



**‘Nothing happens until something moves’:  
Presenting the EAN Project**

**Thomai Alexiou**

**Associate Professor, Academic Leader EAN**

**Thematic Workshop EAN  
Saturday, 14/5/2022**



**ΑΡΙΣΤΟΤΕΛΕΙΟ  
ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ  
ΘΕΣΣΑΛΟΝΙΚΗΣ**



**Ευρωπαϊκή Ένωση**  
Ευρωπαϊκό Κοινωνικό Ταμείο

**Επιχειρησιακό Πρόγραμμα  
Ανάπτυξη Ανθρώπινου Δυναμικού,  
Εκπαίδευση και Διά Βίου Μάθηση**

Με τη συγχρηματοδότηση της Ελλάδας και της Ευρωπαϊκής Ένωσης



ανάπτυξη - εργασία - αλληλεγγύη

# Pilot phase of introducing English in pre-primary education

(Alexiou, Penderi & Serafeim, 2021)

## Benefits

- Children's holistic development
- Significant socio-emotional benefits (motivation, positive language attitude, social relationships) as well as intercultural benefits for children
- All stakeholders (educators, parents, Coordinators of Education and children showed enthusiasm

*Cooperation, positive attitude, empathy and commitment to quality education are the key! (Alexiou & Penderi, 2022)*

## Challenges

- Practical issues such as material, training and equipment, COVID19-related issues and distance learning, administrative issues
- Myths and misconceptions were clarified and concerns noted at the beginning of the project faded away-Introducing EFL in pre-primary does not result in confusion, negative feelings or delay in L1 acquisition.





# EAN (2021-2022)



The EAN project aims to support the introduction of the English language in Greek pre-primary schools through:

- (a) Teachers and CoEs' synchronous & asynchronous training (EFL and pre-primary teachers)
- (b) Systematic monitoring of the project
- (b) Development of materials, scenarios and resources



# Introduction of English in pre-primary education (EAN) 2021-2022

**Academic Project Leader: Thomai Alexiou**

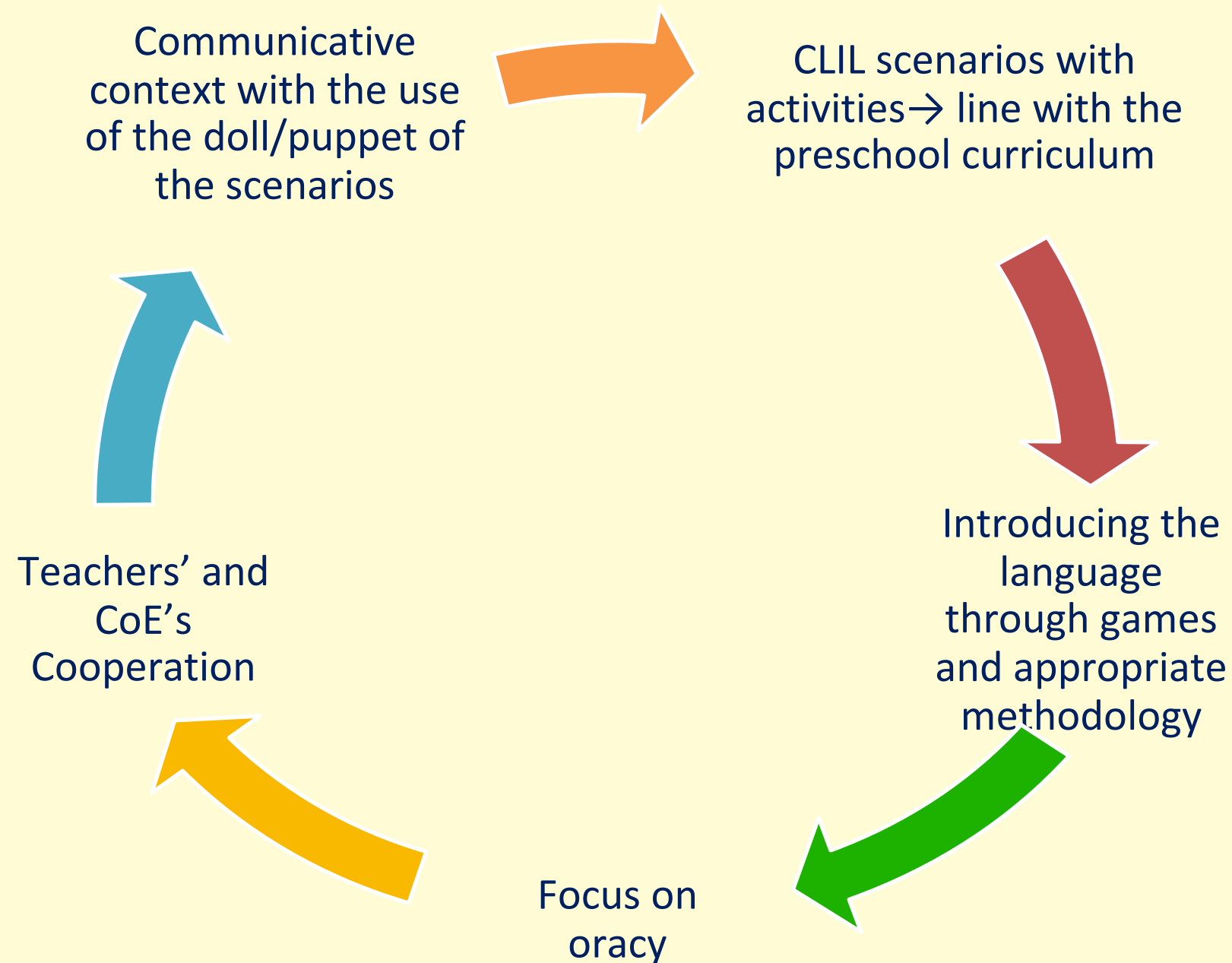
| <b>Sub-project 1<br/>Aristotle University of<br/>Thessaloniki<br/><br/>(Leading Institution)</b>   | <b>Sub-project 2-<br/>National Kapodistrian<br/>University of Athens</b> | <b>Sub-project 3-<br/>Institute of Educational<br/>Policy (IEP)</b>   |
|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Project design</li><li>• Project supervision and monitoring</li><li>• Development of training and educational material</li></ul> | Synchronous & asynchronous training of Coordinators of Education         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Platform design (MOOC)</li><li>• Running the asynchronous training using AUTH's training material</li></ul> |





