

MAY, 2024



# NEWSLETTER #3

PREPARED BY THE eWBL-PROJECT



# WELCOME MESSAGE

Dear Educators, Trainers, and Supervisors,

We are delighted to bring you the latest edition of the eWBL (electronic work-based learning) newsletter, showcasing the most recent updates and achievements from our project.

We are pleased to announce the successful completion of our capacity-building programs in Germany and the Netherlands. Meanwhile, our programs in Slovenia and Italy are nearing completion, and we anticipate the Irish program will commence soon.

These capacity-building programs, delivered in a hybrid format, are designed for educators and trainers responsible for developing and implementing online or hybrid work-based learning experiences for aspiring graduates within their institutions.

We trust that you will find this newsletter both informative and valuable.

Should you have any questions or feedback, please don't hesitate to reach out to us at [\[ewbl.project@gmail.com\]](mailto:ewbl.project@gmail.com) or [hgaromssa@fh-muenster.de](mailto:hgaromssa@fh-muenster.de).

Warm regards,

Habtamu Garomssa  
eWBL Project Coordinator

FH Münster University of Applied Sciences  
Science-to-Business Marketing Research Centre  
Johann-Krane-Weg 23  
48149 Münster





## 01 | ABOUT THE PROJECT

Several EU-funded projects, such as HAPHE (2016), WBLIC (2016), and WEXHE (2020), have documented the importance of Work-Based Learning (WBL) in developing work-ready graduates. WBL is a powerful pedagogy that fosters graduate work readiness by embedding learning in real work environments. With the increase of remote work, a new electronic form of WBL has emerged recently, which this project calls "eWBL".

The project aims to upskill higher education professionals, including lecturers, trainers, and administrative staff, on designing and delivering high-quality eWBL to enhance the work readiness and employability of the graduates.

To achieve this goal, the project explored how 27 WBL providers across Europe have addressed the pedagogical and technological challenges associated with the transition from WBL to eWBL and the solutions they have developed. The project then created an overarching framework to guide eWBL trainers and supervisors. Further, the project translated the framework into a toolkit and open educational resources (OERs). Additionally, capacity-building activities are currently being delivered in each of the partner countries. Lastly, multiplier events are planned to help train those involved in WBL provision in HE.

## NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

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OUR SOCIALS



## 02 | PROJECT PARTNERS



**FH MÜNSTER**  
University of Applied Sciences

**FH MÜNSTER UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES (FH MÜNSTER)**

FH Münster is the coordinating institution of the eWBL project. In this capacity, FH Münster oversees project management and quality assurance activities. In addition, FH Münster leads project result 3 (PR3) and actively participates in the remaining project results.



**Fondazione**  
**Giacomo Brodolini**  
Srl SB

**FONDAZIONE GIACOMO BRODOLINI S.R.L. SB (FGB)**

FGB is responsible for leading the project result 1 (PR1), which aims to explore the challenges faced and alternatives found by work-based learning (WBL) providers across Europe in their shift from WBL to eWBL. In addition, FGB provides support in remaining work packages.



**Università**  
**Ca'Foscari**  
**Venezia**

**UNIVERSITA CA' FOSCARI VENEZIA (UNIVE)**

UNIVE co-leads project result 1 (PR1) together with FGB. In addition, UNIVE actively participates in the remaining project results.



**university of**  
 **groningen**

**RIJKSUNIVERSITEIT GRONINGEN (RUG)**

RUG is the leader of project result 2 (PR2), which produce general frameworks or replicable models on how to provide high-quality eWBL that are useful to a broader audience. Furthermore, RUG actively participates in the remaining project results.

*University of Ljubljana*



**UNIVERZA V LJUBLJANI (UL)**

UL is the co-leader of project result 2 (PR2) together with RUG. In addition, UL actively participates in the remaining project results.

**momentum**  
[educate + innovate]

**MOMENTUM MARKETING SERVICES LIMITED (MOMENTUM)**

MOMENTUM leads project result 4 (PR4), which aims to train the project's target audience (HE lecturers, trainers, and administrative staff) on how to design and deliver high-quality eWBL. Furthermore, MOMENTUM actively participates in the remaining project results.





