



**EDUCATIONAL
KNOWLEDGE
TRANSFER**

NEWSLETTER 3

APRIL 2023



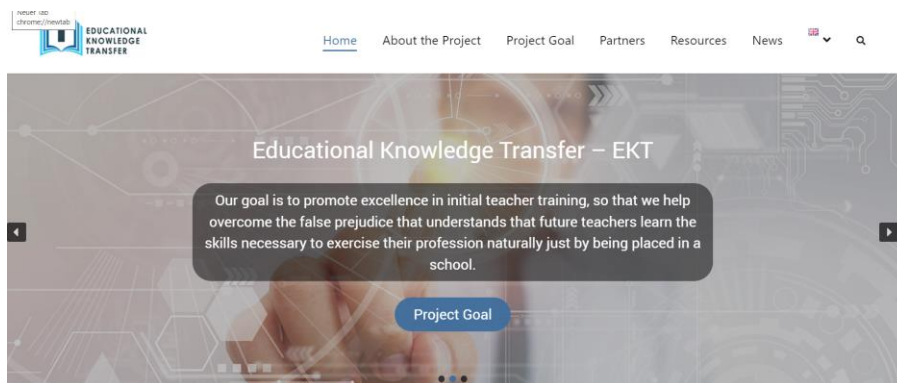
EKT – the project

EKT - Educational Knowledge Transfer is a three-year project, coordinated by Universidad de Santiago de Compostela, Spain, and co-funded by the European Union's Erasmus+ programme. In this Knowledge Alliance for Higher Education partner institutions from six EU countries with different profiles participate and contribute to the work: on the one hand, technology companies that offer e-learning services and resources, and on the other hand, educational institutions with a stake in Initial Teacher Education (ITE).

EKT seeks to improve the quality of ITE by providing comprehensive support of the important training element in-school placements by developing and experimenting collaborative educational methodologies and a smart online system for collaboration, monitoring and communication of teacher students, their academic and school mentors. Innovative methodologies and technologies are developed and implemented by combining expert knowledge gained through educational research and technological know-how.

Please visit our project website:

ektproject.eu



The EKT Project is coming to an end

After three and a half years, a duration that was longer than initially planned due to restrictions imposed by the pandemic, the **EKT Project** is coming to an end on 30 April 2023.

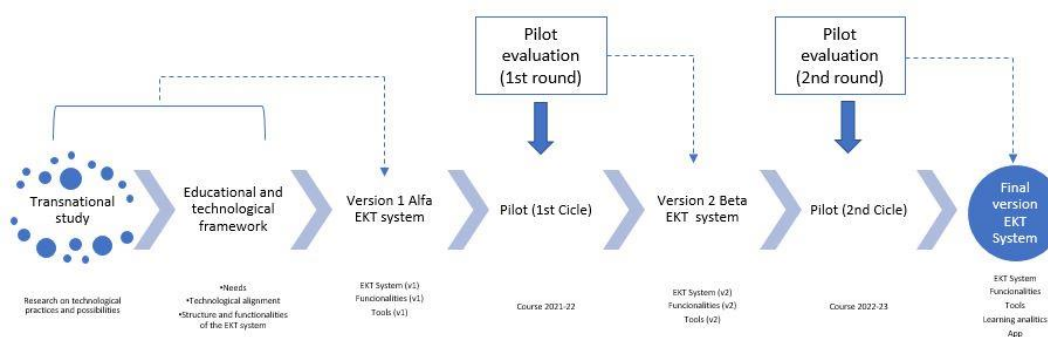
In this last project newsletter we would like to share the project results with you, draw your attention to the final outputs of the project and where you can find them after the end of funding. We also want to make a short review of the EKT conference in Santiago de Compostela which was extraordinarily successful.

Thank you very much for the interest you took in the **EKT Project**! We do hope you will find some of the project results useful for your own professional practice. Let us continue the debate on quality of teacher education and the educational use of online technologies.

EKT: results and achievements

Knowledge Alliances like **EKT** are about generating knowledge, through cooperation of actors from different fields who normally do not share and build on their respective expertise. In **EKT** higher education institutions with a stake in Initial Teacher Education worked together with private companies that develop and offer e-learning services and methodologies. The aim was to experiment with smart technologies to support and improve in-school placements of student teachers. **EKT** succeeded in exploring new methodological and technological pathways, and the project partners learned a lot in the process. With a view of the complexity of the task to meet the need of the three key stakeholders in placements – teacher students, academic mentors and school mentors, it is evident that this process could not be a linear one but included theoretical developments, practical experiments, lessons learnt from them and subsequent changes of direction.