## EAN: The circle of success:

### 5 key points on the introduction of English at pre-primary schools



# Research and Monitoring team



**Thomai Alexiou**  
Associate Professor AUTH



**Efthymia Penderi**  
Assistant Professor DUTH



**Nikolaos Mittas**  
Assistant Professor IU



**Marianthi Serafeim**  
PhD Candidate AUTH

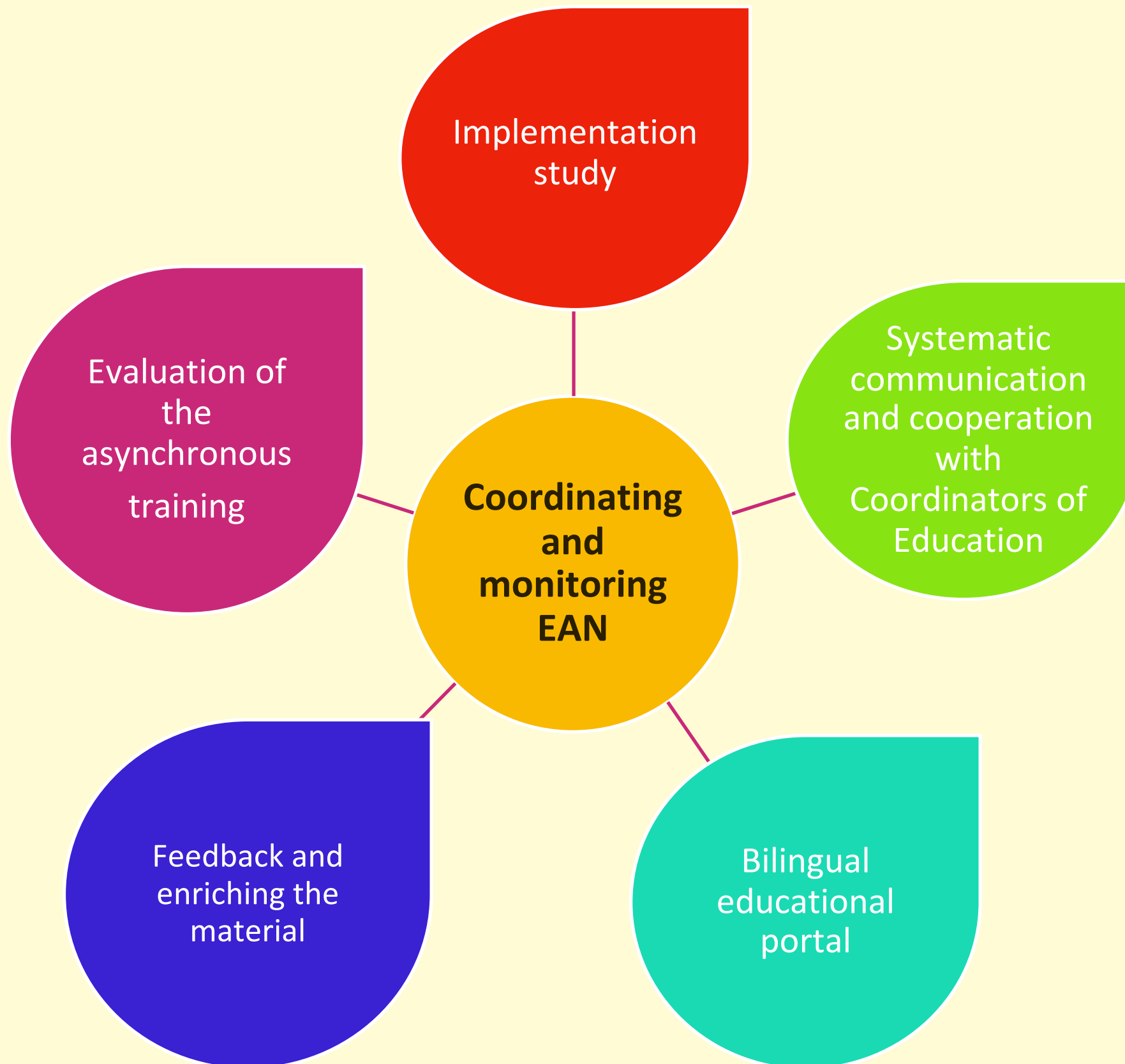


**Theologia Michalopoulou**  
EFL teacher



**Irimi Papanastasatou**  
PhD Candidate AUTH







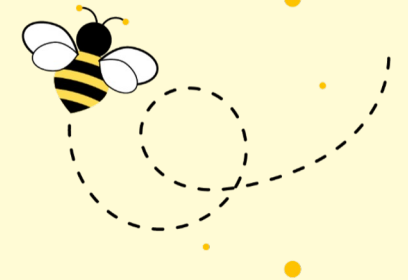
*As bees gather honey, so we collect what is sweetest out of all things and build.*

Rainer Maria Rilke

Classroom observations and random visits

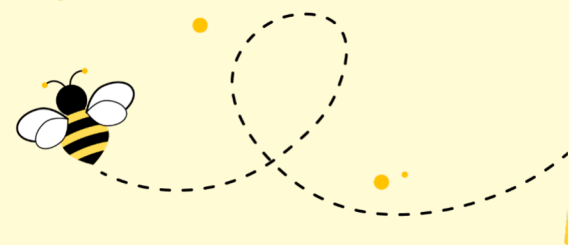
Focus Groups with parents, teachers, and CoE

Interviews with children



Scenarios Evaluation

Regular meetings with CoE



Training Evaluation & recording of Fora

Perceptions and Self-Efficacy questionnaires

Children's learning outcomes



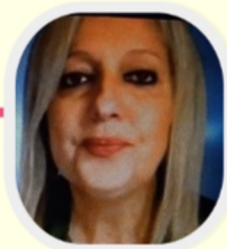
# MOOC Training team



**Thomai Alexiou**  
Ass. Professor AUTH  
Scientific Supervision - Project  
Coordination



**Eleni Agathopoulou**  
Professor AUTH



**Konstantina Iliopoulou**  
Special Teaching Staff AUTH



**Domna Kakana**  
Professor AUTH



**Ioannis Karras**  
Assoc. Professor Ionian  
University



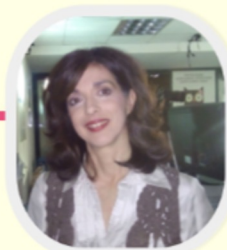
**Marina Mattheoudakis**  
Professor AUTH



**Anastasios Paschalis**  
Laboratory Technical Staff  
AUTH



**Efthymia Penderi**  
Assist. Professor DUTH



**Areti-Maria Sougari**  
Assoc. Professor AUTH



**Leonidas Fragidis**  
Assist. Professor IU



**George Psathas**  
PhD candidate AUTH



# MOOC training course

## 8 Modules

(2 phases-areas based on educators' needs)

