

National Erasmus+ Office Algeria

Newsletter

Issue N° 4 · January – September 2020

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Our upcoming Events

- Virtual field monitoring sessions
- Virtual CBHE cluster meetings for newly selected projects 2020
- Virtual Cluster meeting for newly selected Jean Monnet Modules 2020
- Erasmus+ Days
- Webinars for students: Participation's promotion in EMJMDs
- Training sessions (Jean Monnet – Erasmus Mundus)
- Virtual meetings with the stakeholders



National Erasmus+ Office Algeria

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Website: <http://www.erasmusplus.dz>



/Erasmus + Algérie



@Erasmusplusdz



Opening hours:
8:30 - 16:30 from Sunday
to Thursday

COVID-19 pandemic measures

Following the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus around the world which affected more than 24 million individuals around the world, more than 40 000 of which were reported in Algeria (To date). As a result of the rapid propagation of the virus and in an effort to limit the increasing number of affected cases, the Algerian government closed its borders and issued a targeted lockdown on the highly infected regions of the country in addition to closing all Higher Education Institutions, schools, professional training centres,..etc until the official reprisal of the current academic year on 23rd of August 2020.

As a result, the Ministry of Higher Education and scientific Research issued a letter addressed to the university community as a whole on August 19th 2020 a few days before the reprisal of the activities according to the new protocol elaborated by the ministry. In this letter, the Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research Pr. Abdelbaki Benziane, stated the exceptional situation that affected Higher Education Institutions during the second semester of the academic year 2019/2020 following the COVID-19 outbreak which stopped face-to-face pedagogical activities starting from March 12th, 2020. He then stated the numerous efforts that were put by HEIs to ensure the continuity of the activities using distance learning tools via online platforms, which allowed to achieve a part of the planned teaching program despite the encountered difficulties related to network connection and Internet speed. He then addressed students and teachers and the university community as a whole and encouraged them to face the challenges in order to finish the academic year of 2019/2020 in acceptable conditions while respecting the precautionary measures recommended by the protocol to preserve the health of the university community and so that the academic year of 2020/2021 can be start in suitable conditions. He then ended the letter by thanking research centers and university laboratories which contributed to fight against the current pandemic, while ensuring them that they have his full support, in addition to health professionals of the country for their sacrifices while paying homage to all those of this community whom sadly passed away as a result of this pandemic. ([Read more](#))

The Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) published in its turn an article on their website in addition to a frequently asked questions (FAQ), stating its response to the ongoing pandemic and answering some of the frequently asked questions related to the corona virus impact on the different Erasmus+ activities. In its response to the current COVID-19 pandemic, the EACEA stated that the European Commission's main objective is the protection and safety of all Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps participants, while fully respecting all the containment measures taken at national level. It is working to help the different program participants and continue to adapt its response as the situation evolves.

Also, the European Commission ran two surveys in May 2020 (European Universities Initiative survey; Learning mobilities survey) aimed at gathering the views of mobility participants and higher education institutions regarding the impact that the COVID-19 outbreak has affected the course of their mobility projects as well as their respective activities. The survey results regarding the impact of COVID-19 on learning mobility activities showed that 25 % of the surveyed participants mentioned that the current situation had little to no effect on their mobilities. For the remaining 75%: 42% of them continued their activities with different arrangements (i.e: Distance or online training), for 22% of them the activity was temporarily suspended, and for the remaining 36% the activity was definitely cancelled. ([Read more](#))

In addition, two extraordinary Erasmus+ calls for proposals were launched on August 25th, 2020 in order to support digital education readiness and creative skills. An amount of 100 million euros for each call are provided as a response to the coronavirus pandemic. ([Read more](#))

As for the frequently asked questions, information were shared aimed at answering the most common questions asked by individual participants which can be found on the following link ([Read more](#)), in addition to those asked by beneficiary organisations which can be found on the following link ([Read more](#)).

