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Abstract of SMARTI

SMARTI supports the development and implementation of comprehensive EMI pedagogical core curricula for tertiary-level teaching courses through applying EMI for Armenia.

In Armenia the Project also aims to help the partners achieve the requirements set by the Armenian Government:

- Increasing the employability of students through the introduction of EMI degree programs;
- Making the Armenian tertiary education fully recognizable for the EHEA;
- Improving the quality and accessibility of education through updated EMI content and methods to support the HEIs and the internationalization of education in Armenia.



Commemorative object

intended to honor an important event or person from the past



Inscription in Armenian Alphabet reads:
"I, Gohar, full of sin and weak of soul, with my newly learned hands wove (this rug). Whosoever reads (this) say a word of mercy for me. In the year of 1149 (1700AD.)"

THE "GOHAR" CARPET. Wool: 5'11" x 11'6"
 Artsakh, Armenia. Private collection

DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES

Dissemination is a powerful tool for making the project outcomes and deliverables available to internal and external stakeholders, thereby boosting public awareness and sustainability of outputs in the long term. Dissemination activities are primarily guided and coordinated by GSU and VSU from the Armenian side with the strong support and contributions provided by all the Armenian project partners to deal with publicizing issues. The links below will provide you with access to the awareness-raising activities of each institution:

- [PAARA](#)
- [VSU](#)
- [ANAU](#)
- [SUSH](#)
- [GSU](#)
- [ANQA](#)

SMARTI PUBLICATIONS



SUPPORT FOR INNOVATIVE METHODOLOGY, APPROACHES AND TOOLS FOR TEACHING THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF ENGLISH IN ORDER TO IMPROVE EDUCATIONAL YIELD, SUSTAINABILITY AND INTERNATIONALIZATION

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[f](#) [PAARA](#); [GSU](#); [VSU](#) [t](#) [SMARTI PAARA](#) [v](#) [SMARTI](#) [c](#) [SMARTI](#)



NEWS ABOUT PROJECT ACTIVITIES

PRE-KICK-OFF AND OFFICIAL KICK-OFF MEETINGS

On March 17-18, 2021, an online pre-kick-off meeting was organized by the NEO in Armenia with the participation of the representatives from Armenian HEIs. The main objective of the meeting was to introduce the seven Erasmus + CBHE projects selected under the Call for Proposals 2020. The SMARTI Project was presented by Mrs. Tereza Khechoyan, PAARA Vice Rector for Foreign Relations, who briefly introduced the Project description, the main aims and objectives, planned activities, intended outcomes and deliverables. For more details visit [here](#).

From March 30 to April 1, 2021, the [official online kick-off meeting](#) of the SMARTI Project was held.



HYBRID COMBINED ANNUAL STEERING GROUP MEETING AND TRAINING

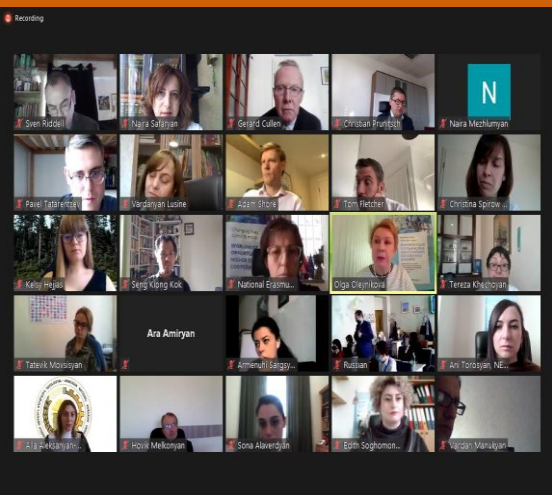
On October 6-8, 2021, Goris State University hosted a hybrid workshop on "Hybrid Combined Annual Steering Group Meeting and Training". On the first day of the workshop, the participants spoke about the monitoring conducted in Russia in June, 2021 and the upcoming monitoring which was to be held by the NEO-Armenia on 15 October, 2021. The next two presentations were devoted to the outcomes of the Field and Desk studies carried out by ANAU and PetrSU.

Then, the Armenian and Russian PC Universities succinctly presented the strengths and weaknesses of the ESP self-study manual "Headway", the mechanisms and strategies of the ECTS system implemented in their HEIs and the extent to which they are similar to or

different from the guidelines and key features described in the "ECTS Users' Guide". For more details visit [here](#).

The sightseeing trip organised by the host University for the participants was an unforgettable experience which spiced up the three-day workshops full of interest- and thought-provoking speeches, dialogues and activities. Located in the centre of Syunik Region, [Tatev Monastery Complex](#) with its breathtaking scenery and architectural beauty was well worth the visit.

Even the cold and foggy weather could not discourage the adventurous group from riding the [cable car](#) which is the longest non-stop reversible aerial tramway.



