**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

# New Initiative to Use Proven Evidence-based Education in School Inclusion

**EBE-EUSMOSI Aims to Support and Promote Inclusion Strategies in Europe through Interactive Portal, Dynamic Quality Framework, Open Educational Resources**

Which is the best way to assess the elements which compose inclusive and high-quality learning environments using evidence-based education (EBE)? The forward-thinking new Erasmus+ project "Evidence Based Education – European Strategic Model for School Inclusion" (EBE-EUSMOSI)" has set out to develop the great potential of EBE in inclusive educational approaches in schools across Europe.

Taking their cue from the recommendations made in many international studies supporting evidence-based policy-making, EBE-EUSMOSI will address problems in assessing the effectiveness and efficiency of school inclusion practices. Furthermore, the project will work to overcome the difficulties in promoting methodologies suitable for special education and inclusion.

As any good decision-making should be based on empirical research, EBE-EUSMOSI plans to integrate procedures based on such to develop a European reference model to evaluate the quality of school inclusion, especially regarding EBE. The project will also create and validate a tool to assess school inclusion strategies in different organisational and cultural contexts.

In order to ensure the long-term impact of its efforts, EBE-EUSMOSI will foster a research network to integrate, define, and disseminate specific training models internationally, including open educational resources and practices.

EBE-EUSMOSI is funded by the European Union's Erasmus+ Programme, promoting education, training, and sports in areas of mobility, cooperation, and development. The main active project phase started in January 2015 and will last three years.

Project partners include seven renowned universities with the University of Perugia as coordinator. The University of Duisburg-Essen in Germany and the Open University of the Netherlands are contributing their expertise with online open educational resources and their distribution and will maintain the project's communication channels. The other partners are the University of Udine in Italy, the University of Barcelona in Spain, the University of Zagreb in Croatia, and the University of Ljubljana in Slovenia: They will ensure the implementation and testing in their countries.

New information will become available as the project progresses. More detailed project descriptions and a list of partners can be found on the official project website (http://www.inclusive-education.net/).

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## About EBE-EUSMOSI:

### *Evidence Based Education*
### *European Strategic Model for School Inclusion*

EBE-EUSMOSI aims to identify and integrate, within a reference model, the research procedures which can contribute to an evidence-based validation of educational programs aimed at school inclusion for all pupils.

Thus the project aims to:

1. Develop a European reference model able to assess the quality of school inclusion in an EBE perspective
2. Carry out research in different European countries on school inclusion, in conformity with the above model
3. Prepare and validate a tool able to assess school inclusion in different organizational and cultural contexts through a pilot study
4. Define the implications of the research project on the different actors involved (policy makers, teachers, students, families), as well as integrate specific training models in the teacher curriculum
5. Realize a European research network able to research and combine theories and application needs
6. State the impact on the activities' beneficiaries and outline shared guidelines
7. Disseminate the results and model, also through the development and exploitation of Open Educational Resources

More information about EBE-EUSMOSI online:
http://www.inclusive-education.net/

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