Erasmus+ 2020 Call for applications results

Erasmus Mundus Joint master's degree results

([Read more](#))

1

Algerian university as Associate Partners

University of Mascara



Algerian individuals' participation ([Read more](#))

18

Algerian
beneficiaries

6



12

196

Total Algerian
applications

120



76

CBHE results

([Read more](#))

4

Selected
projects

1

Project
coordinated by
an Algerian HEI

- **DIGITAQ : Création de Capacités Digitales pour le Pilotage de l'Assurance Qualité dans l'Enseignement Supérieur Algérien** – Coordinated by USTO
- **ERODITE: EaRth Observation Tools for the promotion of DigITal Economy**
- **STREAM: University Student Capacity Building: Towards Readiness for Sustainable Development-Oriented Regional Job Market**
- **AARMENA: the Academic Alliance for Reconciliation in the Field of Higher Education in Peace, Conflict Transformation, and Reconciliation Studies in the Middle East and North Africa**

Jean Monnet activities : Modules

([Read more](#))



- **Le droit européen de la protection du consommateur**
Coordinated by Dr. Bilal Atmani, Faculty of law and political sciences. Allocated budget: 15 624€
- **Sociologie des Institutions Européennes et des Migrations Internationales**
Coordinated by Dr. Hadibi Zahir, Faculty of human and social sciences. Allocated budget: 14 364€

Cluster meeting on the ICM projects selected in Algeria 2015-2019: “The International Credit Mobility and the Erasmus+ Virtual Exchange in Algeria”



The National Erasmus + Office Algeria organized with the ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research a cluster meeting on the ICM projects selected in Algeria 2015 – 2019: “The International Mobility of Credits and Erasmus + Virtual Exchange in Algeria” on Thursday, February 27th, 2020 at the headquarters of the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research. The official opening of the event was made by the Secretary General of the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research Pr. Mohamed-Tahar Abadlia, His Excellency the Ambassador, Head of the European Union’s delegation in Algeria, Mr. John O ‘Rourke, the National Coordinator of the National Erasmus+ Office in Algeria Mrs. Malika Kebri and Mr. German Bernal-Rios the representative of the Directorate General Education and Culture of the European Commission. The event was attended by representatives of the 56 Algerian higher education institutions involved in ICM as well as representatives of two European institutions: The University of Granada represented by Mr. Wenceslao Martín Rosales and The Union of Universities of the Mediterranean (UNIMED) represented by the Mr. Marcello Scalisi director of UNIMED. The Cluster Meeting focused on the impact of the results of the International Credit Mobility projects in Algeria, the importance of networking to boost ICM results and the internationalization of higher education institutions through Erasmus+ ICM. Beneficiaries testified about the impact of mobility on a personal and institutional level. [\(Read more\)](#)



Highlights of the NEO's conducted activities



Univ. of Sciences and Technology Oran

The National coordinator of the Erasmus + program in Algeria participated in the final meeting of the CBHE project ICMED “International Credit Mobility: A New Challenge in the Mediterranean Region” at the University of Science and Technology of Oran on February 26th, 2020. The event was attended by the Rector of the University of Science and Technology Mr. Hammou Benziane, the representative of the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, the representative of the Directorate General Education and Culture of the European Commission (DG-EAC) and last but not least, the representatives of all HEI consortium members of the ICMED project as well as other guests. “**ICMED**” ([Read more](#))