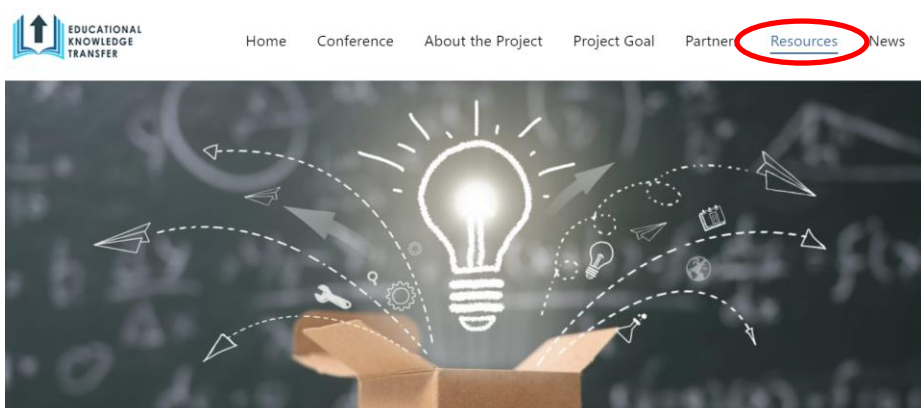
The following chart gives an idea of this process:



The main project outcome is the **EKT Methodology**, designed as a flexible proposal that can be adapted and implemented in a variety of national and institutional contexts. This methodology has been applied in the technological **EKT System**, available as Open-Source software which makes it possible to adapt standard features to suit specific needs from the roles involved in the in-school placement process, as well

as localization to local languages. Therefore, the **EKT** software allows making systems like the **EKT** Platform available for use and exploitation to other educational communities in any language

A variety of tangible results for use, inspiration and reflection are now available at the Resources section of the **EKT** website: <https://ektproject.eu/resources/>:



- **Educational and technological framework** for development of professional competences in in-school placement
- Access to the **EKT System**
- **EKT Mobile APP**
- **EKT SPOC** (Small Private Online Course) on observation, reflection and research-action of the student teacher
- **Reports and Guides** on technological development, piloting , evaluation and dissemination
- **EKT Handbook**, which shares the experience gained and presents key results in a nutshell
- **Scientific publications, conference papers and theses** related to the project
- **Multimedia material**
- **Newsletters** and other **dissemination materials**
- Impressions from the **EKT Final Conference and national events**

Have a look and see what is in for you!

EKT final conference: a great success



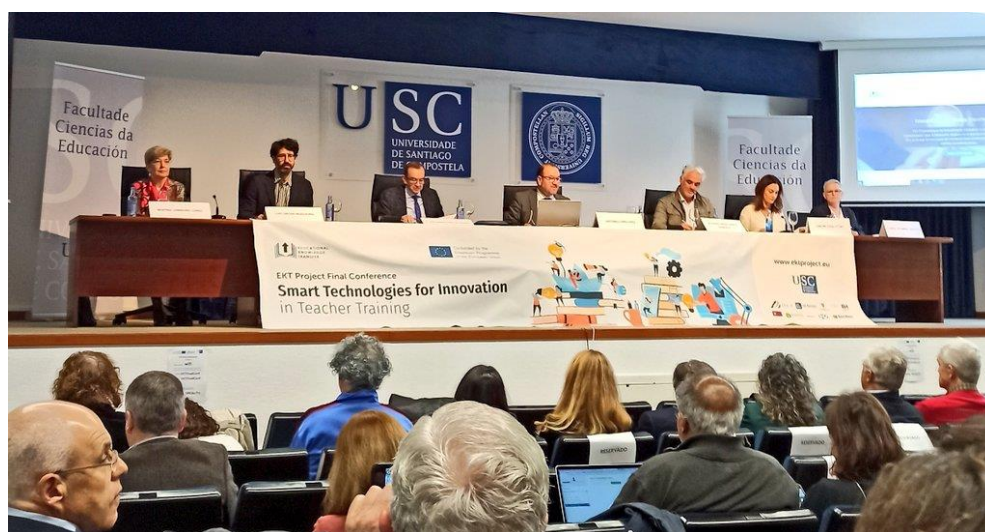
The final conference of the **EKT Project - Smart Technologies for Innovation in Teacher Training** - was held on 13 April 2023 in the auditorium of the Faculty of Education of the University of Santiago de Compostela and streamed online.

The conference generated a lot of attention. 352 students, teachers, school principals, researchers, teacher trainers, educators and managers of ITE institutions and e-learning practitioners from 52 nationalities registered for the event. In the end 112 persons participated in person , while 235 people attended online.

Different aspects of the project were presented in the plenary by the project coordinator, Ms. Carmen Fernández Morante and the EKT team. In the afternoon key results were discussed in more detail and contextualized in interactive, smaller workshops.

Overall, the interest in the **EKT Methodology** and **EKT System** was immense. This is not only documented by the size of the audience and the liveliness of the discussions, but also through the presence of several regional and national education authorities in the opening ceremony:

- Rector of the University of Santiago de Compostela, Mr. Antonio López Díaz.
- Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Education Sciences, Ms. Lorena Casal Otero.
- Director of the Research Group in Educational Technology of the USC, Ms. Beatriz Cebreiro López.
- Director of the Galician Supercomputing Center, Mr. Lois Orosa Nogueira.
- President of the National Conference of Deans and Deans of Education (CODE), Mr. Alfonso Javier García González.
- General Secretary of Universities, Mr. José Alberto Díaz de Castro.



All of them emphasized the relevance and importance of the work done by the EKT Project.

Student teachers, school mentors and academic mentors involved in school placements, who participated in the **EKT** pilot cycles, talked about their experiences, were thanked for their commitment and awarded in a ceremony.



Here some more impressions from the event:

