



# D1.3 Project Mid Term Report and Evaluation

Gynaecological Endoscopic Surgical Education and Assessment for Europe  
Project Number: 101101180

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<b>Executive Summary</b>	This report provides a high-level overview of the project and its status. It includes a project overview (project stakeholders, milestones and deliverables, project plan, budget and costs) and further project details (scope changes, major risks/issues and actions taken, achievements).

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## Executive Summary

In its first year of operation, GESEA4EU has made significant progress toward its overall objectives. 27 Standardised Training Modules have been developed with the input of all partners, the first Train the Trainer activities have taken place and the first standardised courses to be organised in the 9 partner Diploma centres have been successfully realised. The content for the curriculum made up of online and face-to-face activities and resources is almost complete and translations of all relevant course materials is well underway. At the same time, the extension of the GESEA Educational Programme to include 9 new target centres in 8 countries has been achieved and the first courses to be delivered in the new target centres have already begun.

The overall course programme has been successfully expanded to include the development of courses aimed at non-medical specialists and the online platform continues to be updated with the necessary new materials. Development of effective assessment methodologies to ensure the necessary high-quality evaluation of the new training modules is advancing well and certification practices are increasingly being standardised.

The impact of the project has already become noticeable with a significant interest in the new standardised courses reported upon by many of the partner centres, participation bookings in courses are high and the level of interest in the general GESEA programme continues to rise in new regions and amongst new target audiences.

While for many of the 16 GESEA4EU partners, this is their first collaborative European project funded by the EC, an efficient project management structure has been established with clear lines of communication, effective reporting practices and regular meetings. The project is broadly on target with regard to milestones and deadlines and the whole project team is confident that GESEA4EU will achieve its overall goals within the lifetime of the project.

# Year 1 Report on Progress

## Introduction

The aim of GESEA4EU is to develop standardised learning modules which are applicable and recognised across Europe as part of the GESEA Educational Programme. This project runs for 2 years and directly involves 16 partners in 8 different Member States. Much of the work involves delivering standardised training modules applicable to a range of trainees and expanding the reach of this training to 9 new centres in European Member States. The purpose of this report is to provide a project overview describing the status of the project at the important mid-way stage. It highlights the main achievements of the project thus far and provides a road-map to the remaining activities.

## Progress towards objectives

The six objectives originally included in the project proposal have guided the work of the project throughout Year 1. A key value indicator for each was identified at the start and is repeated here in order to report on progress of the project in relation to each objective.

No.	Objective	Progress against indicator
1	To make an inventory and classification of the simulation training tools and training programmes as used in the scope of the GESEA Educational Programme	The categorisation and mapping of all simulation training tools and programmes involving 12 GESEA centres took place and is reported upon in D2.1.
2	To standardise European training modules as part of the GESEA Educational Programme for gynaecological surgeons	The indicator for this objective has been achieved in that the 11 standardised learning modules for specialist professionals have been finalised and made available in D2.1.
3	To extend the GESEA Educational Programme by developing standardised training modules for nurses and non-medical staff and to develop a Train-the-Trainer Programme	The indicator for this objective has been achieved in that the 2 standardised learning modules applicable to general medicine, the 6 learning modules applicable to nurses, the 6 learning modules applicable to non-clinical staff and the 9 learning modules applicable to trainers were finalised and made available in D2.1.
4	To implement and validate the developed learning modules and to provide credentialing recognised on a European level	The work to reach this objective is currently underway. Courses in both Diploma and Target centres are mostly taking place in Spring 2024 as planned and the development of the related micro-credentials is advancing well.
5	To receive broad European recognition of the GESEA training methodology through EBCOG and to solidify GESEA as the standard for training and certification in its field	While work to achieve this objective is well underway through the ongoing collaboration with EBCOG, planning for this objective has meant that most of the effort required for its achievement will take place in year 2.
6	To disseminate and exploit GESEA, extending the current network of training centres across Europe by providing a training programme in native languages.	9 Target centres have been identified outside the consortium and training courses in each are planned for months 12 to 18 so this target has already been achieved.

