



Erasmus+ Programme (ERASMUS)

Progress Report

Version 1.0
25 February 2021



IMPORTANT NOTICE

What is a progress report?

Progress reports are deliverables which are sometimes requested at mid-term (or other crucial points in the project) if there is a long time-span without reporting.

The report (+ annexes) must be prepared (by all beneficiaries together) and uploaded on the Funding & Tenders Portal Grant Management System Continuous Reporting Deliverables screen.

 Progress reports should NOT be confused with periodic reports. Periodic reports are linked to payments, progress reports are not.

COVER PAGE

PROJECT	
Project number:	101143944
Project acronym:	COVE-WENDT
Project name:	Centre of Vocational Excellence in Welding and Non-Destructive Testing
Project starting date:	01/03/2024
Project duration:	48 months

PERIOD COVERED	
 Please note that this is only a progress report. The information in this report must also be included in the next periodic report/final report.	
Period covered (from last periodic report):	from 01/03/2024 to 30/04/2025

TABLE OF CONTENTS

COVER PAGE	3
1. MILESTONES, DELIVERABLES AND CRITICAL RISKS	4
2. OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRESS AND ACTIVITIES.....	5
3. BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION (N/A FOR LUMP SUM GRANTS).....	27
ANNEXES	28

1. MILESTONES, DELIVERABLES AND CRITICAL RISKS

Deliverables and milestones (outputs/outcomes)	YES/NO
We confirm that we updated the following Continuous Reporting screens: • Deliverables • Milestones	YES

Critical risks	YES/NO
We confirm that we updated the following Continuous Reporting screen: • Critical risks	YES

2. OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRESS AND ACTIVITIES

WORK PACKAGES

Work Package 1

Work package 1: Project management and coordination			
Activities			
Report on the <u>implementation status</u> of the activities that were to be implemented during the period and explain <u>deviations</u> from the description of the action (DoA) in Annex 1 GA.			
Task No (continuous numbering linked to WP)	Task name	Implemented? (Yes/No/Partially)	Justification (explain what was done and by whom; explain what was not done and why not; indicate how you intend to handle the situation and new timing; indicate if it was a one-off issue or how you intend to avoid similar issues in the future)
T1.1	Project administration and coordination	Partially	Activity T1.1 has been implemented “partially” only in the sense that the overall project continues beyond month 14. All objectives scheduled for the first reporting period have been achieved. We will maintain strong coordination, efficient resource allocation and clear communication to ensure smooth completion of the remaining tasks by month 48. <u>What was done and by whom</u> Comprehensive Project Planning: The project manager, supported by the project managers of each beneficiary, designed the overall project plan, which included defining objectives, scope, deliverables, and corresponding deadlines. This planning was elaborated based on the initial proposal and refined further with the involvement of new partners. Task Assignment: After consultation among partners, the coordinator allocated specific responsibilities according to each organization’s expertise and capacity. Resource Allocation & Monitoring: Discussions were held among the partners to align financial and human resources with the project’s needs; the financial managers have been closely monitoring expenditures and approving budget allocations. Progress Tracking & Reporting: The project manager, supported by each partner’s project manager, prepared periodic progress reports. Achievements, challenges, and deviations from the plan have

			been documented and discussed in scheduled meetings every six months. Risk Management & Change Management: The project manager and the risk management team regularly assess risks. Until now no changes where necessary. Stakeholder Engagement: Regular communication with associated partners and other stakeholders has taken place to ensure alignment with their expectations. Deliverables Obtained: D1.2: Project Implementation Plan (PIP) D1.3: Quality Management Plan (QMP) <u>What was not done and why not</u> Although all activities scheduled for the first 14 months were completed, the task as a whole is not fully finalized because the project extends until month 48. Therefore, some administrative, coordination, and reporting activities are ongoing and will be fully completed only upon project closure. <u>How we intend to handle the situation and new timing</u> We will continue the same coordination and reporting procedures throughout the next phases until month 48 to ensure that any further deliverables and tasks are promptly completed. The project manager and financial managers will maintain a flexible approach to address any emerging challenges and implement changes effectively. We will keep using periodic six-monthly and annual reports to stay ahead of any potential issues and will adjust timelines if needed based on ongoing discussions with partners. <u>Was it a one-off issue or how to avoid similar issues in the future</u> There is no specific delay or one-off issue to address, rather an acknowledgment that the entire project administration and coordination process will only be considered 100% complete in month 48. To avoid confusion about partially completed tasks, we will clearly outline, in every subsequent report, which sub-activities are finished and which are planned or in progress. This ensures all parties are aware of timelines and expectations.
T1.2	Organisation of the project partner's meeting	Partially	Activity T1.2 has been successfully implemented for the first 14 months, and will continue until month 48 in line with the project timeline. All stipulated meetings in this period have taken place on schedule, and upcoming meetings will be organized similarly to ensure seamless coordination and collaboration. <u>What was done and by whom</u> Kick-off Meeting (E1.1) in Timisoara, Romania on 3rd to 4th of April 2024. Organized by ISIM Timisoara, focused on presenting the project's main tasks, deliverables (PIP, QMP), and starting discussions on WP2, WP3, WP4, and WP5 activities.

