

Deep diving
into
SERVICE-LEARNING
-SUMMER SCHOOL-



Service-Learning & Digitalization

Unbridgeable tension or Innovative practice?

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Content



- Digital Empowerment
- E-service-learning
- Linking (e-)service-learning & digital empowerment
 - Pathways for SL&DE
 - Conditions for succes
- Service-learning & Digitalization
- SLIDE tools & resources



Service-Learning in a digital age



E-service-learning: What's in a name?



- **E-service-learning** = every type of service-learning in which the instructional component, the service component or both are conducted online.
- **Related concepts:**
 - Virtual service-learning (vSL)
 - Digital service-learning
 - Service e-learning

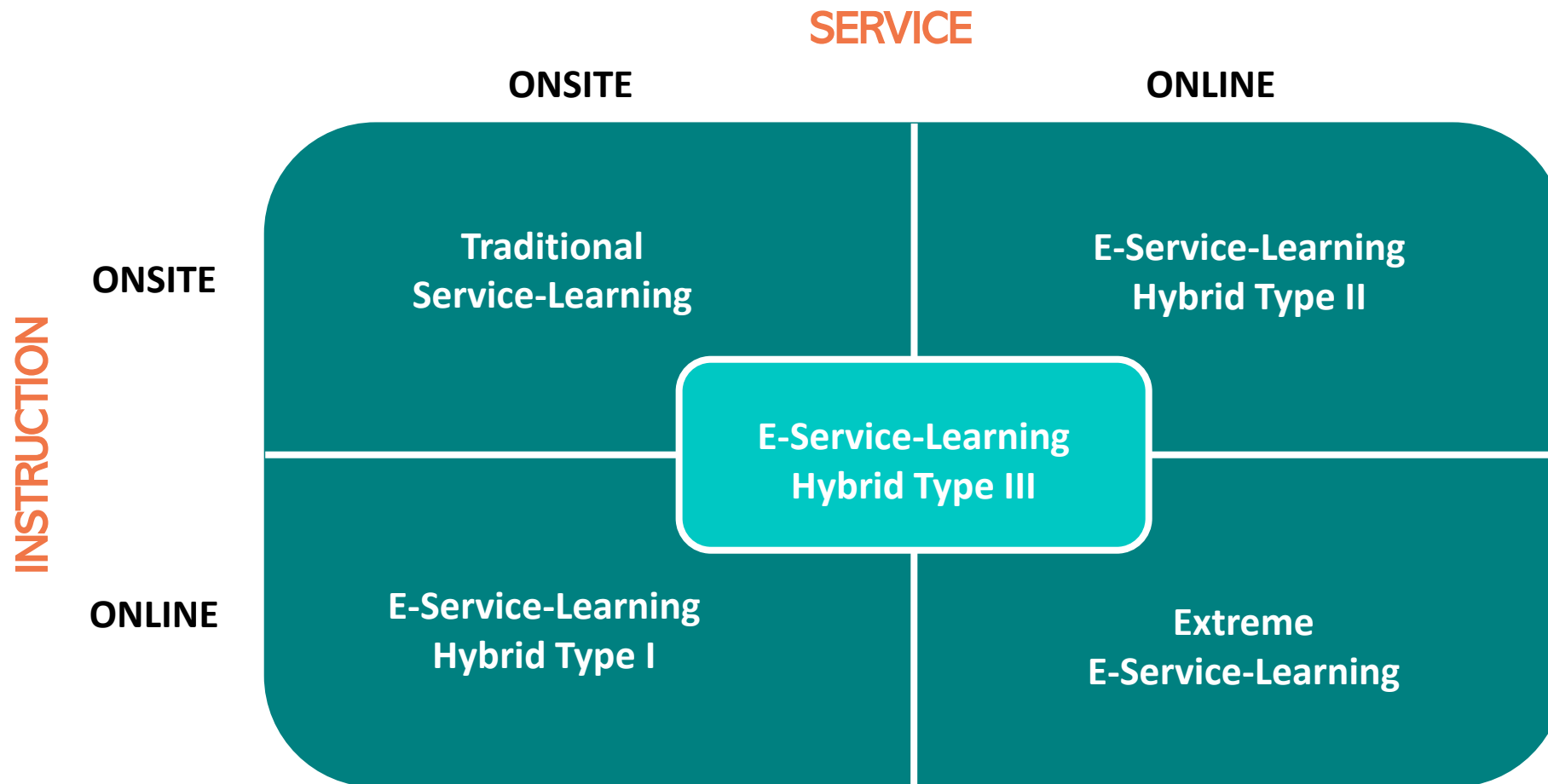


The e-service-learning continuum

- **E-service-learning** = every type of service-learning in which the instructional component, the service component or both are conducted online.