In order to ensure the project team continues to meet the GESEA4EU objectives, a sound approach to project management has been implemented and is reported upon in D1.2. This effort is complemented by the work carried out by the GESEA4EU dissemination team led

by ATiT and ESGE. Regular partner updates are circulated to complement the meetings of all partners which take place every 3 months online when a face-to-face meeting is not taking place. Monthly meetings of the Project Steering Committee (PSC) ensure the project stays on track and is the main forum where disputes are resolved.

A project website has been set up as a sub-site to the main GESEA site as well as several dedicated social media channels. A full report on the dissemination work carried out in Year 1 is available in D5.2

### Outreach and engagement with stakeholders

In the original proposal stakeholders were identified. In general terms they included those training and diploma centres already engaged in relevant training as well as those with a potential interest, networks and associations of both medical and specialist practitioners, as well as the broader public.

Looking back over Year 1, it is clear that the planned outreach has been very successful as evidenced by many of the partners in their annual technical report. Several partners have directly engaged stakeholder representatives in the process of gathering input to the important work carried out in WP2 to survey existing training approaches and tools, while others have noted a significant interest amongst stakeholders in project outputs as demonstrated by the following quotes from just some of the partners:

- *EBCOG helped to modify the initial survey on simulation training in gynaecology to include content relevant to obstetrics. This survey was shared with EBCOG accredited centres and Council members. (UEMS/EBCOG)*
- *In addition to making our colleagues aware of the GESEA Programme, training trainers has increased our teaching capacity for further continuous education and training activities. (PiusH)*
- *This project has also fostered new collaboration between the SCTA and SCTR committees within EBCOG. (UEMS/EBCOG)*
- *After our positive input on the issue there is an increased interest among young Gynaecologists to participate and in Training and Certification Courses. (AUTH)*
- *Besides the standardisation itself, the connection with training experts and MIS educators in Europe is a key result of the GESEA4EU Partnership, even beyond the scope of current activities. (UNINA)*

While others have organised outreach activities more related to disseminating the work of the project as a whole, for example:

- *On the 19.1.2024 we have prepared and organized, at the MUM, the international symposium "Twenty years of outpatient hysteroscopy in Slovenia" with 120 attendees, where we have carried out dissemination activities with the lecture "GESEA4EU Project", with the chapter in the abstract book and with the distribution of flyers about the GESEA4EU project. (MUM)*
- *We have promoted the GESEA programme through congresses and meetings: a) ESHRE campus "Added value of endoscopic surgery in the era of ART + GESEA-ECRES training", December 2023 (Scientific chair: George Pados) b) "Updates in hysteroscopy":*

*webinar organized by the Hellenic Society of Gynaecological Endoscopy (HSGE)  
(President of the Society is Theodoros Theodoridis). (AUTH)*

More details about such activities are provided in D5.2.

## Progress in Work Packages

### *Project Management and Coordination (WP1)*

This work is led by ESGE and continues throughout the lifetime of the project. It is made up of three main tasks, T1.1 Overall project planning, coordination, administrative and financial management; T1.2 Risk Management and quality assurance and T1.3 Data and privacy management. Work in all three tasks has proceeded largely as planned despite a change in the role of project coordinator which took place in June 2023 with Sally Reynolds from ATiT taking over the role of project coordinator from Dr. Federica Campolo (FPG). A significant amendment to the contract (grant agreement) during this period was negotiated with the EC and successfully concluded in February 2024.

### *Preparatory Activities (WP2)*

This work is led by EAGS and took place between months 1 and 10, laying the important ground-work for the standardisation of the GESEA4EU courses. The work package is made up of 5 tasks. For the first, T2.1 Mapping and categorization of simulation tools and programmes, EAGS carried out extensive work to identify what was available by means of: (i) Questionnaire about Training Programme Needs (part A) and Requirements (part B); (ii) Qualitative data collection about Training Tools (Inventory). This effort was then used to support work carried out in T2.2 Definition of standardised training modules for health-care professionals involving online group meetings and the gathering of opinion and experience from training experts in the Consortium. This eventually led to the publication of the important project output, D2.1 "Standardised GESEA Training Modules". The next task, T2.3 Training Programme agenda and organisation involved a significant amount of effort in working with the different diploma centres to agree the timetable for the basic and intermediate courses to be organised in Spring 2024. This effort paid off and the agenda for the courses was made public in January 2024 and since then several of the courses have taken place. At the same time, and somewhat ahead of schedule, work to recruit the new target centres was undertaken linked to T5.2; Educational Programme Expansion. The 9 newly identified target centres are in Spain (Madrid and Barcelona), Hungary, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Poland, Ireland and Greece. Effort in this WP also involved making connections between these new target centres and the assigned mentor centres from amongst the diploma centres in the consortium.

