

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Newsletter of T-Story Project



Official newsletter of the T-Story - Storytelling Applied to Training project, funded by the transversal action “Key Activity 3 – Information and Communication Technologies” within the framework of the Lifelong Learning Programme.

We are very pleased to present you with the third official newsletter, concerning the new information about T-Story project last activities and plans. The project team hopes that together with our readers we will promote a wider use of the Storytelling and Digital Storytelling in education and training at all levels (formal, non-formal and informal). The project’s final products will be useful for all subjects of education and all groups of learners. That makes our project particularly innovative.

We also expect that the method of Storytelling and Digital Storytelling can be an effective tool for the development of creativity, innovation and effectiveness of educators/trainers throughout Europe by developing a digital course and interesting materials useful in educational practice. The project is co-financed by the European Union in the framework of the Lifelong Learning Programme and it is realized by the international consortium composed of 7 competent institutions from Italy, Portugal, Romania, Greece, Poland, the Netherlands and Spain.

### What’s happening In T-Story Project

During the past months we were preparing the final products of T-Story project:

- **Digital Storytelling Course**
- **Learning Handbook**

The additional product of our work was the **Promotional Video** which presents the basic ideas about T-Story Project.

During the past 3-4 months we organized **Skype conferences**, a **working session in Milano** and an **International Meeting in Baveno**.

The partners have been in constant contact, working on the Digital Storytelling Course and the Learning Handbook.

### Digital Storytelling Course

The Digital Course on Storytelling will be the main product of our project.

The course will teach how to give lessons or training to the students through digital storytelling and will guide teachers/trainers/educators to choose the right tools, according to their subjects and objectives. The digital course will teach not only the methods themselves, but also ICT skills like:

- making a short movie
- producing simple animations
- creating their own digital stories

The users will get concrete tips as we will also include practical examples of how to use storytelling in different areas of training or education. The course will lead users to create their own stories step by step.

We want for the users not only to learn the method, but also to have fun while learning.

The users of the course will learn storytelling through storytelling, as the digital course is developed by the storytelling method.

## Learning Handbook

The Learning Handbook will include the learning contents to support the Digital Course “T-Story – Storytelling applied to training”. The Learning Handbook will comprise of 3 different chapters with theoretical background on storytelling, technical information and support for the development of digital storytelling.

The book will contain also practical exercises and links to interesting materials on the internet that support working with stories and digital stories. The Reader will find useful tips on how to improve the process of teaching and learning based on storytelling and digital storytelling.

## Promotional Video

We created a short video promoting the T-story project and the main ideas of storytelling methods and the aims of the Digital Storytelling Course in the attractive visual form.

The promotional video is available on our You Tube Channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZNXJ6o4VE9E>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ul3uL3DTprQ>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iO2IaijYbDo>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KljxVKioaj0>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GaHtpOrQ4Gk>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uAG8c-sapUE>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3d4XVeffOSo>

## International meetings

In order to ensure good collaboration and high quality of work, the partners organize international project meetings, where they sum up the tasks already completed, discuss about the project’s process, activities, and products and they plan the next steps.

During the past months we had two meetings, both in Italy.

- **Working session in Milano (Italy)- February 7-8, 2014**

In February we met together for a short working session in order to prepare and discuss the final products of T-Story Project. We spent two days in Milano producing our Digital Storytelling Course scenario and manuscript.



- **4<sup>th</sup> Partnership Meeting in Baveno (Italy) – March 10-11, 2014**

In March we had a very productive meeting of T-Story team in Baveno. During that meeting the results of partners work on the final products were presented: Learning Handbook (beta version), the Promotional Video of the project, and the structure of the Digital Storytelling Course (beta version).

After that presentation, the partners discussed and analyzed the Dissemination and Exploitation reports, the results of international activities, progress and plans.

There was also a discussion about the project events: 2<sup>nd</sup> National Seminars, Pilot Sessions, and Final Conference.



## National activities

### *Italy*

The 2<sup>nd</sup> national seminar of the T-STORY project in Italy was organized in Baveno, on the Lake Maggiore, with an audience composed by post graduate students of a Master in Human Resources and Organizations, in 3<sup>rd</sup> of March 2014. The T-Story presentation has been the best way to concretely illustrate how stories together with digital tools can improve the learning outcomes, how many potentialities and possibilities there are to take advantage from them. During the seminar, the attendees actively participated, raising questions about specific issues regarding digital storytelling applied to training. More, the project raised huge interest and a group of participants asked to be involved in the training session, strongly willing to learn a new methodology for their future teaching profession.