## 03 | PROJECT NEWS

### eWBL IN REAL LIFE

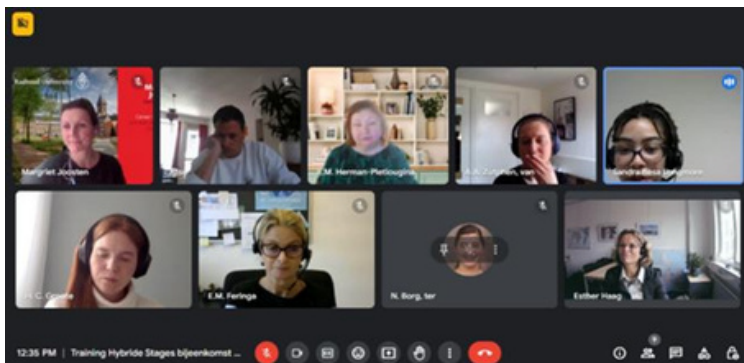
26 MARCH 2024

The University of Groningen (RUG) and Momentum decided to come together and test the eWBL skills through a hybrid placement. This is how, Sandra Longmore, an English Master student at RUG, was invited by Esther Haag (Internship Coordinator at RUG) and Samantha Carty (EU Project Specialist at Momentum) to one of Haag's eWBL workshops to share her experience as an intern in Momentum.

Sandra, after being matched as a Writer and Content Creator, began the onboarding phase, where she was introduced to her mentor: Grace Roche (Head of EU projects). Then, through an online meeting, Grace clarified the internship objectives, learning outcomes, phases, assessment tools, and her tasks and responsibilities, as well as the communication and collaboration methods, which would be on Microsoft Teams and Google Docs.

After Sandra understood her tasks, Grace set up a meeting for Sandra to meet her colleagues online. After this, every week, she would meet with a small group of colleagues (as well as other interns), and share their progress and ask for guidance, if needed.

Sandra's experience was overall positive, and she recommends for remote interns to find a work buddy to provide mutual support and motivation.



## 03 | PROJECT NEWS

### CAPACITY BUILDING IN GERMANY

19 MARCH - 9 APRIL 2024

The German eWBL Capacity Building Program was successfully delivered in Münster during March and April.

The training sessions were delivered by Annika Feldhof from FH Münster University of Applied Sciences International Office, and were designed to enable administrative and academic staff from higher education institutions to effectively assist students who might choose online or hybrid internships.

In the initial session, conducted in person, participants were acquainted with the eWBL project. Subsequently, they delved into its initial two phases (design and preparation) and explored the supporting tools available in the Toolkit.

After the in-person event, three successive online sessions were held. These sessions covered the remaining phases of eWBL, including onboarding, delivery, assessment, and quality assurance. The online format facilitated smooth interaction and knowledge sharing, ensuring participants acquired thorough insights into implementing effective eWBL programs.

Additionally, Dr. Philipp Kather from Hochschule Hamm-Lippstadt was invited during an online session as a guest speaker, to share his insights on digital learning platforms.



### CAPACITY BUILDING IN SLOVENIA

15, APRIL - 10 MAY 2024



The eWBL Capacity Building Program in Slovenia started in April 15th, and the on-site event drew an impressive crowd, with more than 50 participants in attendance.

The training gathered key stakeholders that are eager to implement effective eWBL programs in their institutions, thereby facilitating hybrid and online internship options for students.

The online sessions were designed as interactive workshops that integrated a range of icebreakers, energizers, and collaborative group activities, in order to motivate and engage the participants. This emphasis on engagement is crucial, considering the considerable experience of all participants in work-based learning. This wealth of experience was evident in their feedback and discussions throughout the sessions.

To enhance the depth of the discussions, a guest speaker from a prominent Slovenian IT company was invited to provide insights into the onboarding process from the corporate perspective. Additionally, Samantha Carty from Momentum, the lead partner of the capacity building work package for the eWBL project, participated in the second session as an expert facilitator, sharing her invaluable insights.





