



The road so far

The impact of the pandemic has delayed the implementation of a number of the Project's activities. This asymmetric impact has introduced a challenging time not only to finishing tasks that were intended to be completed on-site, but also in accomplishing other duties that required to be conducted jointly by all members of the partnership. In particular, the following activities have been adversely affected: Initially, the creation of a stakeholder network to work together on the SDG journalism course in Asian Higher Education Institutions. In addition, research visits had to be rescheduled, and lastly, the recurring pandemic waves have hindered the proper incorporation of the course into university curricula, which in turn has delayed other related activities.

For the aforementioned reasons, the Project's qualifying period was extended until **November 14, 2023**, with the approval of the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) on March 24, 2022. The request for the extension was made on Feb 25, along with an amended work plan. The extension will allow some flexibility and minor alterations within the revised deadline, to meet the requirements of the Project's implementation.



On March 23, 2022, a virtual symposium entitled "Malaysian-European cooperation in Higher Education" took place virtually. The symposium aimed to unite higher learning institutions, in the interest of promoting knowledge-sharing and the application of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to news reporting. Several representatives took part in the event, mostly from higher education institutions in Malaysia.

SDGs | Journalism Reporting.



On April 5, 2022, a partnership Meeting was held online, during which, an updated workplan was put forth by the coordinator. Meanwhile, the project's targets for the following three (3) to four (4) months were discussed, with the delivery of the new course (that will permit piloting in August or September 2022) being the top priority. The partnership also agreed the implementation strategy regarding the upcoming study visits in Battambang, Cambodia (during December 2022), in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (during June/July 2023) and in Ningbo, China (during October/November 2023).

From May 30 through June 3, 2022 the SDGs Journalism Summer School took place at the University of Nottingham Ningbo China (UNNC). During this intensive/interdisciplinary course, a total of 24 UNNC students were given the opportunity to participate in lectures, guided tours and workshops. Their purpose was to help students understand the importance of the

role of journalism in achieving the sustainable development goals set for the United Nations' 2030 Agenda.



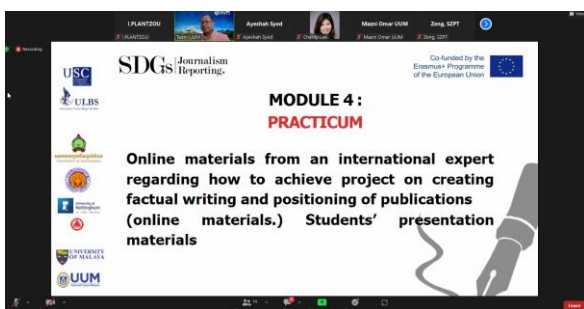
Moreover, the students had the chance to acquire hands-on experience in the creation of multi-media reports and the presentation of multi-media SDG stories relevant to gender equality, climate pollution and food & plastic waste.



On June 21, 2022, an online partnership meeting was convened. The coordinator emphasized the need to prepare for the upcoming *Staff Training Course*, which is an important phase in the project's life cycle. The coordination and delivery of the course was assigned to "UNIVERSITATEA LUCIAN BLAGA DIN SIBIU" (LBUS), "Universiti Utara Malaysia" (UUM), and "Royal University of Phnom Penh" (RUPP). Activities directly

involved with the pilot Journalism Reporting Course were addressed to the “University of Nottingham Ningbo China” (UNNC), “UNIVERSITATEA LUCIAN BLAGA DIN SIBIU” (LBUS) and “Shenzhen Polytechnic” (SZPT).

The **8th of July, 2022** saw the successful commencement of the online training sessions, which will continue through the 5th of August. Four (4) online training sessions have been carried out successfully by UUM and LBUS trainers. On **July 8**, the first module named “The Word Agenda and the SDG” was delivered. On **July 15**, the second online training session for Module 2 “Sustainability” was completed. On **July 22**, the third online training session for Module 3 “Journalism and Narrative Techniques” was conducted. Last but not least, the 4th online training session, which took place on **July 29**, covered Module 4's “Practicum”.



The road ahead

On August 5, The Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP) in collaboration with Novel Group were assigned with presenting the project's online platform. RUPP will present the first section, which will include views on “Useful digital learning and pedagogical tools”. The second section, which will discuss the characteristics and functionalities of the constructed web platform, will be covered by Novel Group.

From the 5th to the 10th of December, 2022, the first (1st) study visit will take place in Battambang, Cambodia. The activities schedule is still under definition and discussion.

Preparing for, and launching of the pilot course. The study materials will be written using the suggestions made by the Consortium members. Two different types of study materials, one for on-campus instruction, and the other for online distance learning will be developed.

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