



Introducing the AISS project

The use of Artificial Intelligence in the Higher Education is increasing as well as the challenges teachers and students are facing.

AISS (Artificial Intelligence for Studies and Support in Higher Education) aims to facilitate the use of Artificial Intelligence in the digital content, technologies and practices in Higher Education by developing a compendium of good practices and support technology based on Artificial Intelligence (AI) solutions.

Collaborative Approach

AISS recognizes that achieving its objectives requires collaboration and partnership across various stakeholders in higher education. The project will work closely with researchers, educators, technology experts and students to co-create innovative AI solutions that address the needs and challenges of modern education.

Looking Ahead:

As we look to the future, the AISS project holds the purpose of supporting higher education through the transformative power of AI. By equipping educators with the skills, tools, and resources they need to integrate AI into their teaching practices, AISS aims to pave the way for a more inclusive, accessible, and effective educational experience for all.

In conclusion, AISS represents a bold step forward in leveraging AI for the advancement of higher education. Through its innovative initiatives and collaborative approach, the project is poised to make its contribution to the future of learning and teaching in profound ways.



Key Objectives:

- **Enhancing Teachers' Skills:** AISS aims to enhance teachers' skills in the use of AI in higher education. Through training programs, workshops, and resources, educators will have the opportunity to learn how to integrate AI technologies into their teaching practices effectively.
- **Increasing Use of AI Technologies:** The project endeavours to increase the use of AI technologies in education by developing virtual assistants for learning modules. These virtual assistants will provide personalized support to students, offering assistance with coursework, answering questions, and providing feedback.
- **Developing Framework and Toolbox:** AISS seeks to produce a framework and toolbox of AI technologies for wider and faster integration in higher education. This comprehensive resource will provide educators with the tools and guidance they need to incorporate AI solutions into their teaching methods and curriculum.
- **Enhancing Learners' Experience:** AISS aims to enhance learners' experience with multimedia technologies by integrating AI-based support systems such as chatbots. These
- **Innovative Solutions for Education:** The project will enhance a study programme with innovative AI-based solutions for education and pilot them with specific targets. By implementing these solutions in real-world educational settings, AISS will demonstrate the potential of AI to transform teaching and learning practices.



Kick off meeting

On November 2023 the AISS Project kick-off meeting took place at Florida Universit ria (in Catarroja, Spain) with attendance of representatives from all four partner institutions: Kauno Technologijos Universitetas (Lithuania), The Pontifical University of John Paul II (Poland), University of Bayreuth (Germany) and Florida Universitaria.

During the two-day meeting the participants had an overview of the project as well as a more detailed analysis of the expectations for each workpackage.



First follow up (online) meeting



The project partners held their first online follow-up meeting on 27 February 2024.

UPJP2 announced the completion of the compendium of good practices in the use of AI in educational settings, in the four proposed scenarios.

Florida presented the the website and brochure, and collected the partners' suggestions for them. Regarding the quality plan, representatives of each partner entity for the respective committees were assigned.

Finally, the date of the next meeting was set: it will take place on 23th and 24th May in Kaunas.



Meeting the AISS Team: Florida Universitària

With the series of articles "meeting the AISS team" we will be introducing at least one member of each entity participating in the project. In this first article we are introducing Yolanda Escudero, researcher on IA, lecturer at Florida Universitària and Eduardo Lázaro, coordinator of the project, who works as European project manager in Florida Universitària:

Yolanda holds a PhD in Computer Sciences. She served as a researcher and professor at different research and educational institutions such as CSIC and Carlos III University. She has published more than fifteen articles in journals and conferences on AI. She currently teaches C programming, Python programming and Physics.

Eduardo has a long background in international programmes from different institutions (including the European Parliament), and an extensive and varied experience with coordinating and participating in European projects.

- From your experience, what makes this project different from others you have worked on in recent years?

Eduardo: Each project has its strengths. In the case of AISS, I believe that the topic, besides being completely up to date, focuses on a latent need that the partners know very well, because they work in the Higher Education environment and are aware of the need to improve the competences of teachers in relation to the use of AI in education. In fact, I think this is one of the strengths of the project: that it is developed by specialists from Higher Education for people from Higher Education, so it is based on a real knowledge of the circumstances and challenges faced by the target audience.

- What do you think AI brings to higher education?

Eduardo: From my point of view, it has great potential as a tool for teachers, students and also for non-teaching staff, but it is necessary to know how to use it, so that it can be used correctly and be a real support. In this sense, I think it is very positive that the European Parliament approved the world's first Artificial Intelligence Act on 13 March. This law sets some limits to the potential risks of artificial intelligence, but the evolution of its use will have to be closely monitored.

- What do you think is, from your point of view, the main contribution of the project?

Eduardo: The expected results of the project are in my opinion fully practical materials and tools that are very suitable for the phase of integration of AI in education that we are currently in. The available AI tools are usually generic for all fields. The contribution of the AISS project is that specific approach based on the needs of teachers and students.

The results will be made available in five languages (Polish, German, Lithuanian, Spanish and English) so I think they can have a wide use.