E-Service-Learning: 4 types



What is digital empowerment?



- What words come up when you think about this concept?
- What does it entail for service-learning stakeholders?

→ Write your answers on [PollEv.com/kaatsomers510](https://www.pollEv.com/kaatsomers510)



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SL&DE Manifesto

- Service-Learning, Inclusion, Diversity and Digital Empowerment Manifesto
 - Call to action
 - Needs, innovation, impact & conditions for succes
 - 4 stakeholder groups:
 - HEI staff & educational leaders
 - HEI teachers
 - HEI students
 - Community partners
 - 2 local focus groups with stakeholders from 9 different countries
 - 2 European focus groups with members of the SLIDE consortium
- ➔ 20 focus groups, 120 participants



Digital Empowerment



- Digital self-reliability
 - being able to navigate around the digital world in a fluent and confident way
- Digital discipline
 - efficient & purposeful use of the digital environment
- Digital awareness
 - being aware of the (in)competences of oneself and others



Digital Empowerment



- Digital self-reliability

- being able to navigate around the digital world in a fluent and confident way

- Overcoming uncertainty

- Self-reliability: being able to do it yourself

- Skills, knowledge & attitudes

- Ex. ability to use websites & search engines – knowledge of online privacy risks – actively changing your cookie settings

What skills, knowledge and attitudes does your target group need in order to become self-reliant in the digital world?



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Digital Empowerment



- Digital awareness

- being aware of the (in)competences of oneself and others

- Awareness of different needs & existing digital gaps in society
 - Acknowledge our own digital (in)competences

What are the digital capabilities and needs of me and my target group?



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Digital Empowerment



- Digital discipline

- efficient & purposeful use of the digital environment

- Efficient use: avoid being distracted

- Effective/purposeful use: Focus on the ‘added value’

What is the added value and the usefulness of digital tools & environments in this specific context?



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Digital Empowerment



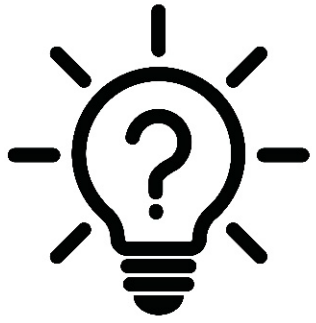
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Linking (e-)service-learning & digital empowerment: the SLIDE project



Service-Learning as a practice to promote Inclusion, Diversity & Digital Empowerment



SLIDE: starting point



- Need to digitally empower higher education teaching staff
- Gap between self-perceived vs. actual digital skills of higher education students
- Need for combining digital empowerment with the service-learning pedagogy for promotion of diversity & inclusion in higher education & communities





SLIDE: partners



Sveučilište u Zagrebu



LUMSA UNIVERSITÀ



Wien



UNIVERSITA MATEJA BELA V BANSKEJ BYSTRICI



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SLIDE: goals



The SLIDE-project aims to intertwine the service-learning (SL) pedagogy with digital empowerment (DE) in order to promote inclusion (I) and diversity.

- Goals for HEI students
 - ✓ Equip them with digital fluency/ intelligence/engagement skills necessary for the use of technology in creative, critical, competent, and inclusive ways,
 - ✓ Sensitize them towards digital inclusion of people with fewer opportunities,
 - ✓ Empower them to address sensitive contemporary societal issues while developing their digital competences.





SLIDE: goals



- Goals for HEI teachers & staff
 - ✓ Increase their capacity and readiness to manage an effective shift towards digital education,
 - ✓ Encourage the purposeful and inclusive use of digital technologies for teaching, learning, assessment, and engagement,
 - ✓ Encourage their use of accessible and assistive technologies, creation and innovative use of digital education content.
- Goals for communities
 - ✓ Enhancing digital competences (focus on community partners working with clients at risk of digital exclusion)
 - ✓ Help students use their skills to meet the needs of local communities



(E-)Service-Learning & Digital Empowerment



DE through
participating
in e-SL



DE through
e-SL as a
pedagogy



DE through the
content of e-SL
assignments

- Examples of these 3 pathways?
- What stakeholders become digital empowered when following these pathways?



