



Recap from our start

Background

In order to help small family-managed businesses in Europe, the SFaB (Support Family Business) project is co-funded by the European Commission within the Erasmus Plus funding programme and actively driven by partner organisations from Greece, Spain, Bulgaria, Belgium, France and Austria introduced in our first newsletter. SFaB develops, for company owners, managers and employees in family businesses, a framework for learning and understanding the nature, importance, and uniqueness of family business helping to know how to improve the management of their business with little resources (money and/ or budget).

So far, the project partnership organised several online meetings, engaged External Experts, held Focus Groups and recently also implemented the second meeting, where representatives from all partner organisations met in Lyon, France between 13-14th November 2022 to discuss the achievements and next steps.

Our project – Recap

Our expected results

Our Multiplier Events

Our upcoming activities

For the next year, updates on our results and activities can be found in two more newsletters, on our project website, Facebook, LinkedIn and Instagram accounts.



Our expected results

1

The Support Family Business learning programme which defines the MOOC topics.

2

The Sfab MOOC programme

For developing the learning framework for our tailor-made MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) programme aiming at understanding the nature, importance, and uniqueness of family business in the target countries, the project coordinator, PANEPISTIMIO AIGAIU, Greece (www.aegean.gr), organised a Learning Strategy. Building upon scientific knowledge, methodological tools and best practices which are targeting the performance optimisation of personnel involved in family-run businesses, this document provides more details regarding the five SFaB courses, the foreseen learning objectives, the foreseen structure and assessment details to :



FAMILY BUSINESS & SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS, SUCCESSION, THE ROLE OF WOMAN IN THE FAMILY BUSINESS, CORPORATE GOVERNANCE & FAMILY GOVERNANCE MECHANISMS (FGM), and FAMILY BUSINESS STRATEGY.

3

Our SFaB Virtual Learning Environment (VLE)

The VLE shall host our MOOC. Our Belgian project partner, Candide, summarised all the specifications of this online platform, highlighting technical criteria of it, describing architecture, software components, installation prerequisites, software prerequisites, and course content format. As a next step, they are building on the technical backend and will open the platform access to the authors of the MOOC. In addition, this VLE shall be supported by a collection of other autonomous web services allowing self-paced learning along with collaborative learning possibilities such as Course discussions (forums), peer learning and group activities. The final SFAB VLE will then be linked to the project website and social media for public access.

Learn more about how to participate in accessing these two and also the other results in our next two newsletters:

4

A Toolkit that shall present successful examples, good practices and theory on valid and high-grade knowledge within these topics.

Our Multiplier Events

Building a project partnership with the widest-possible geographic reach has been an important objective when planning the SFaB project. The core organisations bring together Southern Europe – Greece, East – Bulgaria, Central – Austria and Belgium, as well as West Europe – France and Spain. To raise awareness about the project, share news and also engage with other interested organisations and stakeholders, we organised several larger events summarised here. More details can be found on our project website: <https://sfab-project.eu/>.



Project coordinator: PANEPISTIMIO AIGAIU, Greece (www.aegean.gr), a Higher Education institution opened the first series of Multiplier Events on 12 May 2022 for the presentation of the SFaB project to the local businesses of Chios. 80 participants were present at the two-hour event, including employees, owners, managers and stakeholders of family businesses. Dr. Kinias Ioannis, Assistant Professor of Business Policy at the Department of Business Administration of the University of the Aegean, presented the SFaB project, its objectives, the modules of the project and future results. Afterwards, a presentation on key aspects of family businesses was given by Dr. Panikkos Poutziouris, Professor of Entrepreneurship and Family Business and member of the External Group of Advisors of the SFaB project.



The event enabled an active participation of the attendees in discussion about family businesses, their actions and their position in the European Union. All participants were fully satisfied with the organisation of the event as well as its content (questionnaires were filled in at the end of the event).