			Second Meeting (E1.2) in Genoa, Italy on 19th to 20th of September 2024. Hosted by IIS, emphasizing the monitoring of key tasks (e.g., WP2, WP3, WP4, WP5), reviewing the project Communication Plan, visual identity, and the project website (D5.1, D5.2, D5.3). Third Meeting (E1.3) in Miskolc, Hungary on 19th to 20th of February 2025. Hosted by SZC, concentrating on progress updates for all ongoing tasks (2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.4, 4.1, 4.3, 5.1, 5.4), discussing the upcoming annual report (MS1), and planning future events (e.g., E2.1, E2.10 to E2.13). Effective Communication & Planning: Each meeting included risk assessment sessions, reporting on difficulties encountered, and establishing new interim deadlines and responsibilities. <u>What was not done and why not</u> Although all face-to-face meetings scheduled through month 14 have taken place successfully, T1.2 remains partially implemented because the project extends until month 48. Additional meetings (face-to-face and online) are planned beyond M14, so the activity will only be fully complete at project closure. <u>How we intend to handle the situation and new timing</u> Ongoing Scheduling: We will continue organising six-monthly face-to-face transnational project meetings, as originally planned, supplemented by quarterly online meetings to maintain strong communication and oversight. Flexibility: Should unforeseen circumstances (e.g., travel restrictions) arise, we will adapt by organizing hybrid or fully online meetings. <u>Monitoring & Updates:</u> A shared calendar and regular email reminders will keep partners informed of upcoming meetings. Meeting objectives, agendas, and responsibilities will be clearly communicated at least one month in advance to ensure optimal participation. <u>Was it a one-off issue or how to avoid similar issues in the future</u> There is no delay or one-off issue; T1.2 is simply ongoing by design, as the project runs until M48. To avoid confusion regarding partial completion, we will continue to detail which meetings have occurred and which are pending in every progress report. This approach ensures that all stakeholders remain aware of the meeting schedule and deliverables connected to each.
T1.3	Quality control and impact evaluation	Partially	Activity T1.3 will remain ongoing until the final months of the project. The ongoing quality management, coupled with continuous monitoring and stakeholder feedback, ensures that all deliverables meet the quality standards set forth in the Quality Management Plan (QMP). <u>What was done and by whom</u> Development and Adoption of the QMP: The QMP (Deliverable D1.3) was created under the coordination of the project manager, ensuring alignment with EQAVET principles for continuous quality improvement in VET. Monitoring of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs): The project team, led by each beneficiary's

		project manager and supported by the financial officer, has been gathering data on defined KPIs through regular internal quality checks (e.g., partner-level reviews, stakeholder feedback, event evaluations). Internal Quality Audits: Each partner established committees composed of their project manager (partner responsible), financial responsible, and specialized staff to periodically assess the quality, relevance, and impact of deliverables (curricula, guidelines, teaching materials etc.). Stakeholder Feedback: Feedback has been collected from project partners' meetings, campus or training events, workshops, and other events to improve ongoing and future activities. Financial Monitoring: Financial managers have oversight processes for early detection of irregularities and for compliance with project financial requirements. <u>What was not done and why not</u> Completion of Full Quality & Impact Evaluation: The overall scope of T1.3 extends until project month 48. Although the QMP is in place and already partially implemented, some elements, such as the external financial audits and final impact evaluations, will be concluded at later stages. <u>How we intend to handle the situation and new timing</u> We will continue implementing the QMP, ensuring ongoing data collection and monitoring of KPIs through regular internal quality audits until the end of the project (month 48). Ongoing Adjustments: Any recommendations or findings from internal or external reviews will be addressed promptly, and relevant corrective actions will be taken to maintain continuous improvement. Final Evaluation and Audit: At the end of the project, we will perform the final project-wide impact evaluation and the final external financial audit, as stipulated in the QMP. <u>Was it a one-off issue or how to avoid similar issues in the future</u> There is no specific delay or one-off issue in T1.3. The partial status is due to the naturally extended timeline of quality control and impact evaluation activities over the entire project lifecycle. To maintain transparency and minimize confusion, each periodic progress report will clearly indicate which quality control and impact evaluation activities have been completed and which are still ongoing. This ensures all stakeholders understand the timing and scope of these continuous efforts.
Other issues		There were no unexpected events or adjustments that had to be made during the first year of the COVE-WENDT project. All activities proceeded as planned, with no impact on other tasks, available resources, or the overall planning and timing.
Milestones and deliverables (outputs/outcomes)		

See Deliverables screen.