The pilot training session to test the digital course has come ! ISTUD started the enrolment of trainers and teachers interested in testing and validate the course and all the learning materials, with the participation to the seminar “From school to work”, organized by Fondazione ISTUD and a secondary school for economics and social sciences. The event was held in Baveno (Italy) on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2014, and the T-Story project was presented, in front of an audience of about 70 teachers and educators. The activities of TStory and the methodology of Digital Storytelling revealed to be very interesting for them, and very welcome for their update.

The Second European Conference on Technology in the Classroom 2014 - Brighton, United Kingdom  
July 9-13, 2014

An abstract on TStory project – Storytelling Applied to Training has been accepted at the Second European Conference on Technology in the Classroom, which will be held in Brighton from July 9-13 2014. The Conference theme of this edition will be “Individual, Community, Society: Connecting, Learning and Growing”. This is an important international occasion for this ambitious and innovative project, addressed to trainers of all educational levels, to diffuse digital storytelling as new learning and teaching methodology.

<http://iafor.org/iafor/conferences/the-european-conference-on-technology-in-the-classroom-2014/>

### ***Portugal***

The 1<sup>st</sup> national seminar of the T-STORY project in Portugal was organized with SPZN ([www.spzn.pt](http://www.spzn.pt)), a teachers' union from the north of Portugal, in 25<sup>th</sup> of February 2014. During the seminar, teachers

and educators from several educational areas and levels actively participated, raising questions about specific issues regarding storytelling and digital storytelling applied to training.

Thus, the project raised huge interest among the participants eager to learn about new methodologies and tools to motivate their students and innovate in the classroom.



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T-STORY project was represented on the *National Congress of Professional Training* at Oporto, in 14<sup>th</sup> of March 2014.

This event aimed to drive the professional training sector sharing opinions, experiences and knowledge among training experts in Portugal under the theme “Quality management in e-Learning”.

General information on this event can be found under:

<http://www.congressonacionaldaformacaoprofissional.pt/home>

### **Greece**

The 1<sup>st</sup> national seminar of the T-STORY project was repeated in Greece, organized in Florina, on the premises of the University of Western Macedonia. The audience was composed by 22 post graduate students of a Master in Creative Writing, on March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014. During this seminar, students from diverse professional areas were introduced to ways of exploiting digital storytelling in order to fulfill their training needs. They expressed their interest in the project, raised many questions and asked for a small laboratory workshop in order to explore the tools for creating digital stories. They stated their intension of following the project’s activities (those who did not do so already).

Arrangements have been made for organizing an online pilot training session with the Digital Course for participants of the *International Conference on Information Communication Technologies in*

*Education (ICICTE 2014)*, to be held in Kos Island, Greece from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 5<sup>th</sup> of July. A paper about the Research report of the T-Story project will also be presented in this conference.



## What are our plans

### 2<sup>nd</sup> National Seminars

National seminars are especially dedicated to the project, storytelling and digital storytelling method and the project's main products – the Learning Handbook and the Digital Course.

#### During these events we plan to present:

- The aims and results of T-story project;
- The promotional video
- Beta version of Learning Handbook
- Materials from the Learning Handbook
- Beta version of the Digital Storytelling Course as the main product of T-story project

## Pilot Training Sessions

Pilot training sessions aim is to test the Learning Handbook and the Digital course.

The training pilot is organized in each partners country. We invite teachers/trainers/educators from all levels of education (from kindergartens to adult training). Target groups can also be represented by HR professionals and students who are following teaching programs (future teachers). The pilot training sessions will be carried out from May 2014 till June 2014, before summer holidays.

The sessions will allow the verification of the learning handbook and the digital course. Participants will be presented to the digital course and will work upon it (solve exercises, present stories, etc) to develop and train skills.

The main goal of the pilot training is to gain useful feedback from participants, that should be taken into consideration while refining the course and the learning materials.

After the pilot sessions, the consortium will refine and finalize the digital course and the handbook.

You are welcome to take part in our pilot sessions! You will find detailed information about the place and date on our website – [tstory.eu](http://tstory.eu)

**The Digital Course and Learning Handbook** will be available for free. The User just needs to register on our website – [tstory.eu](http://tstory.eu)

The final version of the course will be ready by September this year, but don't wait till September: register now to have access to other materials about storytelling and to be updated with all news about the project. You can follow us on social media – we are on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn – you will find all links on our website: [tstory.eu](http://tstory.eu)