T2.4 Training Material design and T2.5 Selection and Enrollment of Trainers were also undertaken in the allocated time period resulting in the related deliverables, D2.3 Training Material report and D2.4 Enrolment Criteria. While the bulk of the materials needs for training was available within the given time period, some recordings of lectures were not completed in time and have been subsequently either recorded with the original expert or replacement experts have been identified to make the necessary recordings. Furthermore, in relation to T2.5 Selection and Enrollment of Trainers, the WP leadership in discussion with



the rest of the Project Steering Committee agreed to make an adjustment to the enrolment criteria for trainers. In the original plan it was agreed that potential trainers needed to already have Level 2 GESEA Certification before starting training as trainers. However, the PSC agreed to adjust this to a requirement that all potential trainers ensure they achieve Level 2 Certification before the end of the project.

### *Training Activities (WP3)*

This work package is led by FPG and began in earnest in M9 as planned. This work package is made up of 6 tasks. T3.1 Training of the Trainers and T3.6 Training of new trainers of new target regions are considered together as the decision was taken several months ago to advance the training of trainers in the new regions so they could already be trained either before or in the same time period as the Basic courses (L1/H1) were planned to take place in the new Target Centres mentored by specialists from the Diploma Centres. The first round of these Train the Trainer (TTT) courses aimed at Specialists, namely, Laparoscopy for Training Specialists (L7); Hysteroscopy for Training Specialists (H8) and Motivation and Communication (G5) took place in Rome in December with 26 participants; 20 from existing Diploma or Training Centres (ULG, CAC, MUM, FPG, UNITO, UNINA, CICE, GLSMED, EAGS and PiusH and 6 from Target Centres in Estonia, Croatia, Bulgaria and Greece. The course Laparoscopy for Training Nurses (L8) and Hysteroscopy for Training Nurses (H9) took place also in December in FPG and involved 12 Nurse trainers from Diploma centres CAC, MUM and FPG. A full report of this courses is available in D3.1.

T3.1 continues into Year 2, with courses for the Robotics for Training Specialists (R3) planned for March 2024 and Training of Specialists planned for April 2024. The final course aimed at Train the Trainer for Robotics for Nurses (R4) is planned for later in Year 2.

The third task in WP3 that has already begun in Year 1 is T3.3, Training of Specialist Professionals with the first Basic courses in Diploma Centres taking place in January 2024. At the same time the first Basic course in a Target Centre (Ireland) also took place in January 2024. Moreover, the spring agenda is already in place for Basic and Intermediate courses in all Diploma and Target Centres. Interest has been really high in these courses, and many are already full, access to the online platform for all those enrolled in advance of the on-site elements of the course is proceeding well and feedback is generally positive.

Work in the remaining three tasks in this WP, T3.2 Training of General Practitioners, T3.4 Training of Nurses and T3.5, Training of non-clinical staff will move ahead in earnest in 2024 although the curricula for each is already finalised.

### *Training Activities assessment and validation (WP4)*

This work package is led by CICE and is closely connected to WP3. Two tasks have begun in earnest in Year 1, T4.1 Assessment of the trainers of the consortium and T4.3 Assessment and certification of the new trainers. Although T4.3 was originally planned for M19-M20, this has already begun as potential trainers from the new target centres already took part in the TTT courses organised by FPG in December 2023. Assessment of the trainers who took part in the TTT course organised by FPG in December 2023 in Rome provided an opportunity for the team to review the original plan for assessment in the light of the



course itself, assessment included a mix of feedback based on observation carried out by the course leaders as well as assessment of the questionnaires completed by trainees in this course. The assessment procedure is being reviewed with a view to a more standardised procedure for the next TTT courses taking place in Rome in April 2024.

