EXPANDI40

Management and I4.0 Evangelist Training

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EDIH EXPANDI 4.0 Expanding Industry 4.0 in Slovakia

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Slovenská inovačná a energetická agentúra	SIEA
SOVA Digital a.s.	SOVA
Soitron a.s.	SOITRON
Matador Industry a.s.	MATADOR
Národné centrum robotiky	NCR
Združenie Industry 4UM	14UM

Annual Report and Financial Report

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30.11.2024

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This deliverable provides an overview of the progress of service delivery through our European Digital Innovation Hub for supporting the expansion of the principles and tools of I4.0 and developing the relevant innovation ecosystem for I4.0

EDIH EXPANDI 4.0 is referred to below as EDIH EXPANDI.

The document is provides the outputs from the power BI as of Dec. 17, 2024t

The report aims to offer valuable insights into our project's progress.

INTRODUCTION

The European Digital Innovation Hubs (EDIHs) aim to prepare European society and economy for a leading role in sustainable technology development and the twin transition of digital and green progress. The overarching goal of EXPANDI 4.0 is to facilitate digital transition across all Slovak regions by supporting local small and medium enterprises (SMEs), small mid-caps and Public Sector Organizations (PSOs) in their digital transformation, including the consideration of their environmental impact. In a rapidly evolving global landscape, the competitiveness, internationalization and scaling are critical priorities for companies. EXPANDI 4.0 aims to provide the holistic set of the services that could accelerate digitalization and increase the competitiveness of SMEs on local and international markets and support t develop innovative ecosystem of I4.0 bringing together all stakeholders and networks.

After a project duration of 24 months (but actually on 18 months of full implementation, after the cofinancing grant was concluded), this deliverable reports on the overall status the project.

Intended Audience

This deliverable is addressed to three main audiences: 1) the consortium members, 2) the commission services and the independent reviewers of the project and 3) the public interested in the work of the EDIHs. As a public deliverable, its content is intended to be made available to other parties via the project website.

Goal

This document aims to is to demonstrate how the services we provide contribute to the broader goals of the project and support EDIH's mission and vision.

OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRESS

Current development of the performance shows, that WP 4 served so far only 7 companies and 7 participants.

On the other hand, the training courses planned for the January – February 2025 has gained high level of interest and as of December 17 we have 63 participants registered. NaCeRo partner (National Center of Robotics) provides the service.

We have recorded a delay in delivering the trainings for management alongside all the training modules (self-standing modules), but we are accelerating the finalization of the new modules and we expect that by 1.Q 2025 it will be extended for additional 3 modules that are currently under development.

For more details see the power BI screen shot followed by description of the WP work performed and presentation of the WP 4, delivered during the mid-term report on Dec. 13, 2024 by prof. Duchoň..