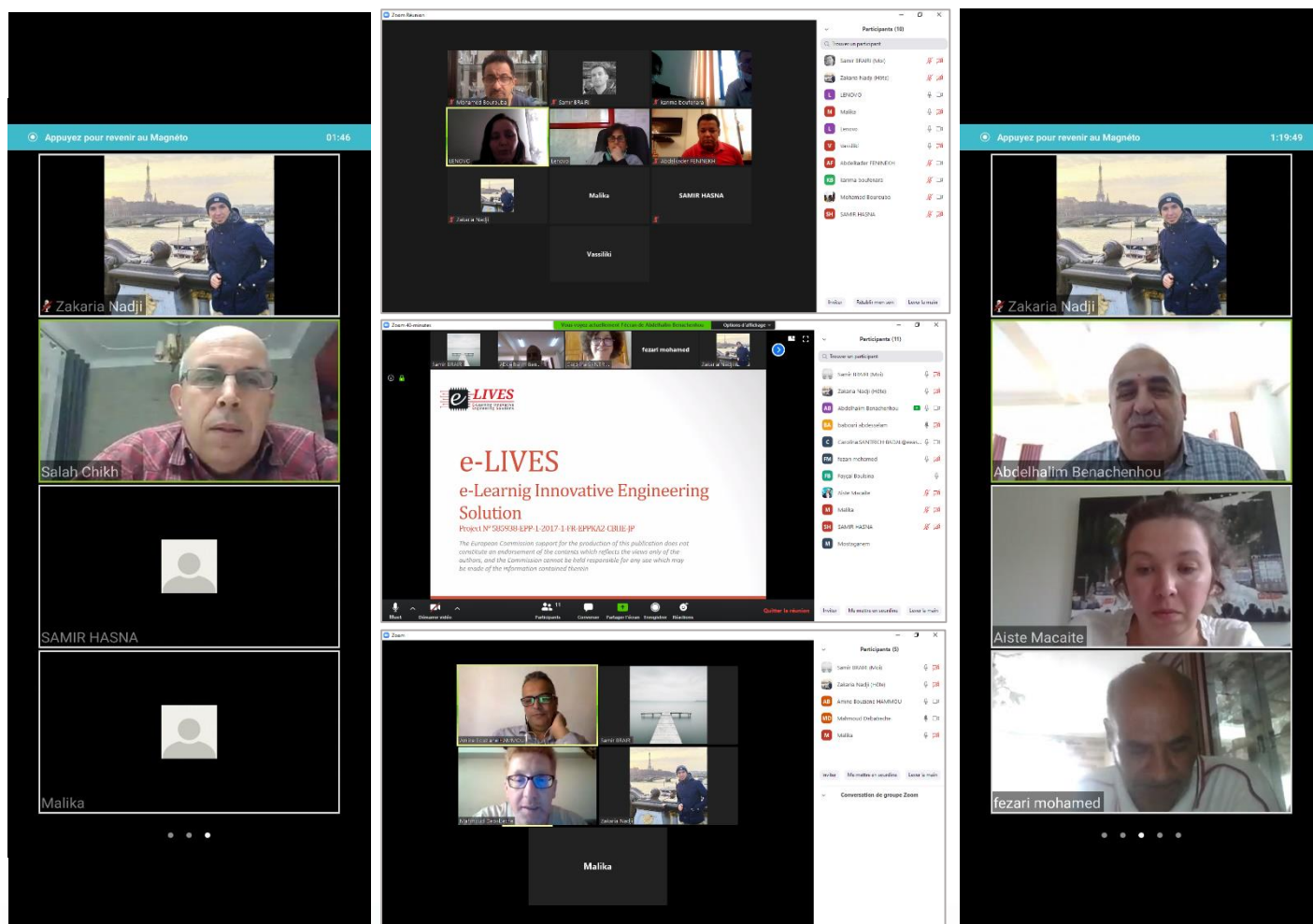


Highlights of the NEO's conducted activities



Virtual CBHE monitoring sessions of May 2020

Given the current global health crisis (COVID-19), the National Erasmus+ Office Algeria made a series of virtual monitorings (Advisory and impact) for CBHE projects using the “zoom” platform. These monitorings were conducted as follows: An Impact monitoring for the CBHE project “**ICMED**” was conducted first on the 7th of May, 2020 followed by an advisory monitoring for the CBHE project “**ANL-MED**” on the May 10th, 2020. A third advisory monitoring for the CBHE project “**E-LIVES**” was then conducted on May 12th, 2020 followed by the fourth monitoring of the CBHE project “**YABDA**” which was carried on, on the 17th of May, 2020. ([Read more](#))