1. The Philosophy and the Identity of the EAN Project

2. Second language acquisition in pre-primary education

3. Developmental characteristics of pre-primary learners

4. Methodology and appropriate techniques in the pre-primary context

5. The Philosophy of Pre-primary education

6. Pedagogical practices: Investigations and Differentiated Pedagogy in pre-primary education

7. Developing Intercultural ability through learning English at the pre-primary age

8. Designing educational scenarios and activities for the introduction of the English language in pre-primary schools





## Content of Modules

- ★ Video-presentations
- ★ Interactive videos
- ★ Academic papers and additional material
- ★ Real classroom videos (practical examples from realistic classroom settings)
- ★ Presentations (ppt) given in pdf form
- ★ Fora (opportunity for constructive dialogue and (self)-reflection)

### ★ *Advantages* ★

Clear structure

Homogeneity

Sufficient input

Concrete methodology

Practical classroom-based examples



# IEP MOOC Platform (18025 participants - 9612 completed)

ΟΠΣ Επιμόρφωσης - Ι.Ε.Π.

Πιστοποιητικά  
Προσόντα  
Ταμπλό  
Αρχική ιστοτόπου  
Ημερολόγιο  
Τμήματα μαθήματος  
Οι δράσεις μου

## Η Εισαγωγή Αγγλικής γλώσσας στο Νηπιαγωγείο (EAN)

Ταμπλό | Οι δράσεις μου | EAN

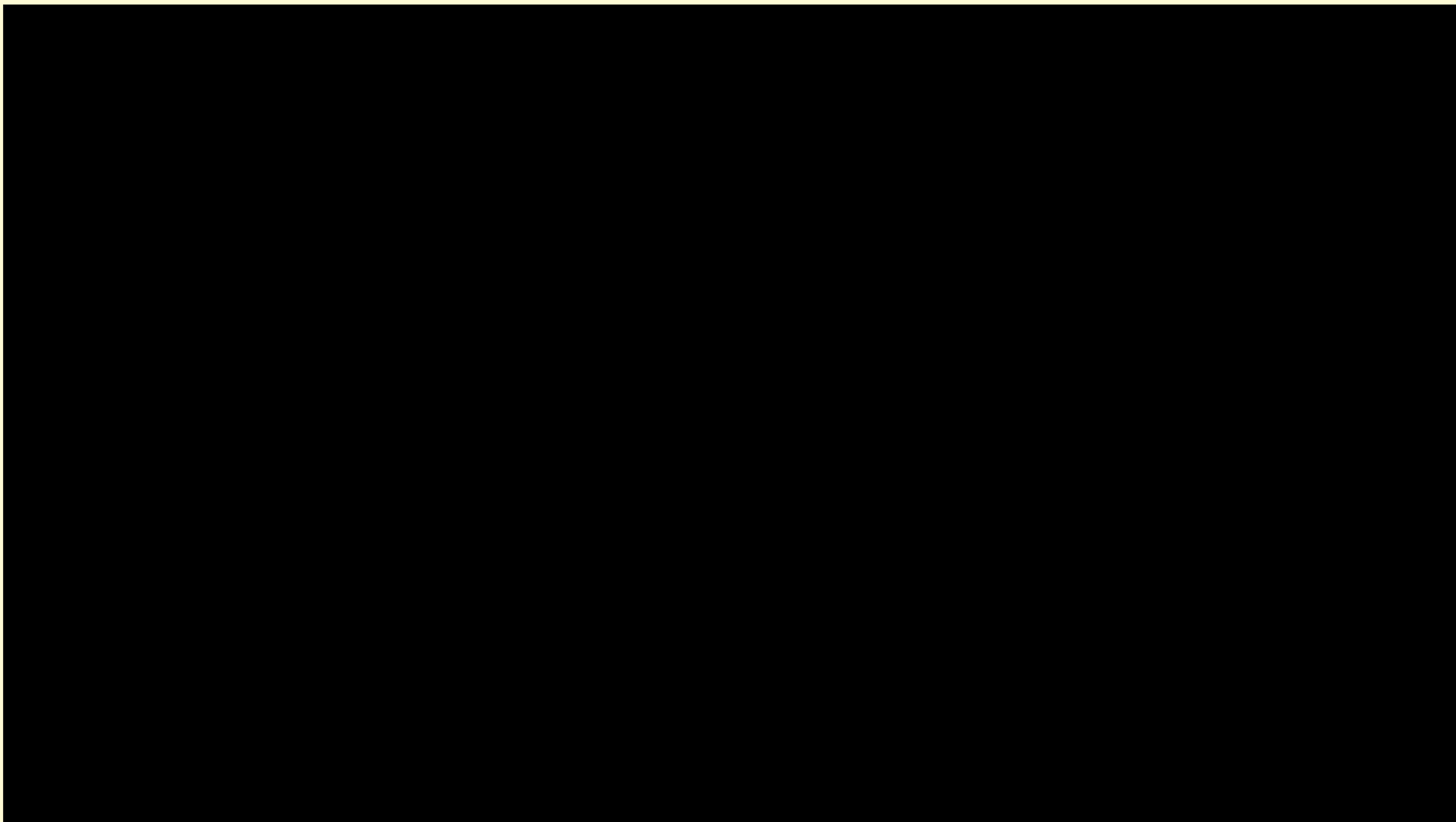
εισαγωγή της αγγλικής γλώσσας στο νηπιαγωγείο

Ευρωπαϊκή Ένωση  
Επιχειρησιακό Πρόγραμμα Ανάπτυξη Ανθρώπινου Δυναμικού, Εκπαίδευση και Διά Βίου Μάθηση  
ΕΣΠΑ 2014-2020  
ΑΡΙΣΤΟΤΕΛΕΙΟ ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΘΕΣΣΑΛΟΝΙΚΗΣ  
ΙΝΣΤΙΤΟΥΤΟ ΕΚΠΑΙΔΕΥΤΙΚΗΣ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΚΗΣ

