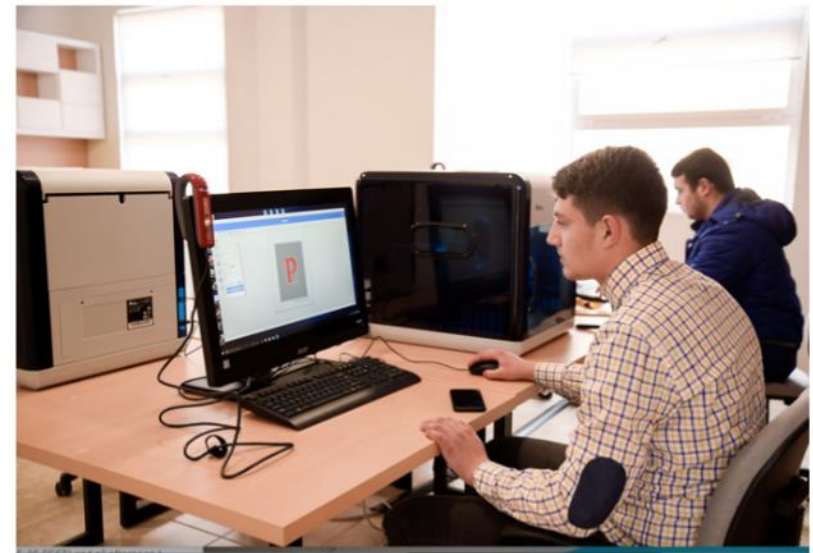


Blended learning is an approach to learning that combines face-to-face and online learning experiences. Ideally, each (both online and off) will complement the other by using its particular strength.
Source: Oxford Dictionary



Earthquake hits central Albania Nov. 2019

It got some people to think about online learning



COVID-19: Impacting learning in Albania

- > All schools closed from 9/3/2020
- > Applying **Remote Teaching / Learning**



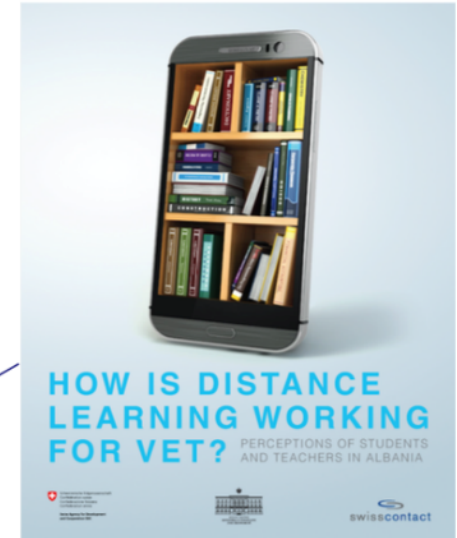
Google Classroom

- > Teachers struggling to cope with this situation
- > Content not necessarily adept
- > Internet access/devices remain a challenge

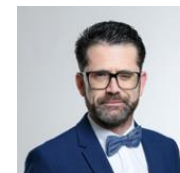
Key challenges identified by teachers:

- Access to internet for students
- Lack of digital learning materials
- Digital skills (student's and teacher's)

- Monitoring student's participation
- Assessing student's progress
- Document and reporting the process



Rapid Assessment: 16-20/3/20
Available in English:
xxxxxxx



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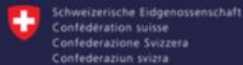
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**There is no returning to normal after COVID-19.
But there is a path forward...**

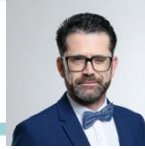
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**Do we to stand by waiting to react
or
Do we lead the way in designing that path!?**



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S4J Promoting online learning

OUR APPROACH

- Online-Learning Platform
- Capacity building (*technical and pedagogical*)
- Content Development (develop and upload)
- Communication for Development (social media)
- Action Research

> **Mesovet.al**: VLP | Pilot | moodle-based - open source | Alb | user-friendly | mobile-friendly | manage classes/ courses | low maintenance costs | all-in-one solution ||

Functionalities:

- Share interactive materials (lessons, books, H5P)
- Collaboration
- Assessment
- Documentation

> **Content**: developed **OR** adapted by selected teachers - peer reviewed - uploaded (by juniors) | multimedia - games - quizzes - forums - wiki - progress ||



SOME NUMBERS

- subjects/courses: 92
- Instructional courses: 5
- Teachers: 424
- Students: 2,956



S4J Promoting online learning (2)

HIGHLIGHTS

SUPPORT PROVIDED (remotely)

How to ...

- > use platforms (various)
- > apply online learning pedagogy
- > develop e-content
- > adapt content for online learning and upload
- > relate with and engage students
- > share experiences

- 4 schools, then 9, now 45 providers
- Endorsed by national agencies, Line Ministry
- No magic solution overnight, not for all
- MesoVET is complimentary / alternative
- Access to internet a pre-condition, devices also
- Teachers need basic training to use the platform, not the case for students
- Requires some planning from teachers
- Developing / adapting content for online learning requires some basic training
- 1 or 2 teachers per develop content for a subject; 3 to 4 act as peer reviewers
- More providers/teachers engaging, the faster the process (populating the platform)
- Plenty of free online training for teachers (mostly in English and French languages) for online learning
- No will - NO WAY



Lessons Learnt



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CHALLENGES

- Some will always be excluded due to limitations for internet access
- As everything new, remote and online learning implemented poorly
- High levels of stress for both students and teachers (the lockdown 'helps' to this end)
- Content available still very limited

OPPORTUNITIES

- Everyone is familiarizing with technologies for education (experiential learning opportunity)
- Peer exchange has intensified, big potential
- Online CPD for teachers working well (better) online
- Providers better positioned now to use and benefit from industry for learning/training materials
- Remote learning bringing enthusiasm to take up digitization in education



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Ask, comment & discuss!



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The discussion has just started ...

- **Online Community of Practice in May**
We will share questions, solutions and resources among practitioners and experts
- **Up-to-date findings** of the CoP and external sources on ShareWeb
- **Individual support** to design, select and coordinate distance learning solutions by SNBI:
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