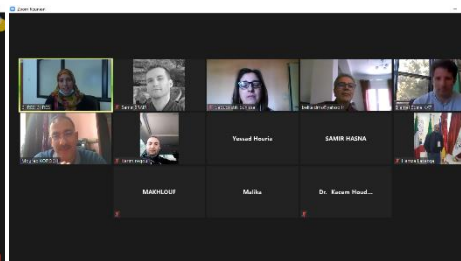
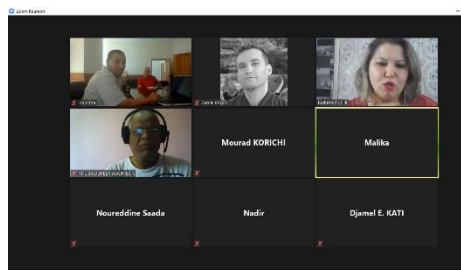
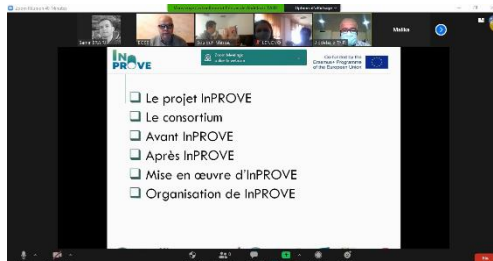
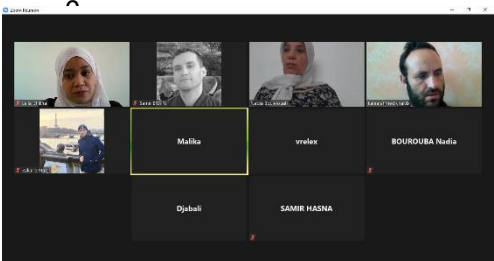
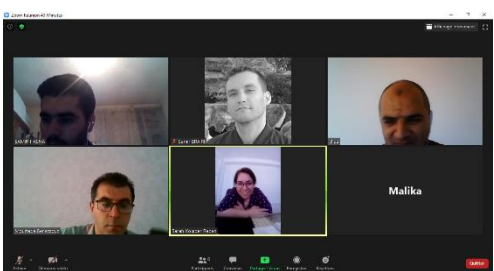
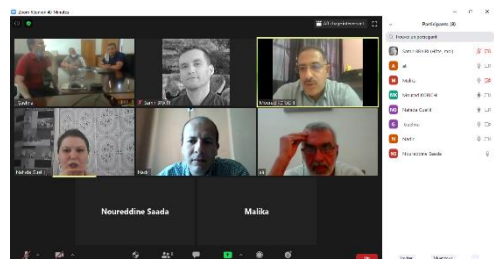
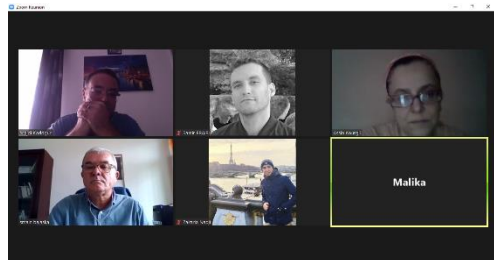


