

DICE Project NEWSLETTER



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MEET THE PARTNERS!

In each issue of the newsletter, we introduce the partners of the DiCE project.

Let's Meet:

HELIXCONNECT EUROPE

This edition of the DICE Newsletter is dedicated to **HELIXCONNECT Europe**, a strategic partner advancing innovation ecosystems and digital transformation within higher education and industry across Europe. Established in Timișoara, Romania, HELIXCONNECT Europe operates as a **innovation organisation** that fosters multi-stakeholder collaboration between academia, enterprises, public authorities, and civil society.

Its mission is grounded in the **quadruple-helix model**, promoting knowledge exchange, entrepreneurship, and sustainable regional development. HELIXCONNECT's activities span EU-funded research and innovation projects, skills ecosystem design, and policy consulting in domains such as advanced manufacturing, deep tech, and digital education.

helixconnect



HELIXCONNECT
EUROPE



Within the DICE framework, HELIXCONNECT contributes valuable expertise in **digital community engagement, ecosystem mapping, and participatory innovation methodologies**. By leveraging co-creation tools and inclusive learning approaches, the organisation supports the transformation of universities into dynamic actors of societal change. Their commitment to bridging global innovation networks and strengthening institutional capacities makes HELIXCONNECT a key enabler in developing impactful and sustainable community engagement models in the digital era.

[Read More](#)

DIGITAL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ACCELERATOR FOR STUDENT LEARNING AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT

Project Number: 2022-1-SK01-KA220-HED-000087668. Disclaimer: Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the authors only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA). Neither the European Union nor EACEA can be held responsible for them.

EVENTS

As the **DICE project** is wrapping up, we can look back on two significant events that took place this semester: The **4th Transnational Project Meeting (TPM)** that was held in **Timișoara, Romania** and hosted by **HELIXCONNECT** and the **Digital Accelerator Virtual Launch Event**.

FOURTH DICE TPM

The **4th Transnational Project Meeting (TPM)** provided partners with a platform to synchronize efforts for the concluding phase, ensuring that the **DICE project** remains aligned and setting the course for future initiatives.

This meeting was designed to evaluate the progress of the **DICE project** to date and to inform subsequent actions. It served as a venue for partners to prepare for the final phase, thereby facilitating a smooth launch of the **Digital Accelerator**. Additionally, the consortium focused on structuring the content and overall approach to writing the **DICE Handbook**. This was crucial for the **DICE project** to continue fostering connections between academia and communities through digital innovation.



ACCELERATOR LAUNCH

The **Virtual Launch Event** brought together DICE stakeholders from all over Europe for the first public introduction of tools like the **Value Maps** and the **Digital Accelerator** platform.

Moderated by *Dr. Eng. Emilia Binchiciu* of HELIXCONNECT the event guided participants through topics like the importance of *Digital Community Engagement* today and introduced the value-oriented approach behind the **DICE Value Maps** and the actual **DICE Accelerator** process. Finally, it introduced two of the DICE project's biggest deliverables, the **DICE Best Practices Report** and the **DICE Handbook**.

The event ended with inspiring partner stories, where participants shared their experience with digital community engagement.

WHAT WE HAVE CREATED

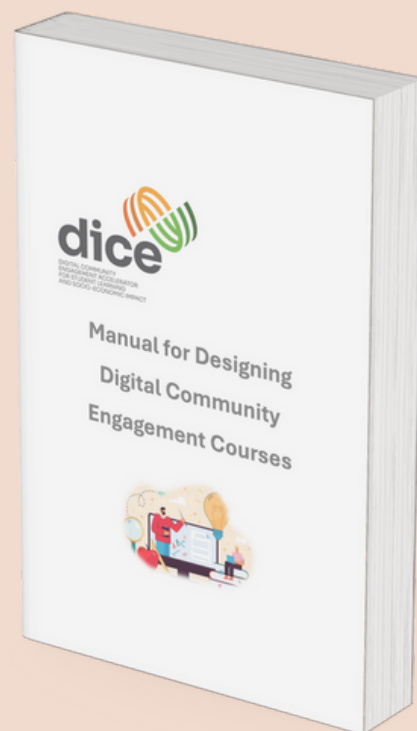
THE MANUAL FOR DESIGNING DIGITAL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COURSES

A valuable resource for educators building innovative programs, the **DICE project** published the **Manual for Designing Digital Community Engagement Courses**. This practical guide walks educators step-by-step through the *entire* course design process, providing concrete methodologies for integrating community engagement into digital learning environments. The **Manual** is structured around the **ADDIE framework** (Analyze, Design, Develop, Implement, Evaluate) and breaks down the complex challenge of embedding community engagement into manageable phases:

- *Value Selection,*
- *Learning Objectives,*
- *Methodology Design,*
- *Content Development,*
- *Assessment,*
- *and Feedback & Modification.*

Each phase includes detailed tool descriptions, implementation examples, and video guidance. Building upon the **DICE Value Maps** for both *Student Learning* and *Social Impact*, the Manual offers educators a structured pathway to transform their courses into engagement-driven learning experiences.

Whether you are creating a new course from scratch or retrofitting an existing one, this manual provides the scaffolding, templates, and best-practice examples needed to make **Digital Community Engagement** both feasible and impactful in your teaching practice.