Work Package 2

Work package 2: Training and learning			
Activities			
Report on the <u>implementation status</u> of the activities that were to be implemented during the period and explain <u>deviations</u> from the description of the action (DoA) in Annex 1 GA.			
Task No (continuous numbering linked to WP)	Task name	Implemented? (Yes/No/Partially)	Justification (explain what was done and by whom; explain what was not done and why not; indicate how you intend to handle the situation and new timing; indicate if it was a one-off issue or how you intend to avoid similar issues in the future)
T2.1	Developing innovative curriculum and guidelines	Yes	Activity T2.1 Developing innovative curriculum and guidelines was completed on schedule by the project partners' teams in the M12 of the project (Deliverable D2.1 Curriculum and guidelines focused on technical skill and key competence required for digitalisation and transition to green welding sector). There were no activities that remained incomplete or deviated from the original plan. As a result, there were no issues that required handling or adjustments to the project timeline.
T2.2	Developing of innovative learner centred teaching material	Partially	Activity T2.2 is proceeding according to schedule, with the final interactive teaching materials expected by Month 18. The partial status is normal at this stage, and we are confident that the deliverable will be submitted on time and in line with quality requirements. <u>What was done and by whom</u> Preliminary Planning and Topic Selection: The project managers (SZC, ISIM, CESOL, IIS) have drafted the main themes (digital training topics, green welding technologies) and discussed potential approaches to creating the teaching materials. Content Preparation: Several partners have already compiled basic text documents, photos, graphics, and short video footage. These raw materials reflect innovative approaches such as interdisciplinary and competency-based learning, as well as modules on digital and green welding. Relevant open education resources (e.g., PDFs, PowerPoint files, photos, and video clips) have been shared with Brandware Media for e-learning conversion, including drag & drop, gamification, quizzes, leaderboards etc.

			Ongoing Coordination: The management team has conducted periodic reviews to confirm that all partners are on track with their tasks and that the assigned timeline (M18) remains achievable. <u>What was not done and why not</u> Finalized E-Learning Materials: Although the content (text, images, videos) is partly developed, the fully interactive e-learning format is still in production by Brandware Media. This final stage requires thorough testing and refinement to ensure the learning materials meet the project's quality requirements. Formal Assignment of Specific Chapters: While the partners have generally agreed on topics, final decisions about chapter ownership have not been 100% concluded. Each institution's availability and specialized expertise are still being matched to specific content areas. <u>How we intend to handle the situation and new timing</u> Maintaining the M18 Deadline: We will continue to collaborate with Brandware Media to integrate all raw content into the final e-learning format in time for the M18 deliverable. Structured Deliverable Reviews: Each partner will periodically review draft e-learning modules to give feedback before the official submission. This will ensure issues are quickly identified and resolved. <u>Was it a one-off issue or how to avoid similar issues in the future</u> No Major Delays, Just an Ongoing Process: The partial implementation status simply reflects that T2.2 is still in progress, and everything remains in line with the original schedule. Continuous Monitoring and Communication: To prevent any future delays, regular check-ins by the project management team will continue until the e-learning materials are complete. Clear deadlines and responsibilities for each partner was established to avoid confusion and keep development on track.
T2.3	Organisation of continuing training courses for professional development of teachers, trainers and future trainers	Partially	T2.3 remains partially fulfilled since only the first among the two planned training courses has taken place. The organizers (SZC) of the first events (E2.1) in Miskolc, Hungary on 7th to 11th of April 2025, successfully surpassed attendance expectations, gathered valuable feedback, and laid a strong foundation for the next event (E2.26) in 2027. <u>What was done and by whom</u> First Continuing Training Course (E2.1) Successfully Organized: SZC hosted the event in Miskolc, Hungary (7–11 April 2025), in collaboration with ISIM, CESOL, IIS, CCIAT and Brandware. Participation Beyond Initial Targets: While only 12 to 20 participants were originally planned, the event was attended by 23 teaching and training professionals from VET centres. Partners contributed up-to-date presentations on digital welding techniques, distance/blended learning tools, and innovations in green welding. Exchange of Best Practices: Facilitators and guests from different partner organizations shared experiences, demonstrated e-learning platforms, and introduced creative ways of integrating digital

			skills and green technologies into welding education. Feedback & Improvements: At the end of the training, participants completed feedback forms, providing input on event organization, training materials, and topics covered, thus informing future improvements. <u>What was not done and why not</u> The second similar event (E2.26) is scheduled for 2027, so T2.3 cannot be marked as finalized. Only the first continuing training session has taken place so far. Full Assessment of Long-Term Impact: As the second course has yet to be delivered, the complete impact on participants' teaching methods and any adjustments needed for event E2.26 cannot be fully determined at this stage. <u>How we intend to handle the situation and new timing</u> Project partners (SZC, ISIM, CESOL, IIS, CCIAT, Brandware) will evaluate feedback from E2.1 to refine and enhance the structure, content, and logistics for the next training in 2027. Continuous Monitoring & Interim Checkpoints: We will schedule regular updates to ensure that both content development and logistical arrangements remain aligned with evolving digital/green welding innovations. Expanded Participant Outreach: Given the success and higher turnout at E2.1, we will proactively invite a broader audience, including more VET instructors, to maximize the dissemination of cutting-edge knowledge in welding education. <u>Was it a one-off issue or how to avoid similar issues in the future</u> No Specific Delays or Problems: The activity is on track; the "partial" status reflects that T2.3 spans over multiple years and includes two separate events. Maintaining Clear Communication and Planning: By keeping partners informed about progress and needs through periodic reviews, we ensure no unwanted delays occur in organizing the next event. Leveraging Feedback for Future Success: Insights from E2.1 will serve as guidelines to further improve the agenda, materials, and overall experience of E2.26 in 2027, minimizing potential hurdles.
T2.4	Providing career guidance and validation of prior learning services	Partially	Activity T2.4 is proceeding as planned, with initial preparatory work done, no delays observed, and the first events scheduled to take place as per the original project timeline. <u>What was done and by whom</u> The project partners (SZC, ISIM, CCIAT, CESOL, IIS), together with their associated partners (APs), started preparing the first job fairs and career guidance sessions scheduled for 2025. They have shared timelines, defined communication channels, and distributed responsibilities accordingly. Development of the Job Board: Brandware has begun integrating the job board feature into the

			main COVE-WENDT IT platform, enabling companies to post job offers and allowing job seekers to apply directly. Involvement of Regional Associated Partners: APs are active in planning event logistics, inviting local companies, and disseminating information through their networks. Planning for Validation of Prior Learning: Preliminary procedures and assessment criteria have been discussed among partners to streamline the certification or badge issuance after validating an individual's existing knowledge and skills. <u>What was not done and why not</u> While initial efforts have begun, the first job fairs (E2.10 to E2.13) are scheduled for 2025. Thus, the physical and online events have not yet occurred because their implementation timeline is spread out annually until project month 48. The practical phase of validating learner or worker prior knowledge and skills has not started yet because it requires a functioning job fair environment, as well as the completion of final assessment tools and procedures. <u>How we intend to handle the situation and new timing</u> No Changes in Schedule: There are no delays reported; the activity is on track with the original timeline. The events will be conducted annually through the end of Month 48. Ongoing Preparation and Coordination: Each partner and associated partner will remain actively involved in fine-tuning event logistics, finalizing the validation protocols, and refining the job board functionalities, ensuring smooth execution. Regular Progress Monitoring: The project manager will coordinate updates with each partner during scheduled consortium meetings and online check-ins, ensuring potential issues are identified and resolved promptly. <u>Was it a one-off issue or how to avoid similar issues in the future</u> No Specific Issues to Address: Since everything is progressing according to plan and the first job fairs are not yet due, but there have been no significant delays or complications. Consistent Communication and Risk Assessment: Regular communication among partners and ongoing risk assessment will ensure that any emerging challenges are proactively managed, keeping the timeline intact for future annual job fair events.
T2.5	Providing relevant training programs for the green and digital transitions	No	According to the project timetable, work is scheduled to start in M19
T2.6	Organisation of learner-centred modular VET courses for all qualification levels	No	According to the project timetable, work is scheduled to start in M19

Other issues <i>Mention and explain unexpected events and adjustments that had to be made. Explain impact on other tasks, available resources and planning/timing.</i>	There were no unexpected events or adjustments that had to be made during the first year of the COVE-WENDT project. All activities proceeded as planned, with no impact on other tasks, available resources, or the overall planning and timing.
Milestones and deliverables (outputs/outcomes)	
See Deliverables screen.	

Work Package 3

Work package 3: Cooperation and partnerships			
Activities <i>Report on the <u>implementation status</u> of the activities that were to be implemented during the period and explain <u>deviations</u> from the description of the action (DoA) in Annex 1 GA.</i>			
Task No (continuous numbering linked to WP)	Task name	Implemented? (Yes/No/Partially)	Justification (explain what was done and by whom; explain what was not done and why not; indicate how you intend to handle the situation and new timing; indicate if it was a one-off issue or how you intend to avoid similar issues in the future)
T3.1	Developing transnational collaborative IT platform	Partially	Activity T3.1 is running smoothly, with the entire consortium collaborating to develop an innovative, user-friendly, and sustainable collaborative IT platform, which is projected to be finalized on time in Month 24. <u>What was done and by whom</u> Initial Research and Design Requirements: Brandware, in close collaboration with ISIM, CESOL, IIS, SZC, and associated partners, completed research on innovative IT platforms and prepared a draft outline specifying critical features (e.g., course organization, job board, collaboration areas, discussion forums). Draft Platform Specification: Brandware compiled draft document detailing navigation menus, functionalities (forums, learning modules, validation features, gamification), and the adaptive user interface. This draft was shared via project SharePoint for partner review.