Highlights of the NEO's conducted activities



Virtual CBHE monitoring sessions of June 2020

Just like the month of May, the National Erasmus+ Office Algeria continued to conduct a series of virtual monitoring sessions (Preventive and advisory) for CBHE projects using the “zoom” platform during the month of June. These monitoring sessions were conducted as follows: A preventive monitoring for the CBHE project “**SEED4NA**” was conducted on the 16th of June, 2020 followed by another preventive monitoring for the CBHE project “**Ci-RES**” on June 17th, 2020. A third preventive monitoring for the CBHE project “**InPROVE**” was then conducted on June 18th, 2020 followed by an advisory monitoring of the CBHE project “**INSIDE**” which was carried on, on the 21st of June, 2020. A third preventive monitoring for the CBHE project “**EL@N**” was then conducted on June 23rd, 2020 followed by an advisory monitoring of the CBHE project “**YABDA**” on the 25th of June 2020. Finally, the last monitoring of the month of June was conducted for the CBHE project “**EL@N**” on June 29th, 2020.

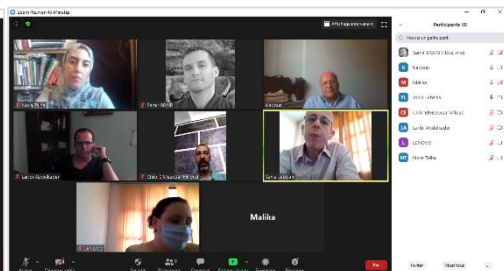
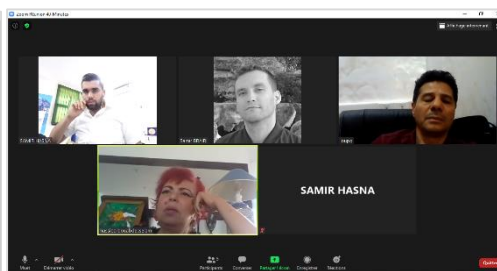
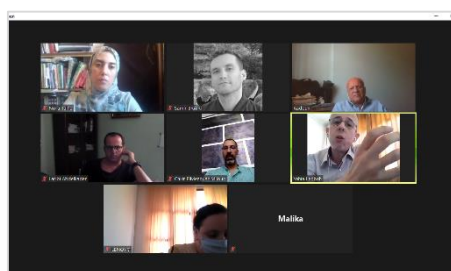
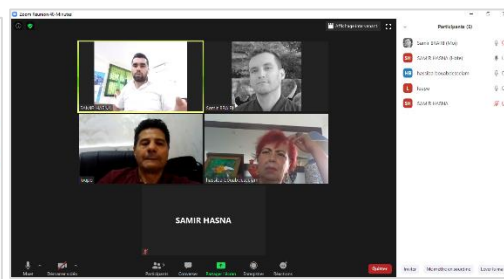
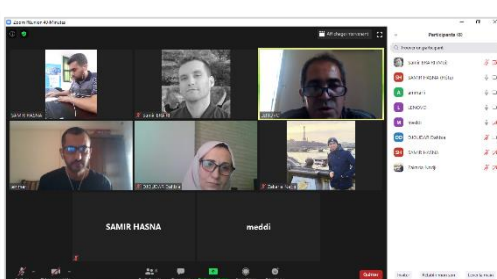
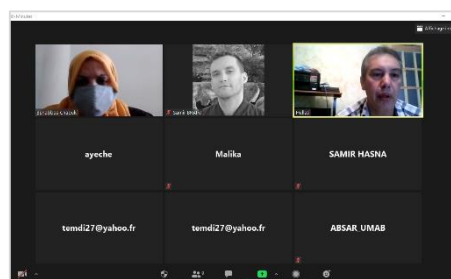
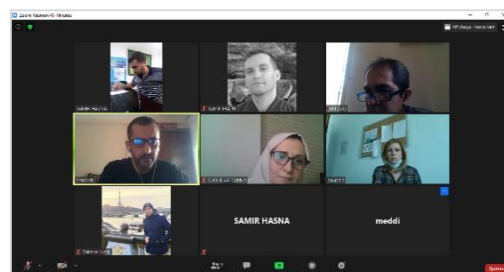
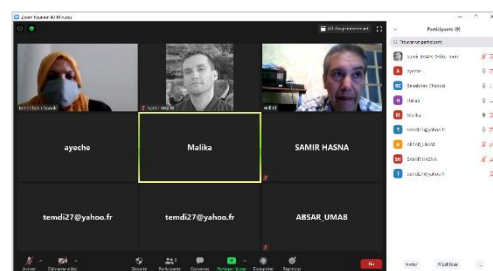