One of the most significant milestones of the SMARTI Project is the establishment of the EMI Centres in PC HEIs which will serve as a hub and a solid base for the efficient implementation of methods, techniques and strategies for the EMI activities in terms of organisation and content. The Centres are to be equipped with facilities and conditions conducive to ensuring a smooth flow of activities each of which will be a stepping stone to enhancing the standards of higher education and the internationalisation of the academic programs chosen for the project. The EMI Centres will provide training courses and give consultations on a regular basis to the subject teachers who are expected to conduct their academic disciplines in English with a strong emphasis on student-centred learning methodologies on the one hand and innovative approaches to research and teaching on the other hand.

NEWS ABOUT EMI CENTRES



SMARTI TEACHING AND LEARNING

CLIL-Approach Implementation at VSU

The approach which is currently being exploited at VSU for non-English language subjects is **CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning)**. This is a strategy which efficiently incorporates two types of English: **GE (General English)** and **ESP (English for Specific Purposes)**. The latter is significantly important for students since language is functional and is dictated by the content of a specific subject. This job/career-oriented methodology develops students' communicative competence in their field of specialisation and provides them with skills necessary to meet the 21st-century labour market requirements. The lesson plan below (for students whose major is **Physics**) has been developed according to CLIL methodology in which both the language and the subject are cooperatively integrated.

General English (GE)	English for Specific Purposes (ESP)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vocabulary: Career Moves • Grammar: Modals: Ability, requests and offers • Reading: Ten ways to improve your career • Speaking: Discussing ways to improve your career • Communication Skills: Telephoning: Making contact 	<p>Topic: The Properties of Plasma: nucleus of one proton, positive charge, ions and electrons, the remnant of a molecule, completely ionized, discharge, electrically neutral</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vocabulary: Professional terms related to Plasma Physics: thermonuclear fusion, heating and confinement, experimental equipment and installations, hydrogen ions, closed magnetic system • Word Formation: (molecule-molecular) • Speaking: Pair-discussion on industrial applications of Plasma Physics • Writing: A report on Plasma Physics and its applications

MEET THE PARTNERS



The Public Administration Academy of the Republic of Armenia ([PAARA](#)), the local coordinator of the Project-consortium-member Armenian institutions, is the legal successor of RA School of Public Administration which was established in accordance with the Government Decree N240 dated May 24, 1994, with the technical support of the EU TACIS program.

For more details ⇒ [PAARA Presentation](#).



Goris State University ([GSU](#)) is the only leading higher educational institution in Syunik Region, situated in the southern part of Armenia. Being a vitally important education and research centre of the whole region, GSU has constantly been involved in the continual and sustainable development of tertiary education for half a century.

For more details ⇒ [GSU Pesentation](#).





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UPCOMING EVENTS

ESP & ECTS/TUNING MODULAR TRAINING AT UCP (15-23 JANUARY, 2022)

After the long-run Covid restriction, representatives from partner universities will finally be given an opportunity to have a face-to-face collaboration. The upcoming event of the SMARTI Project is the ESP and ECTS/Tuning Modular training which is to be held at [Universidade Católica Portuguesa – Faculty of Biotechnology \(UCP-ESB\)](#). Upon the completion of the “QA English for Specific Purposes Training” and “ECTS/Tuning Modular Seminar”, the trained staff are expected to disseminate the training and seminar outputs at their home universities. They are also supposed to organise in-house trainings for subject teachers through sharing the experience and skills gained. The ESP and ECTS/Tuning Modular will be partly or fully integrated into the curriculum of all universities.

Circumstances permitting, the participants can do some sightseeing of the amazingly beautiful City of Porto by visiting some of its historical and cultural places.

EMI DISSEMINATION EVENT FOR BA AND MA STUDENTS AT GSU (30 NOVEMBER, 2021)

QUALITY ASSURANCE OF THE SMARTI PROJECT EVENTS

The continuous quality assurance process is essential for the success of the SMARTI Project. Within the framework of the Project the Internal Evaluation Working Group (IEWG) has been set up with one representative from each of the following project-partner

institutions: Armenian National Centre for Professional Education Quality Assurance, Foundation (ANQA), Russian Register (RR) and Riga Technical University (RTU). IEWG has started its activities with the evaluation of the SMARTI project kick-off meeting; in close cooperation with the partners, it has developed and implemented an evaluation survey for the Desk and Field Study. IEWG has also held several meetings to develop the Quality Assurance Strategy (QAS) which was finalized during the [off-line meeting in Yerevan \(October, 2021\)](#).



The QAS, based on the PDCA (plan-do-check-act) cycle, involves the main steps of the Project quality assurance activities and aims at its constant improvement. Within the framework of QAS, IEWG initiated the progress reporting procedure for all the Working Packages.

SMARTI CONSORTIUM

Coordinator



Partners