			Iterative Development Approach: A Minimum Viable Product (MVP) concept was established to allow continuous feedback and improvements from partner testing before finalization. Periodic Monitoring: The project management team performed six-month reviews, confirming that the activity is proceeding according to the planned schedule, with an anticipated final delivery in Month 24. <u>What was not done and why not</u> The platform is still in development; while the MVP is defined, complete coding and subsequent large-scale testing (pilot test) are in progress. This is expected, as finalization is scheduled for Month 24. Since the platform is currently under development, the scheduled continuous improvement phase (e.g., refining performance, adding advanced features) will begin once the pilot launches and user feedback is collected. <u>How we intend to handle the situation and new timing</u> Maintaining the Existing Timeline: No changes are needed. All tasks are proceeding, and the final deliverable is on track for delivery by Month 24. Close Collaboration & Feedback Cycles: Regular partner reviews and iterative design sprints ensure emerging needs or issues are quickly identified and addressed, preventing significant delays. Structured User Testing and Adjustments: Once the MVP is ready, partners, associated partners, and pilot users will test the platform to validate its functionalities. Any required refinements will be integrated before the final release. <u>Was it a one-off issue or how to avoid similar issues in the future</u> No Specific Delays or One-Off Problems: The activity is on schedule as planned. Ongoing Risk Management: Regular communication, early feedback sessions, and effective task division among partners reduce the likelihood of unforeseen setbacks. Long-Term Sustainment: By ensuring robust platform development and involving partners in each step, we anticipate a smooth handover and continued maintenance well beyond the project's lifecycle.
T3.2	Establishing a network of living labs for the welding sector and supporting innovation activities	No	According to the project timetable, work is scheduled to start in M25
T3.3	Organisation of international skills competitions	No	According to the project timetable, work is scheduled to start in M19
T3.4	Organisation of international	Partially	Activity T3.4 is on track, with the first international campus successfully delivered and the second

	campus for teachers and trainers / future trainers		campus scheduled for 2026. The project team will use feedback from the initial event to optimize planning, ensuring a successful and impactful second campus. <u>What was done and by whom</u> First International Campus (E3.1) Held on Schedule: IIS successfully hosted the event from 23rd to 27th of September 2024 in Genoa, Italy. Broad Participation: Twenty teachers, trainers, and specialists from partner organizations (ISIM, CESOL, IIS, SZC etc.) took part, thus reaching the estimated number of participants. Focus on Welding and Related Processes: Participants received the latest information on welding sector developments, including innovative teaching methodologies and tools for professional growth. Collaboration and Knowledge Exchange: The event included presentations, best-practice sharing, and discussions around real-world challenges in welding, enabling participants to gain new perspectives and skills. <u>What was not done and why not</u> Completion of All International Campuses: The second international campus (E3.3), to be organized in Madrid, Spain by CESOL in 2026, has not occurred yet. Consequently, T3.4 remains partially completed because it spans two separate events across different years. There is no delay for this second event; it is simply scheduled later in the project timeline. <u>How we intend to handle the situation and new timing</u> Continuing as Planned: The project team will proceed with the 2026 campus in Madrid as per the original schedule. Preparations will begin well in advance, leveraging insights from the first event. Enhanced Event Planning: Feedback and lessons learned from the first campus will be used to refine the structure, content, and logistics of the second campus, ensuring even greater impact and participation. <u>Was it a one-off issue or how to avoid similar issues in the future</u> No Delays or Exceptions: The partial status is entirely due to the multi-year scope of T3.4, not unexpected circumstances. Ongoing Monitoring and Feedback: By regularly reviewing each event's outcomes, we ensure continuous improvement and stay aligned with the project schedule and objectives.
T3.5	Certification at European / International level of the new training courses developed in the project frame	No	According to the project timetable, work is scheduled to start in M37
Other issues		There were no unexpected events or adjustments that had to be made during the first year of the COVE-WENDT project. All	

<i>Mention and explain unexpected events and adjustments that had to be made. Explain impact on other tasks, available resources and planning/timing.</i>	activities proceeded as planned, with no impact on other tasks, available resources, or the overall planning and timing.
Milestones and deliverables (outputs/outcomes)	
See Deliverables screen.	

Work Package 4

Work package 4: Governance and funding			
Activities			
<i>Report on the <u>implementation status</u> of the activities that were to be implemented during the period and explain <u>deviations</u> from the description of the action (DoA) in Annex 1 GA.</i>			
Task No (continuous numbering linked to WP)	Task name	Implemented? (Yes/No/Partially)	Justification (explain what was done and by whom; explain what was not done and why not; indicate how you intend to handle the situation and new timing; indicate if it was a one-off issue or how you intend to avoid similar issues in the future)
T4.1	Effective VET governance at regional level	Partially	Activity T4.1 is on target, with the Regional Strategy (D4.1) delivered as planned and the Business-Education Partnerships set to be finalized by Month 24. This coordinated strategy and ongoing stakeholder engagement will enhance VET governance and contribute to a robust, industry-driven CoVE network for the welding sector. <u>What was done and by whom</u> Regional Strategy on Increasing the Efficiency of VET Governance (Deliverable D4.1): CESOL coordinated the initial drafting of the general strategy aimed at attracting industrial companies in the welding sector to join the CoVEs network. SZC adapted the strategy to better align with university requirements. IIS customized the strategic approach to research institutions' needs, ensuring collaboration between industry and academia is optimized. ISIM prepared preliminary surveys to gauge industrial interest in partnering with academia and