(E-)Service-Learning & Digital Empowerment



- Digital Empowerment through participating in e-Service-Learning
 - Lowering barriers to participate in SL
 - Raising competence & resource levels

- ➔ Digital empowerment of
 - Teachers: digital self-reliability, awareness & discipline
 - Students: digital self-reliability
 - Community: digital self-reliability



(E-)Service-Learning & Digital Empowerment



- Digital Empowerment through e-Service-Learning as a pedagogy
 - Linking the digital world with real-life experience
 - Critical reflection as reinforcer

- ➔ Digital empowerment of
 - Teachers: digital self-reliability, awareness & discipline
 - Students: digital self-reliability & awareness



(E-)Service-Learning & Digital Empowerment



- Digital Empowerment through the content of e-Service-Learning assignments
 - Explicitly tackle the digital divide in society in the assignment
 - Students support community members in tackling their digital needs

- ➔ Digital empowerment of
 - Teachers: digital self-reliability, awareness & discipline
 - Students: digital self-reliability, awareness & discipline
 - Community: digital self-reliability & awareness

(E-)Service-Learning & Digital Empowerment



DE through participating in e-SL



DE through e-SL as a pedagogy



DE through the content of (e)-SL assignments

Lowering barriers to participate

Raising competence and resource levels

Linking the digital world with real-life experiences

Critical reflection as reinforcer of digital awareness

Explicitly tackle the digital divide in the assignments

Students support community members in tackling their digital needs

Service-Learning & Digitalization

- Opportunities
 - Digital empowerment of stakeholders
 - Overcoming barriers in participation
 - Linking the digital world to real-life experiences
 - Following tendencies in HE towards digital education
- Pitfalls
 - Depersonalization & decontextualization
 - Risks of lower participation rates & tokenism
 - Digital representation
 - Digital privacy & security risks
 - Power dynamics in digital environments
 - Exacerbating the digital divide & exclusion



Service-Learning & Digitalization: Let's make a stance!

What would you say is absolutely necessary for ethical service-learning in a digital age?

Go to:
<https://padlet.com/kaatsomers/SLIDEworkshop>



Service-Learning & Digitalization: conditions for succes


- Inclusive technology & adequate training
- Support & visibility of the teacher
- Expectation management
- Purposeful use of the digital environment
 - Starting from the needs of the community
 - Aim for social justice



SL&DE: Needs, Innovation, Impact & Conditions for Success


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Service-Learning, inclusion & Digital Empowerment



STUDENTS
Students are the main protagonists in Service-Learning. They work together with the community to address real issues.

They need experiences that allow them to become resilient digital citizens.



CRITICAL & INNOVATIVE THINKING
SL experience
INTERPERSONAL SKILLS
CIVIC DEVELOPMENT

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Community: Needs

- RURAL & LESS PRIVILEGED PEOPLE NEED THEIR VOICES TO BE HEARD
- COMMUNITY MEMBERS WANT TO HAVE THE ABILITY TO EXERCISE THEIR RIGHTS TO GET SOCIAL JUSTICE
- COMMUNITY MEMBERS SHOULD BE TREATED EQUALLY TO OTHER PARTNERS
- EACH GROUP IN SOCIETY HAS A DIFFERENT NEED FOR DIGITAL EMPOWERMENT
- FINDING OUT WHAT THAT NEED IS, IS CRUCIAL FOR CREATING VALUE
- TO PARTICIPATE PEOPLE NEED (TRANSVERSAL) SKILLS & DIGITAL COMPETENCES

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Service-Learning, inclusion & Digital Empowerment

IMPACT & INNOVATION for HEIs



TEACHING RESEARCH THIRD MISSION

Provides relevant 21st century skills, practical insights, and valuable experiences to students through SL.

Allows students to have societal impact directly while educating them through SL.