Work on T4.2 Assessment and micro-credentialing for Trainees is currently underway. While assessment of specialists will take place by means of GESEA Certification, the team involved in WP4 are developing a system of micro-credentialing for Nurses, General practitioners and non-medical staff.

#### *Dissemination and communication (WP5)*

This work package is led by ATiT working closely with ESGE. T5.1 Dissemination and Communication plan and Realisation along with T5.3 Creation and maintenance of project brand, channels and resources are ongoing and form the mainstay of work in this work package. Several deliverables are directly related to this work and have already been delivered, namely D5.1 Dissemination and communication and branding guide, D5.6 Project website and D5.7 Project leaflet. While the project website is provided in English, leaflets and related materials are available in all partner languages.

Dissemination activities supported under this work package include ensuring a constant flow of news and updates on the project website including making sure the agenda of upcoming courses is maintained and updated. A section on the website provides access to public deliverables as well as short three-monthly reports on project progress. Most partners are also actively working to disseminate project news and updates and are largely supported in this work by the ATiT/ESGE team by for example, re-posting social media posts. A full report of this work is included in D5.2.

T5.2 Educational Programme Expansion took place as already mentioned ahead of the original plan with the identification and selection of the new target centres in collaboration with WP2 already in M6. T5.4 Event planning and Support began in earnest in M9 with the prominent presence of GESEA4EU at the ESGE Congress held in Brussels at the start of October. However, throughout last summer, the project was represented at relevant events including the SERGS conference and ENTOG. T5.5 EBCOG-PACT-GESEA Centres framework definition will begin in earnest in Year 2.

#### *Deliverables and Milestones*

In year 1 the following deliverables have been prepared and submitted to the EC

No	Title	Planned	Approved
D5.1	Dissemination and Communications plan and branding guide	M3	10/7/23
D5.6	Project website	M4	15/6/23
D2.1	Standardised GESEA Training Modules	M4	3/7/23
D5.7	Project leaflet	M6	7/9/23
D2.2	Training programme agenda	M7	29/9/23
D2.3	Training material Report	M9	14/12/23
D2.4	Enrolment criteria	M9	14/12/23
D3.1	GESEA4EU Train-the-trainers courses' provision report	M10	16/4/23
D1.3	Project mid-term report and evaluation	M12	pending

D5.2	Mid-term dissemination and communication report	M12	pending
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#### Status of milestones in Year 1

No	Title	proposed	achieved
1	Kick-off meeting	M1	M1
2	Launch of project online	M3	M3
3	Organisation and standardisation of GESEA training modules	M4	M4
4	Definition of the training course agenda and participants	M9	M10
5	Promotion of GESEA4EU courseware	M9	M11
6	Finalization of the training activities for the trainers (TTT)	M10	Still underway
7	Mid-term meeting	M12	Planned May 2024

There have been two notable deviations to the original milestone planning as shown in this table. The first relates to the finalisation of the TTT which was originally planned for M10. The reason for this is two-fold. First of all, facilities and faculty to train the targeted number of 54 trainers was simply not available in the planned timetable and it was not possible to set up a single course for such a large number of trainees. Therefore, the courses were planned in three rounds, the first took place in December 2023 while the next two are scheduled for April 2024. Secondly the team agreed early on to bring forward the training of trainers from the new target centres so they would largely already be trained before the courses took place in the target centres. However, more time was needed to recruit these trainers ensuring they met the eligibility criteria, hence the decision to organise further TTT courses in FPG in Rome in April 2024.

The second significant milestone deviation was to adjust the timing of the third all partner face-to-face meeting from M12 to M16. This was taken for several reasons. First of all, the second all partner meeting took place in M10 and so it was agreed that a longer gap between these meetings was needed. Secondly, by moving this meeting to M16 it means that quite a number of the Basic and Intermediate courses will have taken place in the Diploma and Target centres. So having the meeting in M16, provides a very useful opportunity to discuss the results of these courses and to plan ahead more effectively for the remainder of the project lifetime.