			research entities. Following consortium feedback, ISIM, IIS, CESOL, and SZC translated the final survey version into their native languages. The project consortium reviewed and refined the strategy, consolidating all partners' feedback. Deliverable D4.1 was completed on time, presenting procedures for effective CoVE governance and management, alongside criteria for establishing new CoVEs. Stakeholder Involvement and Planned Data Collection: Chambers of commerce and industry (e.g. CCIAT, BOKIK) have started efforts to regularly assess training demand using industry surveys. CoVEs will prepare materials to inform policy-level stakeholders about the issues affecting the welding industry and possible solutions. <u>What was not done and why not</u> Completion of Business–Education Partnership Agreements: These agreements (a key deliverable with a Month 24 deadline) are still in progress. The reason is that further discussions and collaboration are required with industry stakeholders before finalizing these formal partnerships. No delays are reported; the activity is simply following the planned schedule. <u>How we intend to handle the situation and new timing</u> Maintaining the Original Timeline: Partners are confident that the deliverable related to business-education partnership agreements will be completed by Month 24, as originally planned. Continuous Collaboration: Regular meetings, surveys, and feedback loops will continue to ensure that all relevant business and educational stakeholders are fully on board. Ongoing Monitoring and Adjustments: The project management team will track progress closely, conducting periodic reviews to address any questions or challenges promptly. <u>Was it a one-off issue or how to avoid similar issues in the future</u> No Specific Delays or Complications: The partial status results purely from the multi-phase nature of T4.1. All deliverables are proceeding as scheduled, with no unexpected delays. Future Preparedness: By maintaining structured project management processes and regular communication among partners and stakeholders, the consortium minimizes the likelihood of delays, ensuring tasks remain on time and aligned with project objectives.
T4.2	Setting-up strategic partnership, Co-creating skill ecosystem	No	According to the project timetable, work is scheduled to start in M19
T4.3	Making full use of national and EU financial instruments	Partially	Activity T4.3 is progressing according to schedule, with partners actively enhancing infrastructure, exploring diverse funding sources, and laying a strong foundation for the sustainable growth of the CoVEs network. <u>What was done and by whom</u> Infrastructure Development: The project partners have purchased key digital teaching equipment (e.g., computers, tablets, e-book readers, servers, smart boards, projectors) for their VET centres.

			This step significantly advances the international collaboration capacity of the CoVEs network. Drafting and Submitting Funding Proposals: Several partners have already prepared and submitted concept notes and proposals for complementary funding under Erasmus+. Notable submissions include: ERASMUS-EDU-2025-PI-ALL-INNO-BLUEPRINT; AI-Assisted Non-destructive Inspections of Sustainable Civil and Industrial Constructions for Emergency Prevention (AI-SNIPE) ERASMUS-EDU-2025-PI-ALL-INNO-EDU-ENTERP; Fostering Innovation and Green Skills in Welding through Education and Enterprises Alliance (GreenWeld-Inno) Erasmus+ KA220 VET; Transformation of VET Centres to Become Regional Leaders of Inclusive, Sustainable and Digital Skills Ecosystems (VETINNOVATE) These initiatives ensure broader outreach and possible synergies for advanced research and funding opportunities. <u>What was not done and why not</u> Final Report on Infrastructure Development (D4.3): Although equipment has been purchased, the official Report on the Development of the CoVEs Network Infrastructure for Collaboration at International Level is scheduled for Month 24. The work is on track; the deliverable is simply pending the final documentation. Future Funding Proposals and Projects: The development of further national or EU-funded proposals is ongoing. Some of the proposals have been submitted and others are planned but not yet submitted, in line with the project timetable and the strategic priorities of the consortium. <u>How we intend to handle the situation and new timing</u> Adhering to the Project Schedule: All activities are being carried out according to plan, with no indication of delays. The Month 24 deadline for the D4.3 deliverable remains realistic. Regular Monitoring and Feedback: The project management team and partners will maintain consistent communication to ensure that emerging funding calls are targeted promptly. This approach also applies to completing and validating the final infrastructure report. Leveraging Additional Opportunities: In parallel, the consortium will continue exploring further national/EU instruments and presenting new proposals to expand and sustain the CoVEs network. <u>Was it a one-off issue or how to avoid similar issues in the future</u> No Current Delays or Unexpected Issues: Thus far, no significant setbacks have occurred. The partial state is purely due to the multi-stage nature of T4.3. Future Risk Mitigation: Through early-stage research into funding calls, continuous partner discussions, and robust project management tools, the consortium is positioned to prevent delays and maximize financial opportunities for the CoVEs. Activity T4.3 is progressing according to schedule, with partners actively enhancing infrastructure, exploring diverse funding sources, and laying a strong foundation for the sustainable growth of the CoVEs network.
--	--	--	---

Other issues <i>Mention and explain unexpected events and adjustments that had to be made. Explain impact on other tasks, available resources and planning/timing.</i>	There were no unexpected events or adjustments that had to be made during the first year of the COVE-WENDT project. All activities proceeded as planned, with no impact on other tasks, available resources, or the overall planning and timing.
Milestones and deliverables (outputs/outcomes)	
See Deliverables screen.	

