



Minimizing the influence of coronavirus in a built environment (MICROBE)

Newsletter 1

Programme: Erasmus +

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Partners



**Vilnius Gediminas
Technical University**

<https://vilniustech.lt/index.php?lang=2>



Vilnius City Municipality

<https://vilnius.lt/en/municipality/>



**Institute for Training of
Personnel in
International
Organizations, Bulgaria**

www.itpio.eu



**Tallinn University of
Technology**

<https://www.taltech.ee/en>



University of Granada

<https://www.ugr.es/en/>

**fondazione
innovazione urbana
Foundation for Urban
Innovations**

<http://www.fondazioneinnovazioneurbana.it/en/urban-innovation-plan>



Municipality of Bologna

<http://www.comune.bologna.it>

BRIEF OVERVIEW

Since the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 pandemic, countries and cities had been forced to adopt social isolation measures very quickly. The 2019–20 COVID-19 pandemic has affected built environment and educational systems worldwide, leading to the widespread closures of schools and universities. According to UNESCO monitoring, over 200 countries have implemented nationwide closures, impacting about 98% of the world's student population. Today, the world's cities face many challenges for the built environment, city infrastructure, and planning improvements that need to be solved.

The MICROBE project should be carried out transnationally to solve the above international needs. One of the possible solutions to these problems is improvement of education in minimizing the influence of coronavirus and negative emotions in a built environment by behavioral change (hereafter MICROBE education).

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- To upgrade curricula of MSc by adding 3 new multidisciplinary personalized, recognised and certificated MOOC modules on consumer behavior change related to MICROBE education, to enhance the quality and relevance of education in participating universities to global issues;
- To develop world-wide innovative MICROBE System. It comprises the following components: Video Neuroanalytics, Web-based opinion analytics and Recommender System for the Protection against COVID-19 and Depression Reduction in Built Environment and 3 new harmonized multidisciplinary personalized MOOC modules;
- To strengthen educational and scientific networking among EU universities in the MICROBE education.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

- IO1: Personalized MOOC Modules on minimizing the influence of coronavirus and negative emotions in a built environment by applying behaviour change (MICROBE);
- IO2: Development, testing and improvement of the MICROBE Method;
- IO3: Development, testing and improvement of the MICROBE System.

MAIN PROJECTS TARGET GROUPS

- TG 1: consortium;
- TG 2: teaching staff of universities, public employees, students, graduate students, representatives of non-academic partners of the project;
- TG 3: universities and organizations of partner countries not included in the project consortium;
- TG 4: national and regional authorities, employers and organizations with agreements on employment of graduates.

The main objective users of the MICROBE System are residents, governmental institutions and business companies.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

The Project Kick-off Meeting, originally planned in Bulgaria, was held online on December 16th 2020, due to the COVID-19 restrictions, and was highly successful and fruitful.

Currently, all partners are working on the first intellectual output "Personalized MOOC Modules on minimizing the influence of coronavirus and negative emotions in a built environment by applying behaviour change (MICROBE)" and the first result of it will be the development of MICROBE cooperation for innovation and strategic partnerships for higher education framework, in March 2021.

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