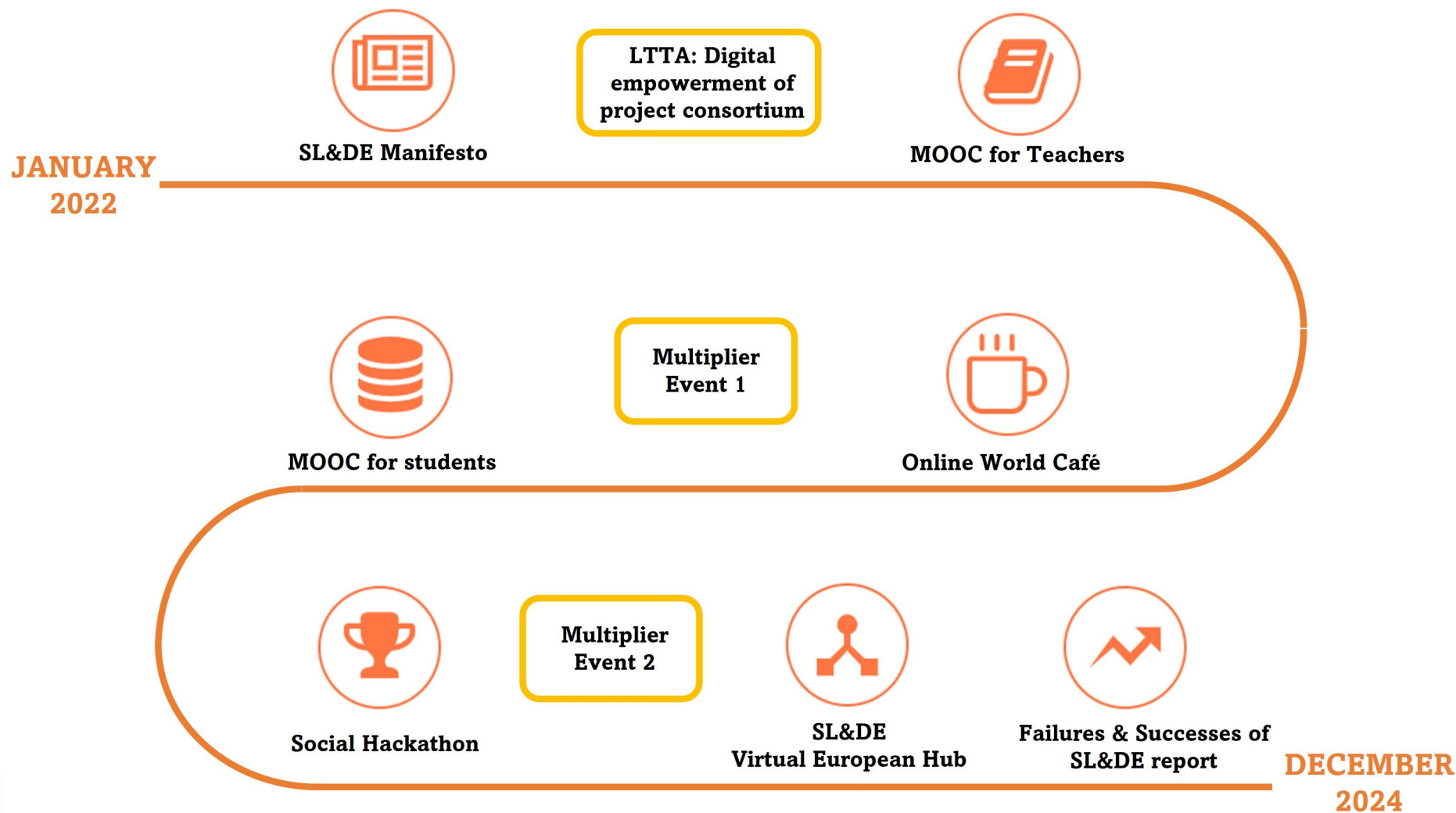
EACH MISSION IS TOUCHED BY THE INCLUSION OF DIGITALLY ENRICHED SERVICE-LEARNING

Enriches the curriculum, keeping it relevant and making it future proof through SL.

Interacts more with communities getting inspired for research with high societal relevance through SL.