Work Package 5

Work package 5: Dissemination and impact			
Activities <i>Report on the <u>implementation status</u> of the activities that were to be implemented during the period and explain <u>deviations</u> from the description of the action (DoA) in Annex 1 GA.</i>			
Task No (continuous numbering linked to WP)	Task name	Implemented? (Yes/No/Partially)	Justification (explain what was done and by whom; explain what was not done and why not; indicate how you intend to handle the situation and new timing; indicate if it was a one-off issue or how you intend to avoid similar issues in the future)
T5.1	Project advertising and raising VET attractiveness	Partially	Activity T5.1 continues smoothly, with the fundamental communication tools and strategies already in place. Ongoing engagement and regular content updates will further enhance VET's attractiveness and ensure the project's impact remains visible and relevant to stakeholders throughout its lifecycle. <u>What was done and by whom</u> Communication Plan (D5.1) and the Project Website (D5.3) delivered. The Communication Plan was finalized and is now guiding the entire consortium's dissemination efforts. The Project Website (in English) was launched, providing an accessible hub for project information, upcoming events, and results.

			EWf Leadership in Dissemination: EWf led the design of the project's visual identity, including the logo and document templates used by all partners. EWf is also coordinating the production of newsletters to be distributed via the website and the transnational collaborative IT platform. Partner Contributions: All full partners placed a link to the project website on their own institutional pages and contributed to the communication plan by sharing relevant news, events, and feedback. ISIM, CESOL, IIS, SZC have begun advertising the COVE-WENDT project using conferences or exhibitions to disseminate project outcomes. They are also preparing brochures, roll-ups, and other promotional materials (with QR codes) to direct attendees to online project resources. <u>What was not done and why not</u> Since T5.1 spans the entire duration of the project, certain promotional tasks (such as continuous social media campaigns, new brochures, or updated roll-ups) will be periodically developed and refined. There are no delays, just a natural, incremental delivery of promotional content in line with each activity, event or action of the project. <u>How we intend to handle the situation and new timing</u> Deliverables due so far (D5.1 and D5.3) have been completed in a timely manner so as not to delay the dissemination of the project results. All communication and dissemination activities are proceeding as planned. Continuous Improvement Cycle: The consortium will continue to update communication materials, publish newsletters, and share best practices to ensure maximum visibility and engagement. EWf will provide six-monthly progression reports on dissemination tasks. Ongoing Stakeholder Engagement: By leveraging upcoming conferences, career fairs, and associated partners' networks, we will maintain momentum, targeting various industries, educational institutions, and potential end-users of project results. <u>Was it a one-off issue or how to avoid similar issues in the future</u> No Current Issues or Delays: T5.1 remains on schedule with no notable setbacks. The incremental nature of communication tasks explains the partially status of the task. Future Preparedness: With established procedures (e.g., six-monthly reviews, shared feedback forms, regular partner updates), the consortium is well-equipped to respond quickly to any unforeseen communication needs or challenges.
T5.2	Assurance of the project impact	Partially	Activity T5.2 is well on track. Partners have established robust impact measurement frameworks, effectively deployed a coherent visual identity, and are methodically gathering evidence to inform the Exploitation Plan (Month 48). With no current blockers and regular progress reviews, the project is set to achieve its long-term objectives of positively transforming the welding sector and allied processes. <u>What was done and by whom</u> All project partners collaborated to define quantitative and qualitative KPIs for measuring how effectively the project's deliverables meet industry needs. These include metrics such as the

			number of training participants, living lab users, and new collaborations. ISIM, as project coordinator, set up the mechanism for collecting interim progress reports from each partner every six months. The visual identity was finalized, including the logo, colour palette, and templates for all internal and external communication. This branding fosters a coherent look and feels, ensuring consistent recognition across all dissemination channels. Ongoing Dissemination & Stakeholder Engagement: Partners (e.g., CESOL, IIS, SZC, ISIM, EWF) have begun disseminating project outcomes via website updates, newsletters, conference presentations, and transnational collaborative platform contributions. Success stories, use cases, and feedback from end users are gathered and shared regularly. <u>What was not done and why not</u> Although initial work on the Exploitation Plan of the Project Results (EPPR) is ongoing, the final version is scheduled for Month 48. This aligns with the project timeline so that all results and lessons learned can inform the final document comprehensively. There is no delay; the staggered timeline allows outcomes to mature and ensures that the strategy reflects real-world usage and user feedback. Full Measurement of Impact: While KPI tracking has started, assessing the long-term impact on learners, organizations, and industry stakeholders requires additional time and data collection. Hence, the project team continues to gather evidence as activities progress. <u>How we intend to handle the situation and new timing</u> Partners will continue to monitor deliverables, gather feedback, and refine methodologies throughout the project's lifecycle. Biannual reporting ensures an agile approach, identifying and addressing any issues quickly. Systematic Data Collection for EPPR: Each partner will feed relevant findings, success stories, and KPI measurements into a shared repository. By Month 48, the accumulated data will be used to finalize the EPPR, ensuring a robust, evidence-based plan for sustained exploitation of results. Regular Feedback Loops: Surveys, interviews, and usage metrics on the IT platform and website will be regularly reviewed. Partners will integrate these insights into improved training materials, updated methodologies, and targeted stakeholder engagement. <u>Was it a one-off issue or how to avoid similar issues in the future</u> No Delays or Unexpected Obstacles. All activities related to impact assurance are proceeding according to schedule. The multi-phase delivery (e.g., final EPPR at Month 48) is a part of the original project design. Regular updates, collaborative data collection, and clear KPI tracking keep the project on course. Future Preparedness: By embedding continuous measurement and feedback into project management, the team can swiftly adapt and refine approaches. All partners remain committed to timely communication and transparent reporting, minimizing potential risks and ensuring the project
--	--	--	---