υβμίσεις αισθητικού θέματος



# Interactive videos of EAN MOOC training course

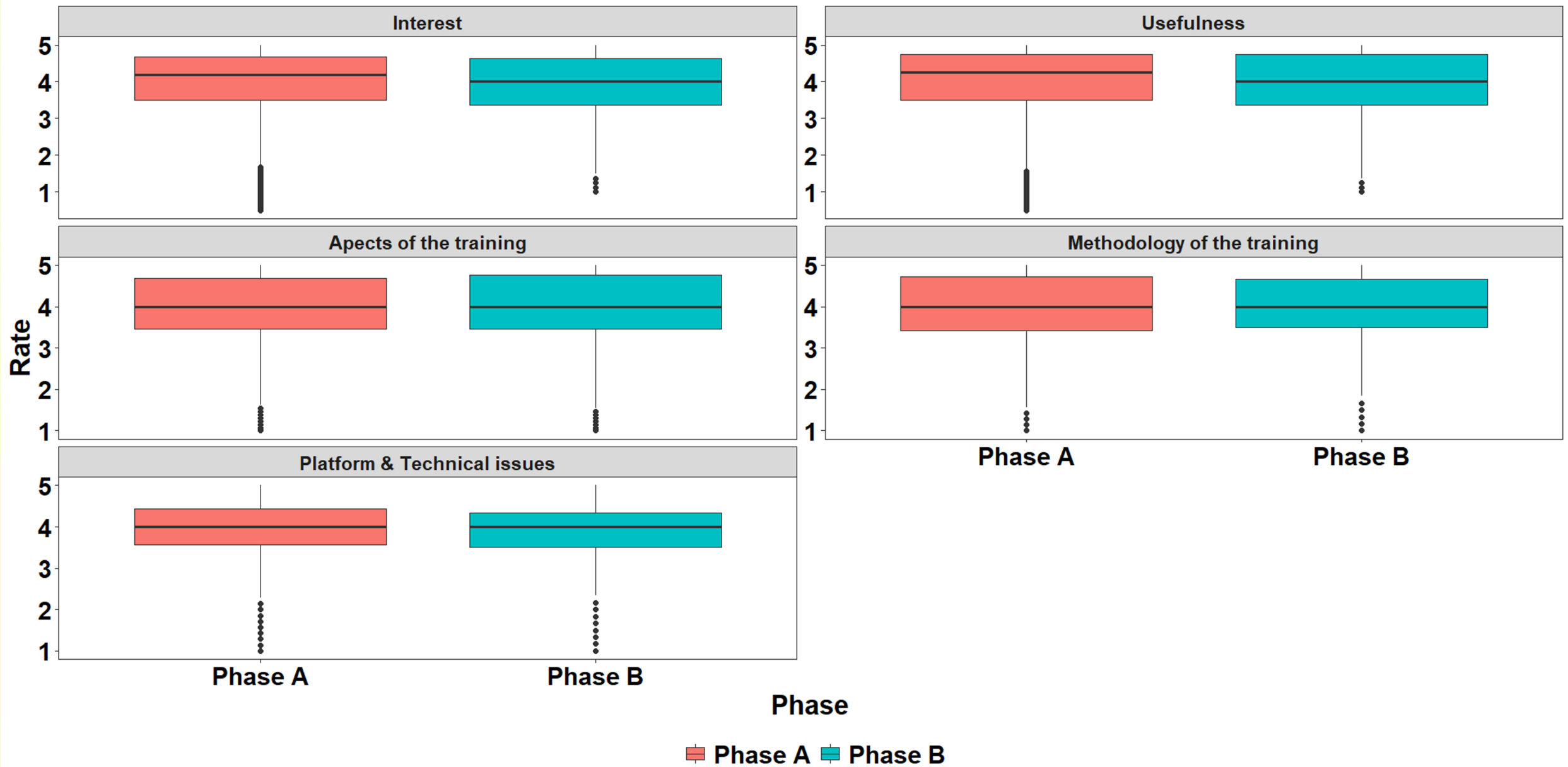




# Evaluation results by Trainees

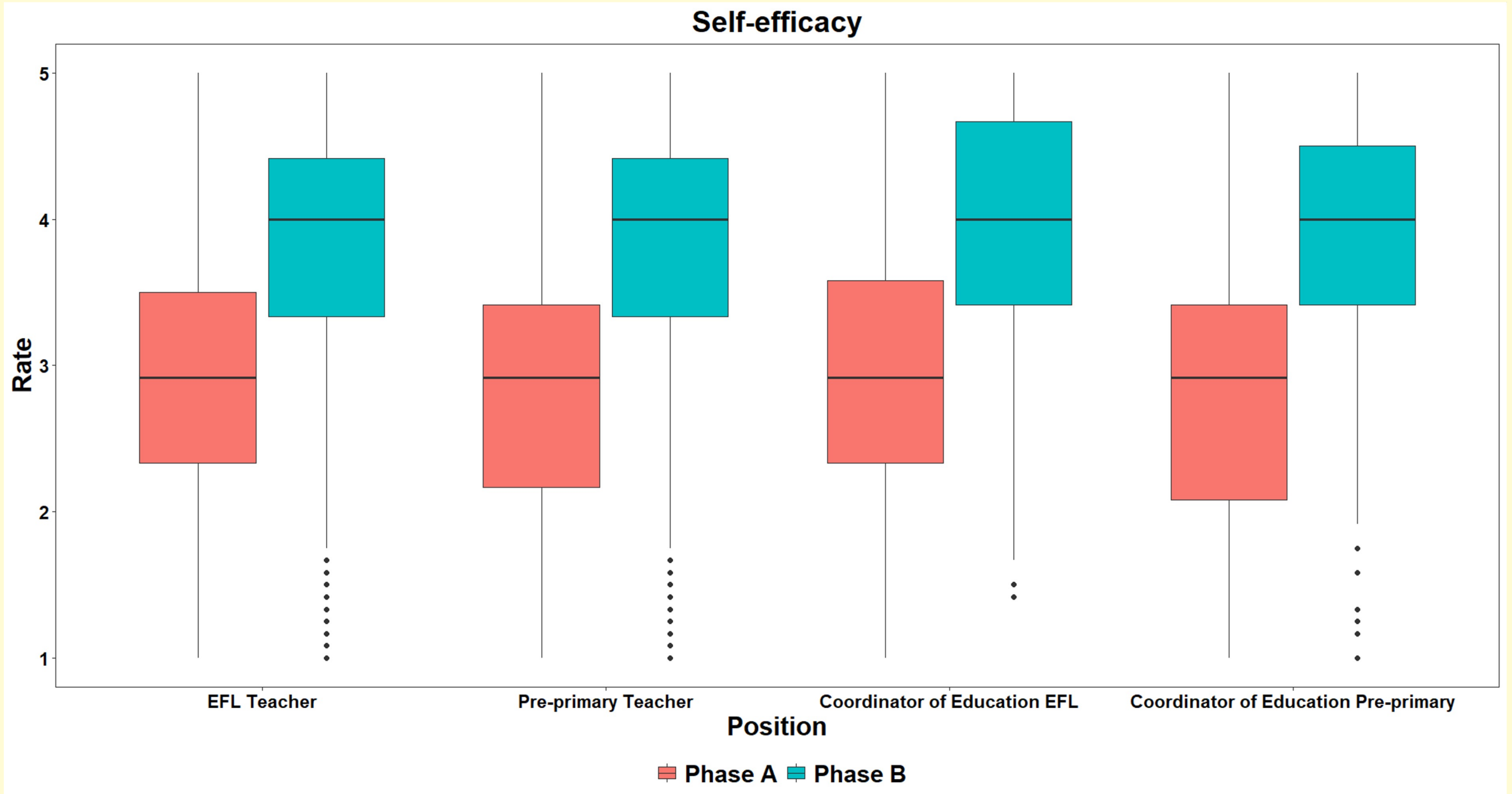
Phase A → 8080, Phase B → 9578 = 17658 Respondents

