

Dear reader,

You have just received the 1st newsletter of the SECuRe project (Smart Education for Corporate Sustainability Reporting). The project deals with the topic of ESG (Environment, Social and Governance) and non-financial reporting in the context of the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD).

Tracking data on environmental and social aspects and providing this information to external and internal stakeholders is an integral part of sustainability reporting. Pressures of the regulatory framework, value chains and financial sector are leading to the situation where the preparation and publication of sustainability reports by companies is no longer just an optional PR matter, but becomes an important element of overall business success.

Best wishes,

SECURE project team

### Policy context of our project

The European Green Deal is accompanied by a series of new legislation, initiatives and approaches. Collectively, these regulations and directives aim to increase transparency and accountability on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and ESG (Environment, Social and Governance) issues and encourage companies to improve their sustainability practices. Companies subject to these obligations must ensure that they comply with the relevant reporting requirements and disclose accurate and relevant information. For



example, the recently adopted Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) requires around 50,000 of the largest companies in the EU to disclose data on the impact of their activities on people and the planet, as well as any sustainability risks, they are exposed to. The new CSRD obligations expand the range of approaches that sustainability managers need to cover, which the SECuRe project aims to help with.

### Basic data about the project

The project was launched in May 2022 with support from the Erasmus+ programme and will run for two years. It brings together five partners from business and academia from five different EU Member States, including the Czech Republic (ENVIROS), Poland (ATMOTERM), Romania (CNPCD), Slovenia (University of Maribor) and Spain (PROSPEKTIKER).

## Our project explained in 100 words

The SECuRe project aims to develop a Vocational Education a Training (VET) course and a corresponding professional skill/competence profile in line with ECVET, which will enable professionals in private and/or public organizations as well as VET teachers to become certified SECuRe Managers. The main topic of the course will be sustainability management and sustainability reporting, with a particular focus on ESG data, SDGs and CSRD reporting. The project includes the development of a knowledge repository, a VET course and an e-learning platform. The course will be offered as a free educational resource available in English, Czech, Polish, Romanian, Slovenian and Spanish.

## Project meetings

Two project meetings have taken place so far. While the kick-off meeting was organized in July 2022 in the form of a conference call, the second meeting was held in person in Prague in November 2022.

At the kick-off meeting, the consortium focused on planning the project activities and their timing, as well as necessary management and administrative issues. The second meeting provided an opportunity to present and discuss important points related to the development of the first project outputs – the training materials and the educational platform.



## Key Project Results

### PR1: SECuRe Knowledge Repository

Online database of learning resources related to sustainability, CSR/ESG and SDGs reporting

### PR2: SECuRe VET course

VET course on sustainability management and ESG delivered through a blended learning approach

### PR3: Project web page, and an interactive e-Learning platform

E-learning training platform of the VET course enabling the use of gamification techniques

### PR4: Pilot application of the SECuRe VET course

### PR5: Experimental online training

Five demo training sessions & the first round of the e-learning course in all the participating countries



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