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PRESS RELEASE

Second transnational meeting of inspiring FLIMCO project takes place in Southampton, UK.

After the Financial Literacy in Marginalised Communities (FLIMCO) project successfully gained Erasmus+ funding in 2018, and kicked off in Salerno, Italy in October 2018, the project partners have been working hard to develop the initial intellectual outputs, and to ensure that the project remains on track to achieve its goals.

The 2nd transnational meeting took place at Eurospeak Language School, Southampton in the United Kingdom on the 3rd and 4th April.

The main areas of discussion were the progress of the development of the **Handbook on the relationship between financial literacy and cultural norms**. Partners have been working on completing the handbook since the first project meeting in Salerno and completed the first draft at the end of March. Discussion and review of the handbook was the key points to be addressed during the meeting.

Discussion of how partners will start the development of the second and third intellectual outputs; a **Framework for a financial literacy curriculum**, and an online **E-course for financial literacy for marginalised communities, refugees and NEETs**. The development of both outputs will take place simultaneously, as neither is dependent of the other.

We expect that the impact of the handbook will be that number of local, regional and national VET organisations will have a greater understanding of the way cultural behaviours and habits impact communities' ability to achieve financial literacy.

The framework for financial literacy curriculum will also allow these organisations to develop and deliver their own financial literacy materials, to be used for specific target groups, namely the people or community groups they work with.

FLIMCO's e-course on financial literacy will provide the project target groups (marginalised communities, refugees, NEETs and VET organisations and trainers) to be able to increase their own financial literacy directly through an interesting, interactive and up to date course which focuses on the real financial literacy needs of the people mentioned above. The e-course will be hosted within the project website: <http://flimco.erasmus.site>.

The next transnational project meeting for the FLIMCO project will take place in Austria in September 2019, as SPES as the hosts. By that time, the project expects to have completely developed the framework for financial literacy curriculum, and to be heavily involved in the development of the e-course, in terms of content, functionality and aesthetic design of the e-course.

Mr Boubacar Dembele, leader of the Reading BAME Community Group, and a Labour political candidate for the Borough of Caversham, Berkshire, who also delivers vocational educational training courses on FinTech, said: "It is inspiring to know that the outcomes of this project will address a very real problem within marginalised communities, which is often forgotten as it falls outside of the designated areas of work of many of the support organisations which are in place within local and regional government systems which are designed to support these communities. I am really excited for the project and the future outcomes and impact."

Erasmus+ is the European Union's (EU) programme for education, training, youth and sport, with the EU committing £12 billion to the programme between 2014 and 2020. In the UK, the programme is managed by the Erasmus+ UK National Agency, a partnership between the British Council and Ecorys UK.

The project is funded under Key Action 2 of the programme. Key Action 2 provides opportunities for UK organisations to work in partnership with European colleagues.

For more information about funding opportunities visit www.erasmusplus.org.uk, or use the hashtag #epluspeople to see what other projects are doing across the UK.

ENDS

NOTES TO EDITORS

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About Erasmus+

Erasmus+ is the European Union programme for education, training, youth and sport for 2014-2020. It significantly increases EU funding (+40%) with an overall budget of €14.7 billion (£12 billion) for the development of knowledge and skills and aims to increase the quality and relevance of qualifications and skills. Two-thirds of its funding will provide grants for more than 4 million people to study, train, gain work experience or volunteer abroad in 2014-2020 (compared with 2.7 million in 2007-2013). The period abroad can range from a few days up to a year. In the UK, it is expected that nearly 250,000 people will undertake activities abroad with the programme. Erasmus+ aims to modernise education, training and youth work across Europe. It is open to education, training, youth and sport organisations across all sectors of Lifelong Learning, including schools education, further and higher education, adult education and the youth sector. Erasmus+ provides funding for organisations to offer opportunities to students, teachers, apprentices, volunteers, youth leaders and people working in grassroots' sport. It will also provide funding for partnerships between organisations such as educational institutions, youth organisations, enterprises, local and regional authorities and NGOs, as well as support for reforms in Member States to modernise education and training and to promote innovation, entrepreneurship and employability.

The programme is managed in the UK by the Erasmus+ UK National Agency, which is a partnership between the British Council and Ecorys UK.

Further information from www.erasmusplus.org.uk

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