#### Achievements

The main achievements of Year 1 have clearly been the successful achievement of the objectives related to the work carried out in WP2 and the successful launch of the work in WP3. The planned standardisation of the GESEA courseware has been successfully achieved, the first selection of trainers has been trained and the agenda for the Basic and Intermediate courses to be organised in the Diploma Centres has been agreed and published. At the same time the new target centres have been identified and recruited. Alongside these achievements, the project consortium has been functioning well, and, while improvements can certainly still be made, effective communication and management strategies have been put in place with all partners putting considerable effort into ensuring the success of the project.

In their annual technical reports, several partners have referred to specific achievements.

- *Due to this new offer, we are over-loaded by pre-registrations for the next event. (ULG)*
- *We noticed a great interest, especially among younger professionals, in participating in the training initiatives involved in the GESEA4EU project. As places were limited, we were repeatedly asked if new dates would be available for participating in GESEA4EU training modules. (CAC)*
- *The GESEA programme has become an increasingly discussed topic in EBCOG since the launch of the project. MIS is a particular area of interest to the trainees. They are eager to receive training in this area and there is great interest for them to participate in the GESEA programme in the future, even after the conclusion of the project (EBCOG)*
- *We observe a huge interest in the activities of the GESEA4EU project among doctors and nurses in Slovenia and in neighbouring countries as well. (MUM)*
- *We have more than sixty GESEA certified Level 2 colleagues would like to participate in the TTT course and more than 100 nurses would like to participate in the GESEA4EU courses from all over Europe. (UNIC)*
- *In general, there is a growing awareness regarding the relevance of basic psychomotor skills attainment for a successful surgical pathway. GESEA4EU tools and methods are a concrete possibility to grow surgical abilities in dry-lab in a stepwise model. (UNINA)*
- *The arrangement and organization of all the materials for training activities and the agenda coordination among partners has been fundamental to enable all subsequent training and dissemination activities; (EAGS)*

## Challenges

Although the project team is proud of what has been achieved to date, this type of innovative collaborative work has not been without its challenges. These challenges can be grouped according to several broad categories.

First of all, **finding common ground within a community of specialists** is challenging and ensuring the engagement of the leading GESEA experts in this field was sometimes challenging due to the many demands on the time of such experts, who are all leaders in their field with busy schedules and medical commitments which inevitably come first in terms of their availability.

Secondly, many partners are new to this type of EC funded project and so for many there have been significant challenges in **meeting the administrative requirements**. For example, one partner remarked *It's very clear that some university partners have internal resources used to dealing with grants while other partners are new to this space and therefore need a great deal of support to navigate this very nuanced world*. For others, the financial report and budget management has been a particular challenge, one partner specifically reported difficulties *in organizing the Periodic Budget reports and circulating the budget towards training equipment purchase*.

Thirdly and related to the administrative challenges, there has been a particular problem for many partners due to the **application of set travel rates** which is particularly a problem for partners outside of main hubs in terms of transport connections. For example from

Slovenia; *The main challenge is the under reimbursement of the travel costs for MUM, which in the current situation is financing more than 40% of all travels needed for the ESGE4EU Project, and from Cyprus; Financial issues derived from the long-distance trips (Cyprus – central Europe milage) and other accommodation and transportation expenses were not covered by the grant, I had to cover these expenses personally to accomplish the tasks.*

A further challenge mentioned by partners has been **internal delays in setting dates and agreeing timetables**. Given the complexity faced by the Project Management Team in finding suitable dates and agreeing locations for specific courses, it has been a significant battle to fix dates sufficiently well in advance to meet partners requirements. However, every effort is being made by the team to ensure sufficiently advanced notification and there is some evidence that this issue is no longer as much of a challenge as it was several months ago.

Finally, there has been a particular challenge with regard to the Robotics courses in **securing the quantity of equipment** to run the specialist courses as this resource is expensive and hard to move. This has resulted in a delay in Year 2 in the delivery of the Robotics courses for specialists and nurses.

## Major risks and mitigation actions

In the original proposal the consortium identified 8 risks, they are repeated here along with the planned mitigation measures and an update as to their current status.