Our supporting Greek partner in the project, RESEARCH INNOVATION AND DEVELOPMENT LAB PRIVATE COMPANY (www.read-lab.eu) from Athens, hosted an event on 31 August 2022. The event was hosted via ZOOM and gathered approximately 50 participants. After a detailed presentation of the SFaB project; its objectives, and outcomes, a long discussion took place. ReadLab invited experts from different backgrounds in the field of Family Business to present their companies and challenges. Prof. Ioannis Kinias, Ms Eleni Tzoka Steckka, and Mr Ilias Georgopoulos, presented, among others, the special characteristics of Family Businesses, the factors that lead to their success and the succession process. The experts' speech was followed by an interesting discussion.



The French partner INTERPROFESSIONNELLE AUVERGNE RHONE ALPES (IPRA - medef-aura.fr) is an association operating for the Mouvement des entreprises de France – MEDEF Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes. They proposed two workshops for family business managers, owners and expert consultants. The first workshop was a hybrid event about governance, succession, and the social and emotional factors of running family businesses. The second workshop explored a territorial diagnosis of family businesses in the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region, their needs and characteristics. This was followed by a discussion on transmission and guaranteeing the sustainability of the business for future generations.



The SME DOMSPAIN SLU (www.domspain.eu), based in Cataluña, Spain, hosted their Multiplier Event on 20 May 2022 in Reus to present the project, its objectives and future outcomes, and the partnership to the participants. The audience consisted of a diverse public: employers, teachers, entrepreneurs, business owners and other stakeholders. A total of 37 people attended the 2-hours event. The main speakers of the event were Olena Korzhykova and Julia Vilafranca. In addition to the project presentation, topics such as: "Business and Family", "Intergenerational Business" and "Social initiatives in the company" were discussed. According to the evaluation of the event, which was carried out with the help of online questionnaires, the event fully achieved its predefined objectives.

BEST INSTITUT FÜR BERUFSBEZOGENE WEITERBILDUNG UND PERSONALTRAINING GMBH (www.best.at) from Vienna/Austria, the author of this newsletter, worked with some 35 participants during their Multiplier Event on 28 June 2022 with a similar agenda the other partners highlighted in their event descriptions. In general, it can be concluded that the event was successful. The company owners of family businesses, their managers and board members, but also business consultants, and local stakeholders met and discussed what family businesses face in economic terms, in particular SMEs. Some of the participants already expressed their interest in taking part in piloting activities once the training programme and time schedule would be ready.



The Bulgarian CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY VRATSA SDRUZHENIE (www.cci-vratsa.org) welcomed 39 participants at their Multiplier Event on 29 July 2022. In addition to activities partners described earlier in this newsletter, the high-quality Massive Online Open Course (MOOC) programme with its five modules was introduced. In addition, two lectures were given: Prof. Dr. Mariana Asenova - Head of the "Economics and Finances" department at the Higher School of Agribusiness and Regional Development Plovdiv - presented "Factors influencing the development of family business", and Teodora Ivanova - Marketing specialist, representative of the Agency for Regional and Economic Development (ARIR) - talked about "Family business in Bulgaria". The event was broadcasted on Facebook online. Local media representatives were also present and helped to gain high interest among family business representatives.

On 30 August 2022, CANDIDE International organised the SFaB national multiplier event in Brussels, Belgium. The event took place at the premises of the Embassy of Greece in Belgium. The objective of the multiplier event was to raise awareness in the local community of entrepreneurs and relevant audiences, and to this end, Belgian financial and legal experts were invited as key speakers. 42 participants, specialising in a wide spectrum of activities from business (especially family business) to law and international development, attended the multiplier event.



Our upcoming activities

- Pilot run of the MOOC training - Interested people forming our
- target audience can find more details on how to participate on
- the project website
- Third project meeting in Bulgaria
- Accreditation considerations for the SFaB courses
- Further interesting news from our partner organisations



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