Download



WHAT WE HAVE CREATED

THE HANDBOOK ON DIGITAL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The **Digital Community Engagement Handbook** serves as a strategic resource for higher education leaders seeking to understand and implement Digital Community Engagement at the **institutional level**. Unlike the Manual's focus on individual course design, the Handbook takes a broader institutional perspective, offering *frameworks, principles, and actionable strategies* for embedding digital engagement across entire organizations.



Drawing on the **DICE framework**, European case studies from universities in Amsterdam, Barcelona, and Dublin, and insights from pilot implementations, the **Handbook** helps readers grasp core principles of digital community engagement, review real-world best practices, leverage digital platforms for inclusive collaboration, foster values-driven institutional culture, and navigate common obstacles like digital inequality and stakeholder resistance. Aimed at institutional leaders, engagement officers, curriculum designers, administrative staff, and cross-functional teams, the **DICE Handbook** bridges the gap between *digital transformation ambitions* and *practical implementation*, providing a roadmap for universities committed to genuine community partnership in an increasingly digital world.

Download



WHAT WE HAVE CREATED

THE DICE BEST PRACTICE REPORT

Between February and April 2025, **nine educators** from **three European universities** piloted the **DICE Accelerator** across **nine distinct courses** spanning project management, marketing, communication, adult education, journalism, and chemistry.

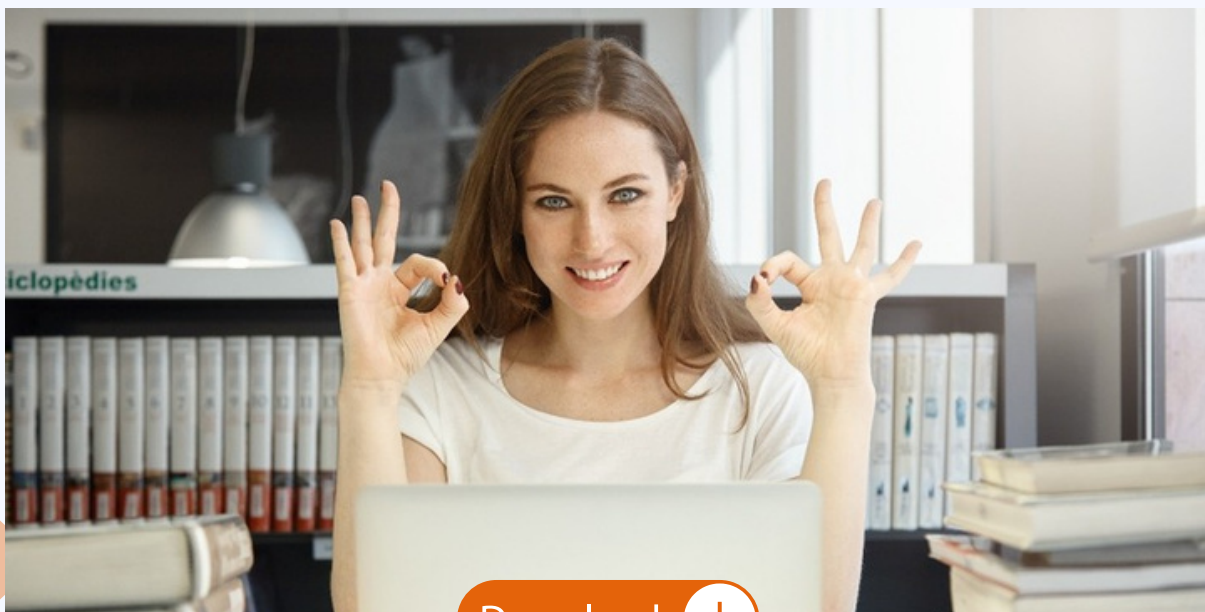
The resulting **Best Practice Report** represents a comprehensive analysis of **198** documented practices, organized into **12** thematic clusters based on common pedagogical strategies and focus areas.

Each cluster includes an overview of successful practices, discussion of their

pedagogical relevance, visual mapping showing alignment with **DICE Accelerator** phases, and an Educator Checklist offering guiding questions for context-specific adaptation.

This collection transforms pilot insights into replicable, scalable strategies that empower educators across disciplines to integrate **Digital Community Engagement** effectively.

The report provides the evidence base showing that digital community engagement is feasible, scalable, and impactful across diverse academic contexts.



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FAREWELL TO THE PROJECT, BUT NOT TO DICE



As the DICE project officially concludes, we are proud of what we've built together: **9 pilot courses** delivered, **198 best practices** documented, **5 comprehensive resources** published, and a future for digital community engagement build.

But this is not an ending; it is a handoff. The **Digital Accelerator**, **Value Maps**, **Manual**, **Handbook**, and **Best Practice Report** are now yours to use, adapt, and build upon. **Digital Community Engagement** doesn't stop here; it scales with you. To everyone who contributed—partners, educators, students, and community stakeholders—thank you for making this real. *It has been a pleasure.*

Stay connected via our website (<https://www.diceaccelerator.eu/>) or on our LinkedIn (<https://www.linkedin.com/company/dice-accelerator>)

The tools are live. The community is ready. Let's keep going!