## Evaluation Constructs



# Teachers' Self-efficacy

## Phase A=18000, Phase B= 11000



## Trainees' views

*"Like many of my colleagues, I had many reservations about the introduction of English in preschool. Through the programme not only did I change my mind, but I am now a strong supporter of it. The teaching scenarios are very good. The fact that the training was based on them and was not only theoretical was very constructive. The training programme was the best I have attended. You passed on to us the faith and the vision in the program".*

*"The children's response is extremely positive and even during the break they sing the songs we listen to during the lesson. They are excited to learn new words in English and look forward to telling their parents what they have learned in each lesson".*

*"I'm absolutely thrilled about the first part of the training. First of all, because of the scientific background that characterises it and the knowledge and training of the speaker-presenters. It is perhaps one of the few times that I have been eagerly waiting to implement [what I was learning]. It dispelled the misconception "but how can preschoolers learn English " because it is in line with the philosophy of the Preschool curriculum".*





*7.443 Trainees*

# Fora participation

*42.571 Responses to Fora*

**“Although I had my doubts about the whole project, I see that the children are responding extremely well and through activities and games they learn English words, phrases and songs.”**

**“The scenario and particularly the story with Kiki and Pete is great!”**

**“The introduction of the English language in preschool contributes to the development of a citizen of the world identity, as it promotes multilingual awareness and intercultural communication.”**

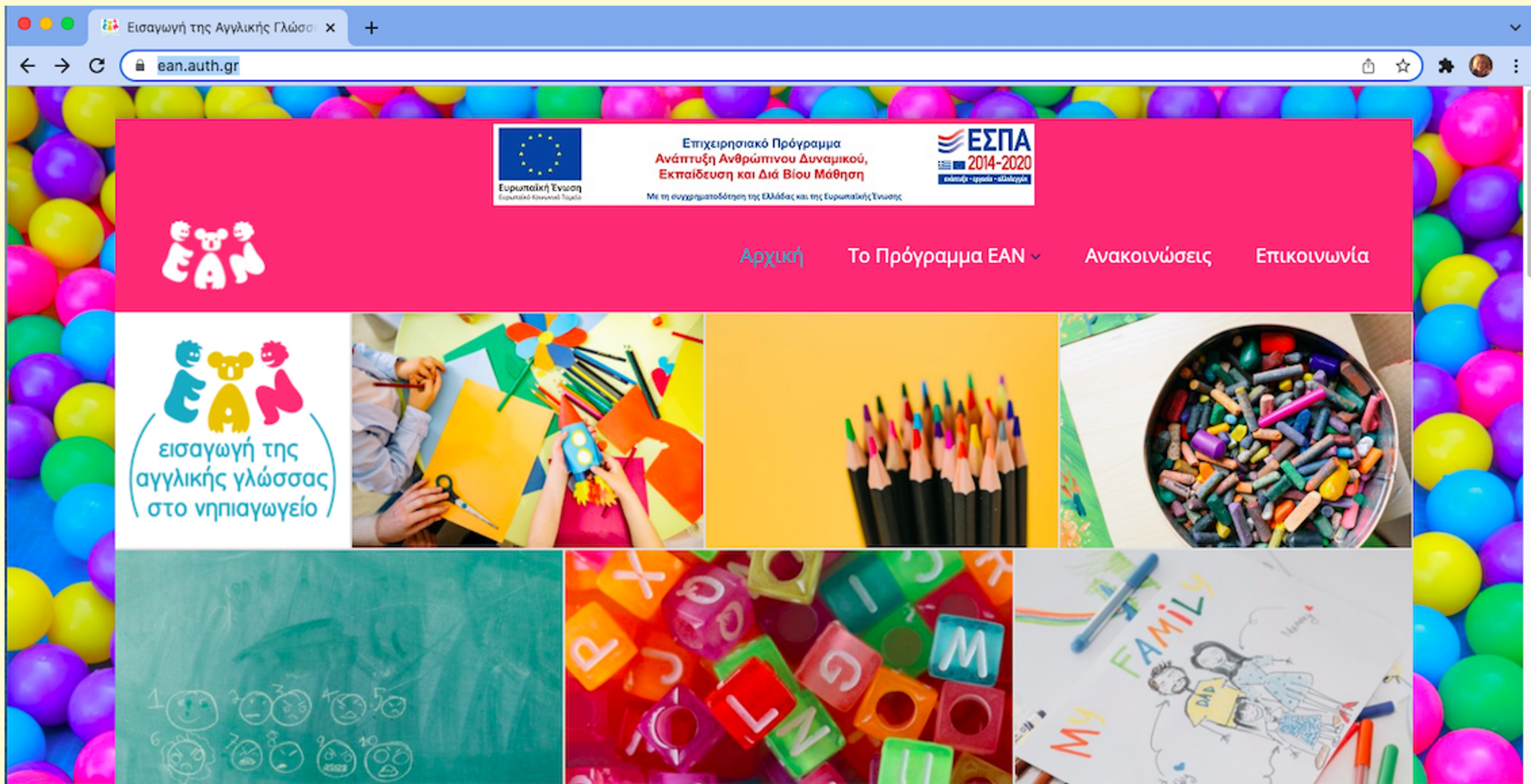
**“The cooperation with the preschool teacher is excellent and extremely necessary. Through learning a foreign language and its culture, children acquire a multicultural consciousness and cultivate a mentality based on respect for diversity.”**

**“[The kids] will love the song suggested in the scenario.”**



# EAN educational portal (GR &EN)

<https://ean.auth.gr/>





# Educational Material team



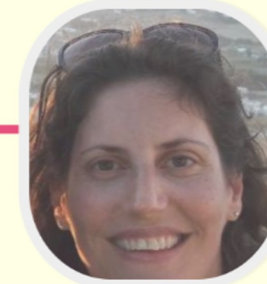
Thomai Alexiou  
Coordination, editing and authoring