No	Title and related WP	Planned mitigation measure	Status at end of M12
1	WP1: Delays in project implementation Impact (I): medium Probability (P): medium	Planning and scheduling of activities have been carefully designed, taking into consideration a reasonable timeline in order to contain unexpected delays. PMQP will be designed in order to face unexpected events which could lead to unexpected delays.	While there have been several delays to the work in specific WPs, none of these have had an impact on the overall progress of the project. The TTT for specialists course originally planned for M9-10 began in M11 and will continue to M15 but this will not have an impact on other tasks. Several tasks, namely T3.6 and T5.2 are in fact ahead of schedule.
2	WP1: Staff turnover I: low P: medium	Planning and scheduling of activities have been studied in order to alternate intense and less intense activity periods, well distributed over reasonable timescales. Scientific partners, in addition to belonging to a consolidated working group, will have knowledge of all modules and will have relevant presentations and work descriptions available, so as they can be substituted when necessary.	This risk has not occurred although there have been some changes in medical personnel. Furthermore, the change in project coordinator in M5 due to the existing coordinator taking maternity leave did not cause any major difficulties to the project as the new coordinator was already involved as a WP leader and familiar with the project. The previous coordinator has returned in the meantime and is leading WP3.
3	WP1: Defaulting partner I: medium/high P: very low	Consortium Agreement will identify partners' duties and possible consequences if commitments are not met. Steering Committee will decide how contract obligations will be re-assigned and fulfilled by the consortium.	This risk did not occur and so there was no need to apply the planned mitigation measures.
4	WP3: Training Modules may not respond to TG training needs I: high P: low	Target Group (TG) will be actively involved through the administration of questionnaires in order to investigate their needs and training gaps, and designing the training accordingly.	While the project team is confident that training modules do correspond to the training needs of the target group and the feedback thus far has been positive, it is still too early to know whether this risk has materialised.
5	WP3: The training could be too notional and not concrete I: medium P: low	As detailed in the Concept and Methodology section, the training methodology of GESEA4EU will follow a structured learning approach that combines e-learning, distance learning, simulation training, instructor-led training, mentoring and roleplaying, so as to ensure a comprehensive learning experience. This concept has been tested successfully.	Again, it may be too early to tell if this risk materialises, however given the strict adherence by WP2 leaders to the successful training methodology developed in GESEA, this risk seems unlikely to materialise.
6	WP3: Trainer and trainees' difficulties faced in the use of the E-learning Platform	The platform will be user friendly and extremely practical. The Consortium will conduct e-learning activities on ESGE	This risk has not materialised and to date the feedback on accessing and using the platform has been positive.

	I: medium P: low	Academy, a platform already tested successfully with all types of users to ensure smooth learning.	
7	WP5: Dissemination of project results may not be sufficient to create impact I: medium P: low	A whole WP and a Strategic Plan will be dedicated to C&D activities, which will be implemented in a cross-cutting manner through a multi-layered strategy, to reach the target audiences as effectively as possible. All Project appearances and products will receive an immediately recognisable visual and stylistic identity. All key messages will be direct and concise, according to current standards of communication.	The level of interest in GESEA4EU activities has been high, particularly with respect to interest in the courses planned which is a positive indicator of the success of the dissemination activities. All partners are carrying out their own dissemination activities using a common brand and approach.
8	All WPs: COVID-19 pandemic effects persisting even in 2023/2024 and/or the occurrence of global events that prevent GESEA4EU physical events/meetings/activities. P: low I: low	COVID-19 pandemic, after a strong impact on working methods, has taught how to overcome the impossibility of developing events and activities in person using technology. The partnership is made up of organisations that have continued to develop their activities both during the lockdowns and during the subsequent phases subjected to restrictions and severe limitations. For this reason, the partnership can develop online training activities, events and meetings. In case it will be necessary to organise training sessions in a specific location, adequate procedures will be put in place to guarantee the safety of everyone involved.	This risk did not occur although online collaboration practices, many of which were developed during the pandemic have been utilised throughout Year 1 and will continue in Year2.

