

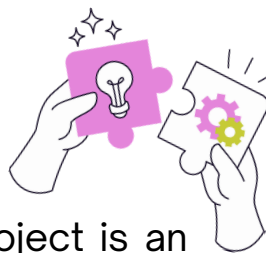
SEQ Elevate

Newsletter #1



Welcome to our first newsletter!
We are thrilled to share with you the latest updates, progress, and achievements from the first months of our project!

About the project



The SEQ Elevate: Skills for the Future project is an EU co-funded, Social Innovation (SI+) Initiative project with a duration of 24 months (07.2025-07.2027) that aims to **support vulnerable young people not in employment, education, or training (NEETs)** in re-engaging in learning and improving their employability.

SEQ Elevate bridges the widening gap of limited training options and traditional methods - which often fail to cater to NEET youth's needs - by enhancing their social and emotional skills needed for successful re-integration into the job market. The project adopts a holistic learning approach, combining **interactive micro-lessons with an innovative gamified digital app and engaging living labs**, as flexible and self-paced learning options that resonate with the preferences of marginalized youth.

Get to know our consortium



Coordinator

Partners



SYNTHESIS
CENTER FOR RESEARCH AND EDUCATION



diesis
network

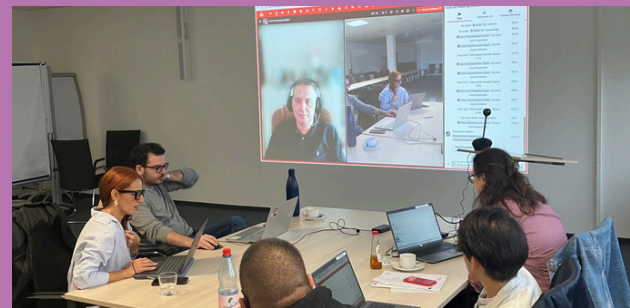


Kick-off meeting in Germany

The SEQ Elevate project officially launched with a Kick-Off Meeting on 8–9 September 2025 in Dreieich, Germany, hosted by our project coordinator Pro Arbeit – Kreis Offenbach (AÖR) – Kommunales Jobcenter and attended by project partners SYNTHESIS Center for Research and Education, Diesis Network, and the University of Macedonia from Cyprus, Belgium and Greece.

During the meeting, partners introduced their organisations, clarified roles across the project’s work packages, and discussed key activities, project coordination, and next steps.

The meeting established a strong foundation for collaboration as the consortium begins its work to empower NEET youth through innovative learning approaches, social-emotional skills development, and improved employability opportunities.



Spotlight on WP2: Research Phase Successfully Completed!



During mid-autumn and winter 2025, research activities were conducted in all four partner countries, led by the University of Macedonia (UoM) with the active contribution of all partners, focusing on **mapping the social and emotional skills needs of NEET youth** in the social economy sector.



Questionnaires were distributed to NEET youth (early school leavers, unemployed, migrants aged 18–30) and labour market stakeholders to explore their needs, gaps, and awareness of transversal social and emotional skills. Our research was complemented with national and EU focus groups with Social Entrepreneurs/Experts in Social Economy to validate and enrich the findings.

The **Transnational Research Report**, developed by UoM, summarizes WP2 research findings, methodology, key social and emotional skills, identified models, and recommendations to inform the development of WP3 and WP4 results (gamified digital tool, micro-unit courses and living labs). The research report will be available soon on our website in English and all national languages. **Stay tuned!**

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Social Innovation Initiative

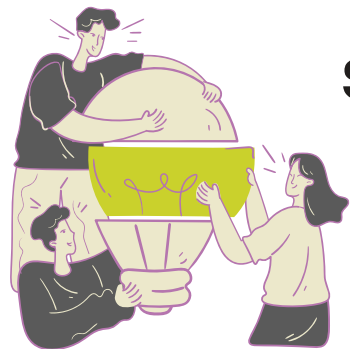


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What's next?

Our upcoming activities will focus on finalizing key WP2 deliverables and structuring WP3 activities, as follows:

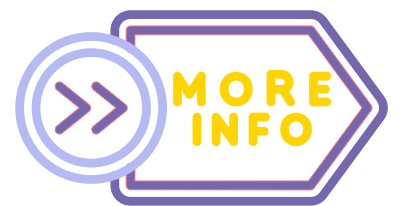
- Development of the **SEQ Learning Model Framework**, a methodological framework tailored specifically for the social economy context. Building on previous research findings, the framework will identify key transversal social and emotional skills and provide clear guidelines and methodologies for implementing their development.
- Establishment of a **co-design strategy with NEETs and stakeholders** through small co-creation teams for feedback and peer exchange.
- Creation of the **SEQ Learning Model Validation System** which will outline an accreditation system for micro-credentials, followed by the development of the **SEQ Elevate Interactive Gamified Digital Tool** to enhance NEETs' professional prospects through gamified learning and digital badges.



SEQ Elevate at 3rd ESF+ Mutual Learning Event

The SEQ Elevate project will be presented at the 3rd ESF+ Mutual Learning Event which will be held physically in Lisbon, Portugal on 17–18 March 2026, bringing together projects focused on upskilling vulnerable youth, especially NEETs.

Over two days, participants will share progress, discuss challenges, explore effective practices in skills development, employment, and social inclusion, and draw on Portuguese expertise in social innovation. The event will also provide opportunities for networking and exchanging experiences with peers.



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