Highlights of the NEO's conducted activities



Virtual CBHE monitoring sessions of July 2020

The National Erasmus+ Office Algeria continued to conduct a series of virtual monitoring sessions (Preventive and advisory) for CBHE projects using the “zoom” platform during the month of July. These monitoring sessions were conducted as follows: An advisory monitoring for the CBHE project “**CUPAGIS**” was conducted on the 7th of July, 2020 followed by another advisory monitoring for the CBHE project “**MEDACCR**” on July 8th, 2020. A third advisory monitoring for the CBHE project “**QUALS**” was then conducted on July 12th, 2020 followed by an advisory monitoring of the CBHE project “**MEHMED**” which was carried on, on the 16th of July, 2020.



Highlights of the NEO's conducted activities

University of Annaba

The team of the National Erasmus + Office (NEO) Algeria conducted an information session at the university of Annaba on the 7th of January, 2020. The information session was about the Erasmus+ programme, its different key actions namely: the International Credit Mobility (ICM), the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master's Degree (EMJMD), Capacity Building in the field of Higher Education (CBHE),...etc. A special emphasis was made on the current last call of applications of the Erasmus+ programme which ended by February 2020. This session was attended by the university's Rector Pr. Mohamed MANAA, the Head of Cabinet and the Vice-Rector in charge of external relations, cooperation, animation, Communication and scientific events. ([Read more](#))

Student's open doors – NEO Algiers

The team of Erasmus+ National Office Algeria organised an "Open doors" day dedicated to students on January 20th, 2020 at its headquarters. This activity is part of the promotion on the different actions of the Erasmus+ program dedicated to Algerian students. NEO members made several presentations regarding the different offered

opportunities within the framework of key action 1 of the Erasmus+ programme (Learning Mobility of Individuals) as well as the "Erasmus + Virtual Exchange program" followed by a debate session where participants, who came from different Higher Education Institutions, received answers to their questions and inquiries. At the end of the event, participants expressed their appreciation for the NEO team for this informative activity. ([Read more](#))

University Centre of Tamanrasset

The national coordinator of the National Erasmus+ Office Algeria went to the University Centre of Tamanrasset to animate and information and training sessions regarding the Erasmus + program on the 19th and 20th of January, 2020. During the first day, the national coordinator met with the director as well as the university centre's representatives. Then, a general presentation session on the Erasmus + program was led by the national coordinator followed by workshops on key action 1 Erasmus+ (ICM, EMJMD). The second day was dedicated to workshops on specific Erasmus + activities (Jean Monnet) as well as capacity building projects in the field of higher education (CBHE). ([Read more](#))



Dissemination of CBHE projects: E-LIVES

The number of worldwide students enrolled in tertiary education has more than doubled in 15 years, growing from 94,5 Million in 1999 to almost 207 million in 2014 according to the UNESCO Institute for Statistics. This forward and positive step towards access to higher education, involves in parallel important difficulties for universities to handle overcrowding, in particular in partner countries and more precisely in South Mediterranean countries.



One promising solution concerns the large development of nationally accredited e-learning trainings, e-learning being a very modern and efficient solution to absorb the massification and meet multi-profile student demands, for instance students with low economic resources, living in isolated areas or in demand of life-long learning trainings. The development of e-learning trainings is already one of the priorities of the educational strategy of Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia and Jordan (the partner countries involved in this project) and is important part of their national priorities for HEIs training.

In STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), sometimes referred as "hard sciences", fully online trainings are difficult to build due to the problems of learning practical skills involving face-to-face practical works. One relevant solution is to allow students to perform practical works online by giving them access to a remote laboratory available 24/24 and 7/7 in order to monitor online real devices installed in the university.

However, in order to build an online training in STEM fields (e-engineering training) is a difficult process requiring to overcome numerous potential obstacles namely: Obtaining the national accreditation in the absence of appropriate legislation despite the support of the competent authorities; getting a sufficient pool of teachers and technical staffs trained to this new way of teaching; being able to develop a dedicated remote laboratory; building an economical model (for the teacher remuneration for instance)

All these challenges have been successfully met during a previous TEMPUS project (**EOLES**) also coordinated by Unilim and involving 9 partners of this project. Three fully online third year Bachelor double degrees in the field of Electronics and Optics have been created. By definition, this innovative training, involving a devoted remote laboratory, has been nationally accredited in Tunisia, Morocco and France. If this previous project can be considered as a success, the progress made remains insufficient to consider a fast growing of e-engineering trainings at a short term.

As a result, the E-LIVES ("e-Learning InnoVative Engineering Solutions") project aims to help partner countries universities to build innovative e-learning trainings ("e-engineering") by themselves in a sustainable way. This ambitious objective lies on two main aspects:

- Helping universities to develop by themselves (from A to Z) a remote laboratory. It is important to note that these remote laboratories can also be used for face-to-face trainings. Due to the growth of the students number, numerous universities have deleted the practical works in the first year of their Bachelor degree in STEM fields.
- Helping universities to move through the different mandatory stages (building of a curricula, getting the national accreditation, training teachers, ...)

Visit the project's website for more information:

www.e-lives.eu

Dissemination of CBHE projects: E-LIVES



Abdelhalim Benachenhou completed his graduate studies in physics at the University of Oran (Algeria). He continued his post-graduate studies at the University of Montpellier (France) and obtained an advanced studies degree in semiconductor physics and a doctorate in electronics, signal components and systems and is currently a Professor at the University of Mostaganem.

He participated in the Tempus **EOLES** project and obtained as a result of this project a Master's degree in educational sciences: Master UTICEF (for use of information technologies for education and training) issued by the University of Strasbourg.

This project radically changed the way he conceived the training. He has since been firmly committed to promoting the use of ICTs in education. He became an expert with the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF) which contacted him to organize workshops on the educational design of an online course, tutoring an online course. He has also provided workshops in Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia on the educational scripting of a MOOC and the production of educational videos for MOOCs.

Noting that online training could not be provided for the practical work parts, he focused his research on the development of remote laboratories. This orientation led him to develop a partnership with the University of Limoges, where he was co-instigator of the project and national representative of the Tempus **EOLES** (Electronic and Optic e-Learning for Embedded Systems) project. In 2014, this project set up, for the first time in the world, a completely online training course which also includes practical work. This training is still ongoing and will start the seventh promotion in September 2020 provided by the international consortium which continues to collaborate beyond the European funding period.

The success and experience gained by the consortium inspired a new ERASMUS + E-lives (e-Learning Innovative Engineering Solution) project. The dissemination activities of the project led Prof. A. Benachenhou to present papers at the international conference REV'18 in Düsseldorf (Germany), Rev'19 in Bangalore (India) and Rev'20, in Athens (USA). He also led a Workshop in Bangalore (India) on the design of a remote practical work in electronics.

The E-lives project has created an e-engineering alliance Special Interest Group within the IAEOE (International Association of Online Engineering). Prof. A. Benachenhou is Chair of this SIG after having been Vice Chair from 2018 to 2020.

Being in the mist of the ongoing health crisis, the need for a distance learning during the pandemic becomes a must, making thus the results of the e-lives project of particular interest. The developed solutions within the framework of the project will be made accessible for free to allow their duplication and also to train academic and technical staff to develop completely remote courses in STEM (Sciences, Technology Engineering and Mathematics).