Efthymia Penderi  
Editing and authoring



Katerina Gioftsali  
Authoring team



Ioulia Dousi  
Authoring team



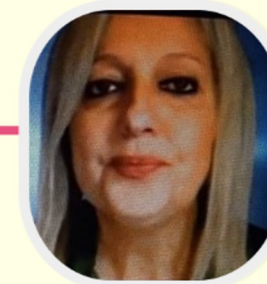
Marianthi Serafeim  
Authoring team



Alexandros Tagaridis  
Illustrator - Graphics designer



Nina Rutherford Christou  
Native speaker - English text editor



Konstantina Iliopoulou  
Greek text editor



Χρύσα Λασκαρίδου  
Φυσικοί ομιλητές - Επιμέλεια κειμένων  
(αγγλική γλώσσα)



Μανώλης Δημητράς  
Ψηφιακά παιχνίδια



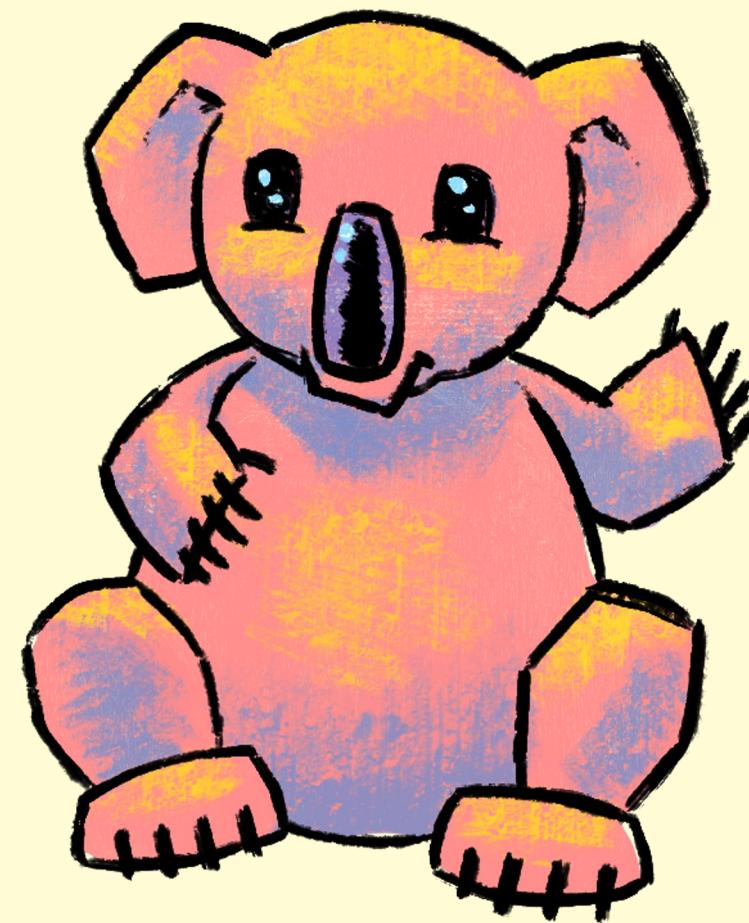
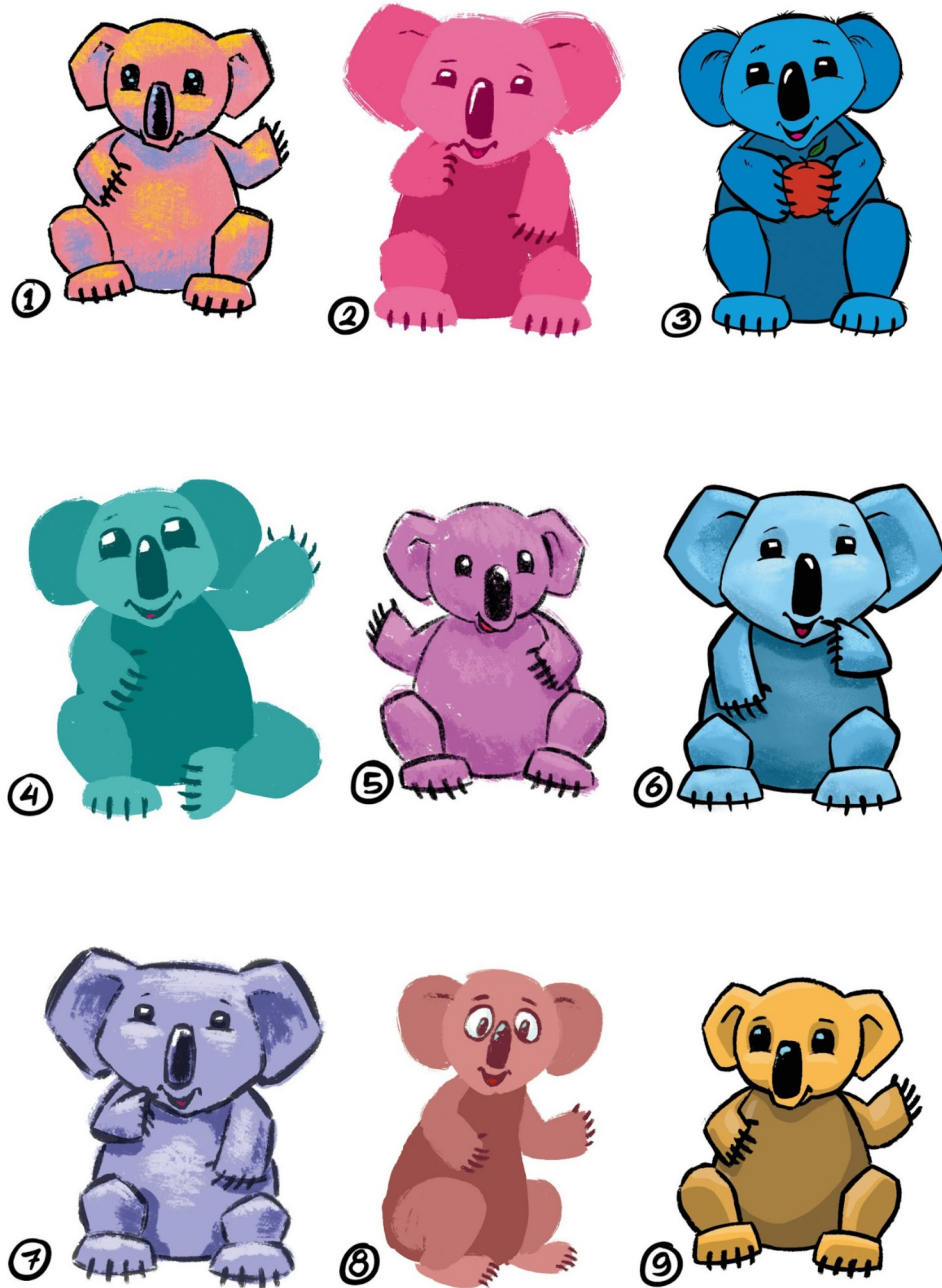
Βασιλική Κωνσταντίνου  
Μουσική σύνθεση, επιμέλεια-τραγούδι



Νίκος Τσιαδήμος  
Συγγραφική ομάδα



# Kiki the koala (children's choice!)





# Thematic Areas

First days  
in Preschool

Autumn

Celebrations

Winter

Myself &  
Others

Summer

Spring

Means of Transportation



# 8 thematic areas, 24 CLIL educational scenarios, 115+ activities

I love the colour of my shoes!