## Budget and costs

Financial management of the project in Year 1 has given rise to a number of challenges, largely due to the fact that so many of the partners are newcomers to collaborative projects funded under the EU4HEALTH programme. While GESEA4EU involves partners who all operate under strict financial management within their own organisations, the differences in the way in which costs are claimed and then reported under the EU4HEALTH programme meant that a significant effort has gone into working with partners, often on an individual basis, to help them ensure they claim and report according to EU4HEALTH regulations.

Although significant care went into the preparation of the original budget submitted with the proposal, it became clear in the early stages of the project, that some changes needed to be made to the budget of several partners. This led to the preparation, submission and eventual acceptance by the EC of an amendment to the contract (grant agreement) in relation to the budget.

By year end, financial reporting on an individual basis has become increasingly streamlined for most partners. It's clear that some partners have had to spend more on certain cost categories while others have managed with less. Travel costs continue to be a challenge due to the fixed cost practice of the EU4HEALTH Programme as referred to earlier, particularly for partners located outside main travel hubs. Part of the work going forward in the early part of Year 2 will be to analyse overall spending and review individual partner's budget to ensure effective financial management across the entire consortium.



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## Year 2 Looking Forward

### Project Planning

Year 2 for the GESEA4EU project will take the activities of the project to a new level. Not only will the project team deliver the training activities planned and prepared for in Year 1, but they will also take the opportunity to review the effectiveness of the training in all its manifestations. At the same time, Year 2 provides an opportunity to expand the reach of the GESEA programme more broadly both in terms of scientific recognition as well as outreach within the medical community more broadly.

Project activities in year 2 can be viewed from several different perspectives which are summarised here.

### *Course Delivery to Specialists*

All 9 Diploma centres have scheduled their Basic and Intermediate level courses (L1/L2/H1/H2) and are on target to deliver these courses between January and June 2024. The level of interest is high and so the project team are confident that the numbers targeted to take part in these courses will be achieved. At the same time Basic courses in all 9 Target centres who will be mentored by staff from their respective Diploma centre have also been scheduled.

The TTT courses for specialists that began in December 2023 will be completed in April 2024, thereby concluding the delivery of courses L7, L8, H8 and H9 which incorporated G5 while the TTT Training for Robotics, R3 will also be completed in March 2024. The TTT for Training nurses in Robotics (R4) will take place as soon as possible in Year 2.

The advanced courses for specialists namely Advanced Laparoscopy (L4), MIGS Clinical Attachment (L3+L4), Digital Hysteroscopy Centre (H4) and Robotics (R1) are all on schedule to take place in Year 2.

These activities will lead to the achievement of Objective 4 **To implement and validate the developed learning modules and to provide credentialing recognised on a European level.**

### *Course Delivery to non-specialists*

Year 2 will see the roll-out of all of the courses aimed at non-specialists. This includes the courses specifically aimed at Nurses, namely Laparoscopy for Nurses (L5), Hysteroscopy for Nurses (H5), Digital Hysteroscopy for Nurses (H6) and Robotics for Nurses (R2). These courses are largely planned as on-site only. The general courses (G1, G2, G3 and G4) which are all planned as online courses will also take place in the coming months. Finally, the courses aimed at equipment operators L6 and H7 will take place in each of the diploma and target centres in the same time period.

### *EBCOG Recognition*

While EBCOG has been involved in all stages of the project this far, work to ensure the recognition of GESEA through EBCOG will take centre-stage in year 2. Meetings have already taken place to progress work in this area and the project team are confident of being able to meet Objective 5 **To receive broad European recognition of the GESEA**

training methodology through EBCOG and to solidify GESEA as the standard for training and certification in its field in the coming 12 months.

*Outreach to wider medical and non-medical community*

While Objective 6 **To disseminate and exploit GESEA, extending the current network of training centres across Europe by providing a training programme in native languages** has already largely been achieved with the recruitment of 9 new target centres, work continues to expand the reach of the GESEA Programme and to localise course delivery in native languages. The dissemination team continue to be active with the engagement of partners and a number of events and dedicated actions are planned to promote the project. The next ESGE Congress taking place in Marseille from 23 to 25 October 2024 will provide a significant high-visibility opportunity to showcase and to highlight the achievements of the GESEA4EU project.