			consistently meets stakeholder needs.
T5.3	Assurance of the project sustainability	No	According to the project timetable, work is scheduled to start in M37
T5.4	Organization of workshops / conference in all project partner's country	Partially	T5.4 remains on schedule as partners have successfully organized four workshops in their respective countries, engaging various stakeholders and promoting the project's objectives. Regular feedback loops and the hybrid event format will continue to enhance the dissemination and impact of the project's outcomes. <u>What was done and by whom</u> Workshops Conducted in All Four Partner Countries: Hungary (Miskolc, October 10, 2024): Vocational Training Centre of Miskolc hosted 89 participants, focusing on the latest welding technologies and digitalization opportunities. Romania (Timisoara, November 8, 2024): ISIM Timisoara organized a workshop with 82 participants, highlighting cutting-edge welding methods and collaborations between industry and academia. Spain (Madrid, November 20, 2024): CESOL headquarters held an event with 53 participants, featuring demonstrations of specialized welding software and equipment. Italy (Ferrara, February 27, 2025): IIS (Istituto Italiano della Saldatura) arranged a workshop attended by 50 participants, emphasizing eco-friendly welding consumables and bridging the green skill gap. Each workshop addressed current sector trends, industry-academia collaboration, and sustainability. Hybrid event formats facilitated broader participation and real-time interactions. EWF provided overarching coordination, ensuring alignment with the dissemination strategy and promoting consistency across various events. <u>What was not done and why not</u> Although four successful events have taken place, the activity extends until the end of the project, with additional workshops planned each year in each partner country. No workshops are currently overdue. No notable delays have been reported; the workshops follow the planned timetable, and preparations for subsequent events continue as scheduled. <u>How we intend to handle the situation and new timing</u> Partners will continue to organize one annual national-level workshop each until project completion, with EWF providing coordination, quality assurance, and support. Event agendas will be refined using feedback from previous workshops, ensuring topics remain relevant and responsive to industry trends.

			Flexible Hybrid Approach: The hybrid format will persist, maximizing participation from diverse stakeholders. This method has proven successful for knowledge-sharing and networking. Early Planning helps secure speakers, sponsorship, and promotional materials well in advance. <u>Was it a one-off issue or how to avoid similar issues in the future</u> No Current Issues. The initial round of workshops was carried out without major complications, indicating that the format and coordination strategy are effective. Each partner has a clear role and timeline, which reduces the risk of organizational delays. Ongoing Risk Mitigation: By regularly reviewing events, gathering participant feedback, and updating topics in response to industry developments, we ensure that each upcoming workshop/conference is well-prepared and impactful. EWf and the project management team will promptly address any logistical or scheduling issues, ensuring the consistency and sustainability of future dissemination events.
Other issues			
<i>Mention and explain unexpected events and adjustments that had to be made. Explain impact on other tasks, available resources and planning/timing.</i>			
Milestones and deliverables (outputs/outcomes)			
See Deliverables screen.			

Timetable

Timetable (projects of more than 2 years) Report on <u>deviations</u> from Annex 1 of the Grant Agreement. Fill in the planned implementation in beige and the deviations in red. Adapt and repeat lines/columns as necessary.																
Starting date:	01.03.2024															
ACTIVITY	YEAR 1				YEAR 2				YEAR 3				YEAR 4			
	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4
Task 1.1 - Project administration and coordination																
Task 1.2 - Organisation of the project partner's meeting																
Task 1.3 - Quality control and impact evaluation																
Task 2.1 - Developing innovative curriculum and guidelines																
Task 2.2 - Developing of innovative learner - centred teaching material																
Task 2.3 - Organisation of continuing training courses for professional development of teachers, trainers																
Task 2.4 - Providing career guidance and validation of prior learning services																

[illegible]

Task 4.3 - Making full use of national and EU financial instruments																
Task 5.1 - Project advertising and raising VET attractiveness																
Task 5.2 - Assurance of the project impact																
Task 5.3 - Assurance of the project sustainability																
Task 5.4 - Organization of workshops / conference in all project partner's country																

3. BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION *(n/a for Lump Sum Grants)*

Overall budget implementation — Use of resources	YES/NO
We confirm that the overall budget consumption is in line with the advancement of the activities. <i>If there are major deviations, identify them and explain the reasons why.</i>	Yes
N / A	

ANNEXES

LIST OF ANNEXES

n/a

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	25.02.2021	Initial version (new MFF).