Nice to meet you!

Let's take a tour!

Time for breakfast!

First days in Preschool

How many leaves can you see?

What's the weather like today?

Autumn

Day and night!

It's winter! Animals hibernate!

Winter

It's freezing!

Trick or treat!

Happy New Year!

Let's fly our kite!

It's almost Christmas!

It's Carnival time!

Celebrations

I'm always so hungry!

What's wrong with Harry?

How are you feeling today?

Myself and others

Let's travel!

The world around me!

Means of Transportation

Almond tree is here!

Flowers everywhere!

Spring

The hare and the tortoise

Summer



## Content of scenarios

- ★ Scenario description (title, thematic category, and rationale)
- ★ Preparation
- ★ Learning goals (main thematic areas, thematic areas involved, and developing attitudes)
- ★ Resources and material
- ★ Activation
- ★ Description of the procedure and suggested activities
- ★ Expansion
- ★ Suggestions for formative assessment





# More resources

- Artwork, visual material and flashcards
- Songs (It's winter! Animals hibernate, It's Carnival time!)
- Digital Games (It's freezing!)
- Additional material and Guidelines
- Additional suggested material
- Useful sites and suggestions for designing activities in English
- Suggestions for classroom games and activities





# EAN site Analytics

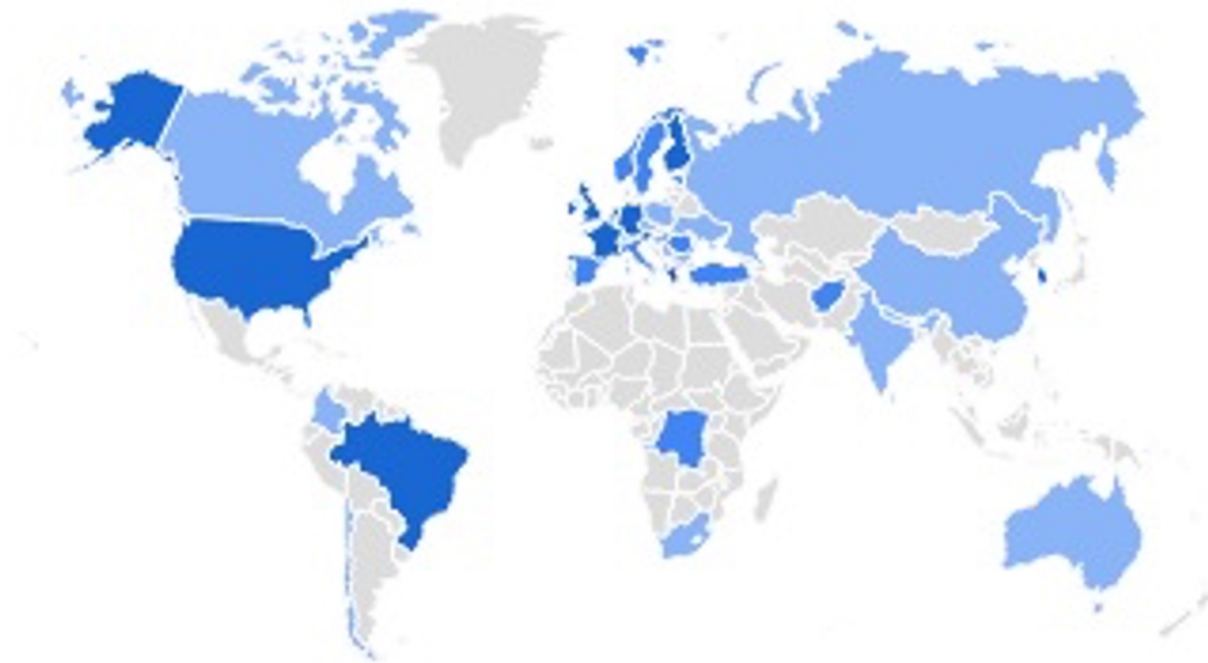
## 206.000+ views, 23000+ users

| Q Search...                   |   | Rows per page: 10 Go to: 1 < 1-10 of 197 > |                         |                         |                |                         |                     |      |
|-------------------------------|---|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|---------------------|------|
| Page title and screen class ▾ | +   | ↓ Views                                    | Users                   | New users               | Views per user | Average engagement time | Unique user scrolls | Even |
| Totals                        |   | 206,425<br>100% of total                   | 23,466<br>100% of total | 23,372<br>100% of total | 8.80<br>Avg 0% | 2m 54s<br>Avg 0%        | 0                   | 100  |
| 1                             | Εισαγωγή της Αγγλικής Γλώσσας στο Νηπιαγωγείο – Πρόγραμμα EAN                 | 60,022                                     | 17,980                  | 14,828                  | 3.34           | 0m 54s                  | 0                   |      |
| 2                             | Ενδεικτικό Εκπαιδευτικό Υλικό – Εισαγωγή της Αγγλικής Γλώσσας στο Νηπιαγωγείο | 26,806                                     | 8,269                   | 362                     | 3.24           | 1m 16s                  | 0                   |      |
| 3                             | Εισαγωγή της Αγγλικής στα Νηπιαγωγεία   | 13,334                                     | 6,156                   | 5,967                   | 2.17           | 0m 39s                  | 0                   |      |
| 4                             | Ενδεικτικό Εκπαιδευτικό Υλικό – Εισαγωγή της Αγγλικής στα Νηπιαγωγεία         | 10,154                                     | 4,782                   | 863                     | 2.12           | 0m 45s                  | 0                   |      |
| 5                             | Εορτασμοί – Εισαγωγή της Αγγλικής Γλώσσας στο Νηπιαγωγείο                     | 7,302                                      | 3,878                   | 353                     | 1.88           | 0m 26s                  | 0                   |      |
| 6                             | Χειμώνας – Εισαγωγή της Αγγλικής Γλώσσας στο Νηπιαγωγείο                      | 5,724                                      | 2,697                   | 20                      | 2.12           | 0m 33s                  | 0                   |      |
| 7                             | Περιγραφή του Προγράμματος – Εισαγωγή της Αγγλικής Γλώσσας στο Νηπιαγωγείο    | 5,351                                      | 3,121                   | 64                      | 1.71           | 1m 03s                  | 0                   |      |
| 8                             | Ο εαυτός μου και οι άλλοι – Εισαγωγή της Αγγλικής Γλώσσας στο Νηπιαγωγείο     | 5,006                                      | 2,161                   | 7                       | 2.32           | 0m 35s                  | 0                   |      |
| 9                             | Επιμόρφωση EAN – Εισαγωγή της Αγγλικής Γλώσσας στο Νηπιαγωγείο                | 4,383                                      | 2,325                   | 49                      | 1.89           | 0m 49s                  | 0                   |      |
| 10                            | Δύο νέα σενάρια – Εισαγωγή της Αγγλικής Γλώσσας στο Νηπιαγωγείο               | 4,303                                      | 1,985                   | 1                       | 2.17           | 0m 18s                  | 0                   |      |



