



Project Implementation Report

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Project Number:	618596-EPP-1-2020-1-SE-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP
Project Title:	nEUROcare - a European initiative for capacity building to meet the challenges of caring for people with neurodegenerative disorders in Sri Lanka
Coordinating Institution:	HOEGSKOLAN KRISTIANSTAD

On the basis of the information available in the Report and its annexes, the following assessment has been carried out.

Relevance:

No significant change has been reported that could affect the project relevance compared to what was proposed in project application. The project is confirmed to be relevant in the national context of Sri Lanka, as it addresses important challenges faced at the national level, such as the existing skill gaps in the area of neurodegenerative diseases (NDD).

Indeed, this area still requires urgent attention and the new and innovative courses and methodologies in healthcare to develop human capacities are instrumental. By developing new interdisciplinary programmes and redesigning existing programmes, the Sri Lankan HEIs will offer up-to-date, student-centred programmes and it will bridge the existing gaps in teaching and training.

We welcome that the project has also received the backing of the Sri Lankan Ministry of Health and Indigenous Medicine, which has recognised it as a critical step in enhancing the nation's healthcare capacity. Also to be noted, representatives from several healthcare institutions in Sri Lanka are actively participating in the project including healthcare professionals from all the main hospitals across the Country.

Quality of project design and implementation

During the 1st half of the project lifetime, the project well completed a proper needs analysis (WP2) referring to each target groups to assess the state of play in Sri Lanka. The results of the needs analysis were used for the capacity building activities in the partner HEIs and the preparation of the project deliverables.

After this, the Covid-19 pandemic and the political and economic situation in Sri Lanka have affected the project staff and activities. Consequently, the consortium has requested and obtained a project extension of 12 months to have the time to carry out the activities that could not be carried out during the year 2020/21.

As acknowledged by the progress report and according to the timeline, in November 2023, the Sri

Lankan partner associated with the nEUROcare initiative will undertake a significant phase of the project by preparing and formally submitting the master program for accreditation to the relevant educational board. However, we would like to remind you that the accreditation is the minimum requirement for CBHE Curriculum Development projects to ensure the sustainability of the study programme at all universities. Therefore, we strongly recommend you to take all necessary and appropriate actions to closer monitor and get the accreditation by the national authorities.

At this stage, the project has not purchased any equipment. This is in accordance with the timetable of the project. However, the coordinator is encouraged to follow closely the purchase process including the storage at the premises of the corresponding departments (bringing the disclaimer of the Erasmus + programme and the logo of EU).

Quality of the project team and the cooperation arrangements

Despite the difficulties incurred because of the global pandemic and the financial crisis in Sri Lanka, we understand that the cooperation among partners is solid and all partners are involved in the project activities. The distribution of tasks and responsibilities strengthens the quality of the project team and the ownership of the project. The consortium has devised a well-structured management structure; the working methodologies chosen seem to be appropriate and effective.

A Quality Assurance Plan has been enclosed with the e-report, which features satisfactory details on the quality assurance mechanisms put in place, by the consortium to ensure that the project deliverables will be of good quality.

Impact and Dissemination

The project website has been launched, it is well designed and clearly shows the project implementation. It includes a home page with project information, progress, and newsletters. The project website is hosted and linked to the websites of the four Sri Lankan partners. However, concerning the visibility and dissemination of the project activities, we would encourage to add more information on the project website, especially concerning the documents produced by the consortium as a result of the project. In this respect, English is the only language used for the website and for the preparation of deliverables, delivery of events/meetings/ seminars and any correspondence. Nevertheless, local partners are encouraged to translate material/resources into Sinhala and Tamil, to ensure dissemination and uptake of the project outcomes from local and national stakeholders. At the same time, additional work need be done to increase project visibility among the specific target groups (i.e., informal caregivers, family members, friends and neighbours providing unpaidcare) during the second phase of the project implementation phase.

The Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation Plan is well developed: it describes the strategic approach and clearly indicates partners' tasks, target groups and planned events. The Dissemination Plan is meant to be a guiding document for the project and should identify all dissemination activities in coherence to the work plan and the website.

Please do not forget to upload the project results on the **Project Results Platform** at the project end: <https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/projects/>. We take this opportunity to remind you of what we consider valid project results. They are the overall and tangible outputs of your project activities (rather than the actual activities themselves), such as curricula (or at least curricula compendia), reports, operating guidelines of the teaching centres, etc. As a result, internal project documents (such as a quality assurance plans, dissemination plans etc.) or promotion material (leaflets, posters, etc.) are not considered project results.

Visibility rules and the use of Erasmus+ logo are correct.