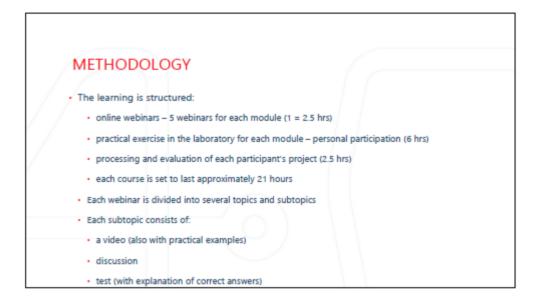


2. WORK PLAN, WORK PACKAGES, ACTIVITIES

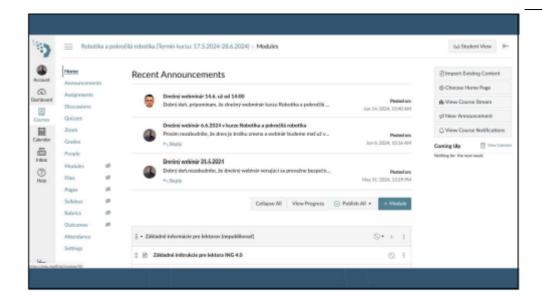
2.1 Work package 4: Skills and Training

Task No.	Task name	Description of the work performed
T4.1	Content development: Upskilling and Reskilling Training Tool/Content	The project was developed based on a memorandum signed by representatives from industrial associations, leading technical universities, and the state. The content definition and oversight are managed by a Council of Experts , which includes representatives from both industrial enterprises and universities. This Council has identified five themes that are most relevant to practical applications.
	development	A total of 20 selected experts from three of the top Slovak technical universities and leading companies contributed to the content creation. Four educational modules were developed, focusing on robotics , logistics , data processing , and maintenance . The module designed for top managers has been temporarily postponed due to a shortage of experts in that area.
		Each team consists of three university representatives, one company representative, and one coordinator. The courses are structured for 21 teaching hours , which include five webinars (2.5 hours each), six hours of hands-on exercises, and a 2.5-hour final meeting. All courses are delivered via video recordings, making them independent of specific lecturers. Following the videos, participants engage in discussions and complete a test. A methodology for developing course content and completion requirements has been established, and all content has been evaluated by a group of experts from Slovak companies.
T4.2	Skills development: Train the trainers Management and I4.0 evangelists	Currently, 29 specialists from universities and industry are trained and actively involved in teaching. Pilot courses for each module were conducted in May-June 2024 , providing valuable feedback for minor content adjustments. These pilot courses have successfully produced the first 7 graduates , with a total of 225 graduates planned to be served.
	Training courses up and running	The delay in starting the training was primarily due to the complex development process of the content by the three universities and a representative from the private sector. Additional delays occurred because of the summer holidays.
		To address this, an intensive campaign (WP7) was launched during the summer of 2024, which will continue throughout autumn 2024. This initiative, along with future campaigns through Industry4UM, will enable us to serve many more participants. Starting in autumn 2024, we will fully implement learning for practice.
T4.3	Technology Bootcamps	Based on the evaluation of the current state, supported by the latest Industry4UM 2023 survey on the level of digitization in enterprises, we identified a significant issue: graduates from secondary vocational schools often lack the necessary skills for digitized production. In response, we re-evaluated the parameters of our technology bootcamps and shifted our training focus toward students from secondary vocational

schools and gymnasiums.
We adjusted the format from 3-4 day sessions to 1-2 day bootcamps, aligning the content with the amount of information students can effectively absorb in a single session. This shorter format also enabled us to increase the frequency of bootcamps within the capacity of the EXPANDI 4.0 team.
As a result, we successfully trained and enhanced the digital production skills of 284 students throughout the project.

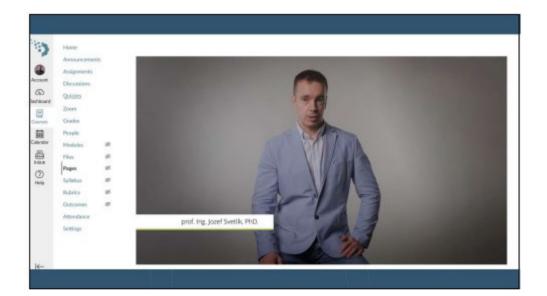


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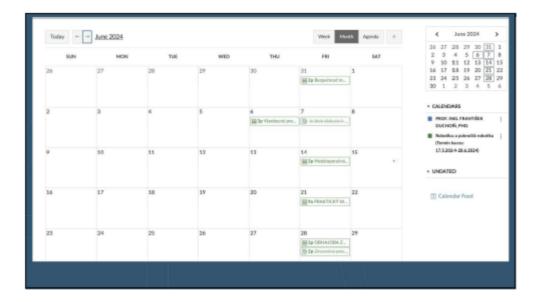


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RESULTS, CHALLENGES AND HOW ARE WE DEALING WITH THEM

CURRENT STATUS	
T4.1 Content development: Upskilling and Reskilling Training Tool/Content development	
5 modules done, 1 preparing, more are planned	
 T4.2 Skills development: Train the trainers Management and I4.0 evangelists trainings; Training courses up and running 	
 29 specialists conducted pilote trainings during period of May – June 2024 7 graduates 	
T4.3 Technology bootcamps	
 adjusted the format from 3-4 day sessions to 1-2 day bootcamps 	
successfully trained 284 students	





WHY ARE WE BEHIND ON TASK T4.2?

- the complex development process of the content by the three universities and a representative from the private sector
- · aadditional delays occurred because of the summer holidays
- a later communication campaign, which also required much effort for an effective and targeted setup
- not very effective support from official authorities (industry associations, ministries, etc.)



History of changes

Ver.	Author(s)	Change description
1.0	Artur Bobovnicky	Document creation
1.1	Artur Bobovnicky	Final text
	1.0	1.0 Artur Bobovnicky