# Visibility per country

Users ▾ by Country

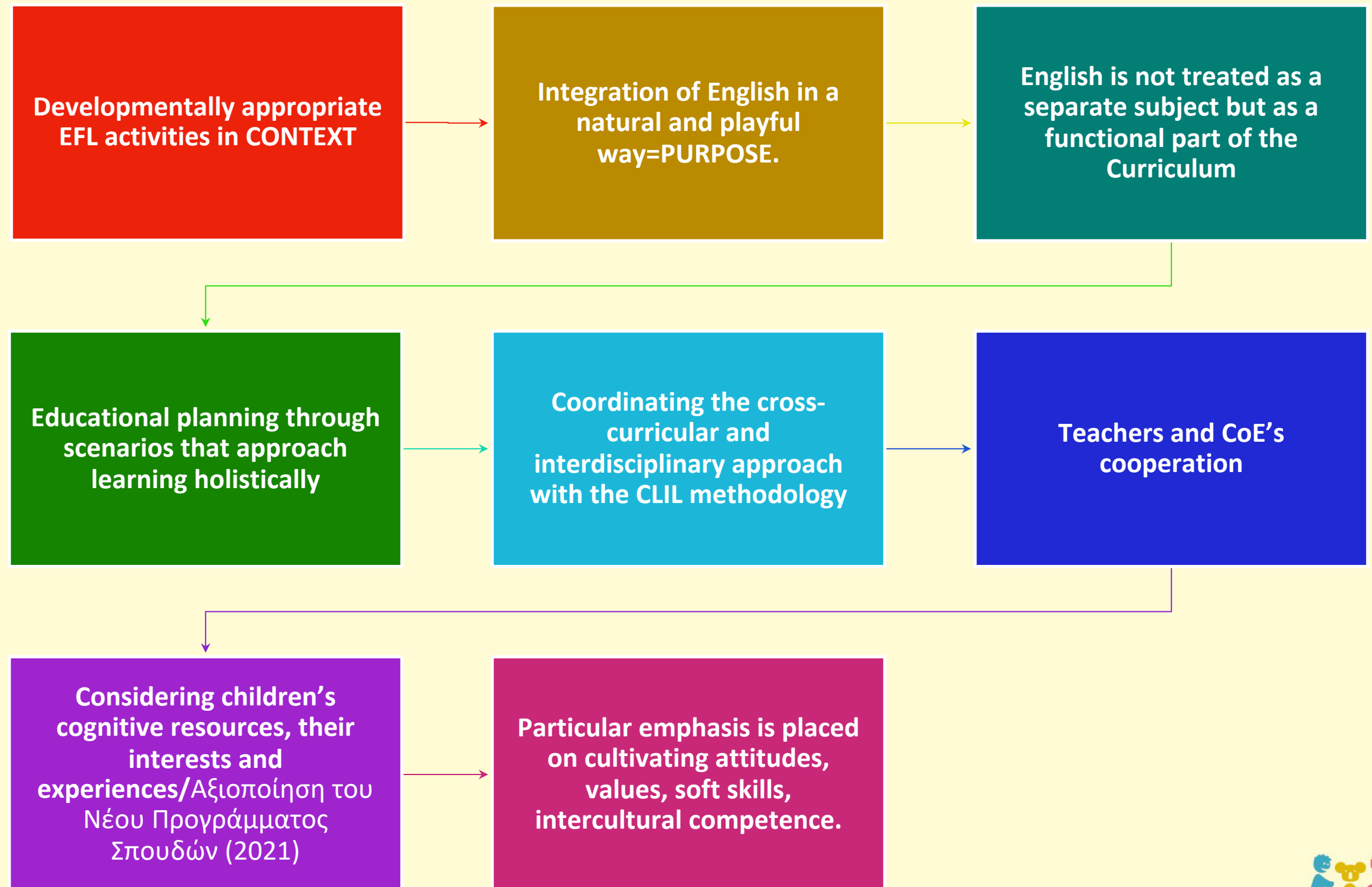


| COUNTRY        | USERS |
|----------------|-------|
| Greece         | 23K   |
| United States  | 187   |
| Netherlands    | 66    |
| Brazil         | 54    |
| Finland        | 32    |
| Germany        | 24    |
| United Kingdom | 24    |

[View countries](#) →



# Pedagogical framework & innovations of the EAN Project (Alexiou & Penderi, 2022)



## Hot now....

- Call for scenarios (in Greek, in cooperation)
- Call for scenarios in English
- Call for material collection
- Final conference in September!





# Βιβλιογραφία

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- Alexiou, T., Penderi, E., & Serafeim, M. (2021). The pilot phase of the introduction of English in Greek state pre-primary schools: Portraying stakeholders' perceptions. *Journal of Applied Linguistics*, 34, 2-24.
- Πεντέρη, Ε., Χλαπάνα, Ε., Μέλλιου, Κ., Φιλιππίδη, Α., & Μαρινάτου, Θ. (2021α). *Πρόγραμμα σπουδών προσχολικής εκπαίδευσης*. Στο πλαίσιο της Πράξης «Αναβάθμιση των Προγραμμάτων Σπουδών και Δημιουργία Εκπαιδευτικού Υλικού Πρωτοβάθμιας και Δευτεροβάθμιας Εκπαίδευσης» " του ΙΕΠ με MIS 5035542.



# Thank you!

Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is **SUCCESS.**



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ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ  
ΘΕΣΣΑΛΟΝΙΚΗΣ



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