e-Service-Learning generates impact & innovation

SLIDE tools & resources

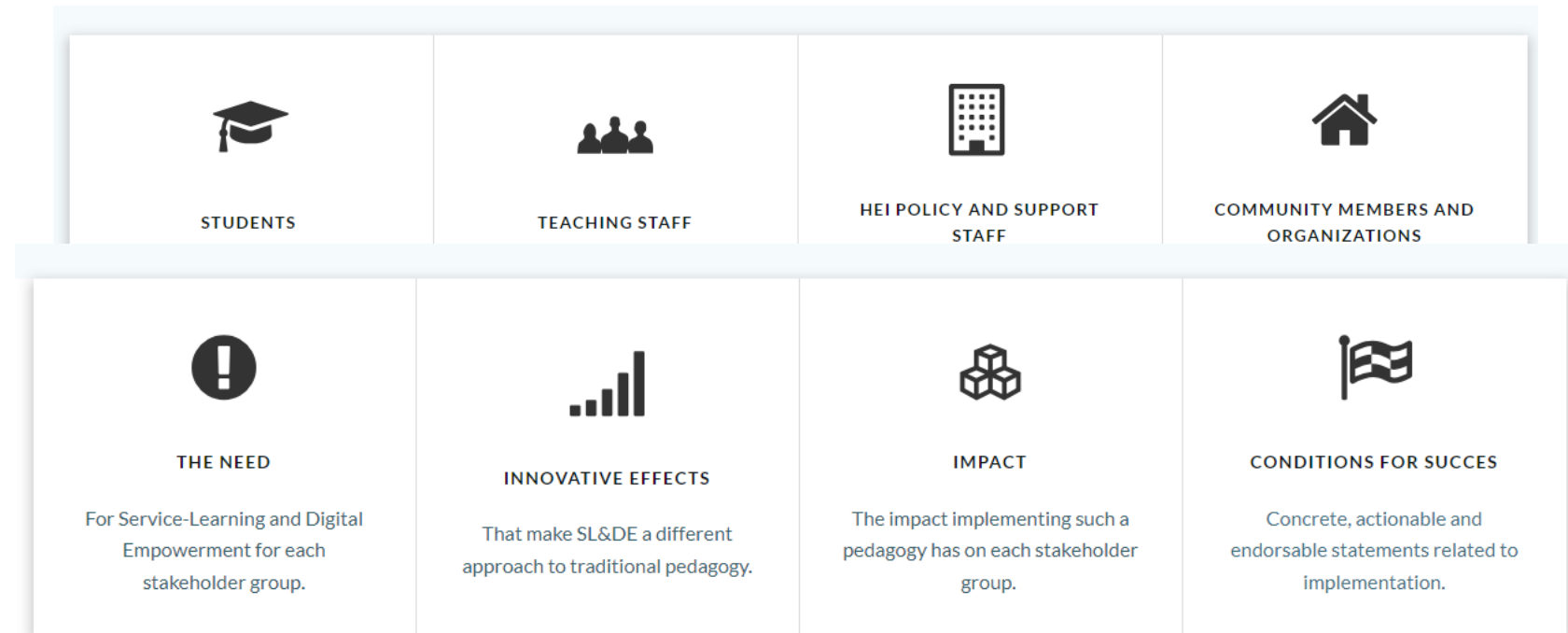


SL&DE European Virtual Hub



The SL&DE Manifesto

- Link: <https://slide.reu.pub.ro/index.php/manifesto/>
- Infographics
- Endorse & provide feedback



SERVICE-LEARNING , INCLUSION AND DIGITAL EMPOWERMENT

8 MODULES

MODULE 1: Critical use of digital content

MODULE 5: Digital learning and development

MODULE 2: Digital communication, collaboration and participation

MODULE 6: Digital intelligence

MODULE 3: Digital identity and wellbeing

MODULE 7: Digital engagement

MODULE 4: Creative production of digital content, problem solving and innovation

MODULE 8: Digital inclusion and service-learning



SLIDE tools & resources



Online World Café

Online World Café



Social Hackathon

Online Social Hackathon



**Failures & Successes of
SL&DE report**

Policy report *“Success and Failure in inclusion, diversity, and digital empowerment through service-learning”*



Online World Café

- 16 October 2023, 3pm
- Online



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SERVICE-LEARNING INCLUSION DIVERSITY & DIGITAL EMPOWERMENT

Digital Empowerment Transformation WITH YOU

TEACHERS, TRAINERS and EDUCATIONAL LEADERS

As a participant you are actively involved to shape and co-design education with the help of the **Online World Café** Method. It brings participants into the conversation to discuss and reflect on questions in small groups.

Be part of it!

SAVE THE DATE

October 16th 2023, 3-6 p.m.

Stay updated!

- Website: <https://slide-erasmus.eu>
- [Subscribe](#) to our SLIDE Newsletter
- Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#)



References



- Geers, I., Meijs, L., & Somers, K. (2023). *The Service-Learning and Digital Empowerment Manifesto*.
- Waldner, L., McGorry, S., & Widener, M. (2010). Extreme e-service learning (XE-SL): E-service learning in the 100% online course. *Journal of Online Learning and Teaching*, 6(4), 839-851.
- Waldner, L., McGorry, S., & Widener, M. (2012). E-Service-Learning: The Evolution of Service-Learning to Engage a Growing Online Student Population. *Journal of Higher Education Outreach and Engagement*, 16(2), 123-150



Thank
YOU!