## 03 | PROJECT NEWS

### CAPACITY BUILDING IN ITALY

12 APRIL - 24 MAY 2024

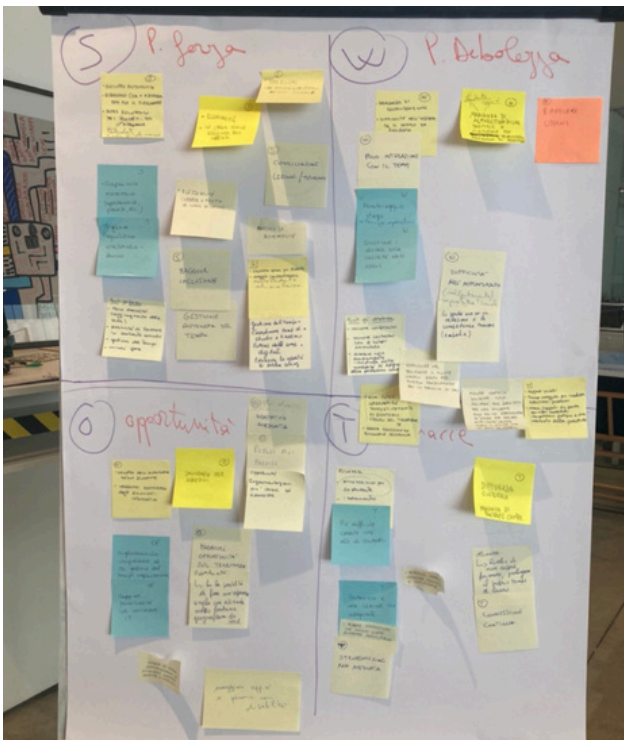
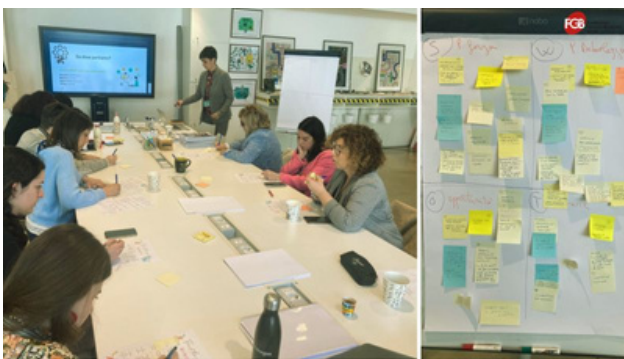
On April 12, 2024, the Italian partners officially launched eWBL training at the Milan Luiss Hub for makers and students. Silvia Cannizzo, a social innovation expert at the FGB and eWBL programme Master Trainer, led the inaugural training session.

At the heart of the initiative's diffusion in Italy is the Fondazione Giacomo Brodolini, which, in collaboration with the Ca' Foscari University of Venice and the University of Sannio in Benevento.

The first session was dedicated to setting the stage for collaboration and understanding. Participants were introduced to the project and its partners, with ice-breaking activities fostering a positive and integrated atmosphere.

The second session delved into the intricacies of designing an eWBL. It covered labour market trends and insights from the "Future of Workers" observatory from FGB, focusing on the skills expected by the market and the evolving nature of digital competencies. Emphasis was placed on the importance of design, utilizing the various components and support tools provided by the eWBL Toolkit.

The third session centred on the practical aspects of preparing an eWBL. Participants learned how to design and prepare internships using competency frameworks like the Atlas of Professions from the University of Turin and the European DIGCOMP 2.2 document.





## 04 | UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

### **The eWBL Capacity Building Program (Ireland)**

- Host: Momentum and Ulster University
- Location: Ireland
- Expected date: To be announced

### **The eWBL Capacity Building Program (Italy)**

- Host: Fondazione Giacomo Brodolini S.r.l. SB (FGB) and University of Venice
- Location: Italy
- Expected Completion date: End of May 2024

### **The eWBL Toolkit and OERS (final version)**

- Expected date: September 2024

### **The Fourth Transnational Project Meeting**

- Host: FGB/UNIVE
- Location: Italy
- Expected date: October 2024

### **The eWBL Multiplier Event**

- Expected date: between October 2024 to November 2024



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