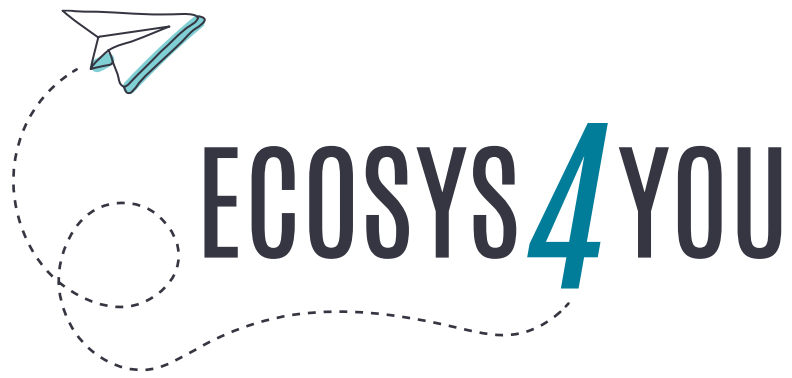




ENGAGING ENTREPRENEURIAL ECOSYSTEMS FOR THE YOUTH

EMA - A complete and well-functioning course

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About this report

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Objective of this deliverable

The objective of Deliverable D2.4 is to present the finalised, sustainable version of the online course *Entrepreneurial Mind in Action (EMA)*, developed within the Ecosys4you project. The deliverable demonstrates that the course has been successfully designed, piloted, evaluated, improved, and established as a complete and well-functioning online learning solution.

In addition, the deliverable outlines the long-term sustainability model of the EMA course, including its continued availability as a self-paced MOOC-style course hosted in Blackboard under the Ecosys4you framework. It also presents the mechanisms that ensure future accessibility, the reuse of learning materials, integration into educational environments, and continued support for entrepreneurial learning and cross-ecosystem collaboration beyond the project lifetime.

1 Introduction

Sustainability and Long-Term Implementation of the EMA Course

The online course *Entrepreneurial Mind in Action (EMA)* represents one of the key educational outputs developed within the Ecosys4you project. The course was designed as a collaborative, practice-oriented, fully online learning experience aimed at strengthening participants' entrepreneurial competencies, creativity, innovation, and sustainable thinking across diverse ecosystems and educational environments.

The EMA course was structured into three interconnected modules:

- **Module 1: Seeds of Success**
- **Module 2: From Concept to Creation**
- **Module 3: Blueprint for Sustainable Success**

Each module consists of four learning units combining theoretical content, practical assignments, entrepreneurial case studies, self-reflection activities, webinars with guest entrepreneurs, and quizzes.

The course was delivered twice within the project through two pilot implementations in the Blackboard learning environment. Following the first pilot delivery, extensive evaluation feedback was collected from participants, teachers, and online mentors. Based on this evaluation, improvements were introduced regarding course structure, navigation, learning materials, activity instructions, and overall user experience. The revised course version was then successfully implemented during the second pilot delivery, confirming the course as a complete and well-functioning online learning solution.

2 Sustainability and long-term accessibility of the EMA course

To ensure the long-term sustainability and continued use of the EMA course after the completion of the Ecosys4you project, DOBA Faculty established a sustainable self-paced access model under the Ecosys4you project framework.

The EMA course will remain available online in Blackboard as a MOOC-style self-paced course (see Figure 1) and will be accessible through the dedicated project webpage:

[EMA Course – Self-Paced](https://www.fakulteta.doba.si/raziskovanje/raziskovalno-razvojni-projekti/ecosys4you/ema-course-self-paced) (<https://www.fakulteta.doba.si/raziskovanje/raziskovalno-razvojni-projekti/ecosys4you/ema-course-self-paced>).

Interested users will be able to register with a username (demoema) and password (demoema) and independently access the complete course environment. The self-paced approach enables learners to study flexibly according to their own interests, prior knowledge, and available time.

The Blackboard environment provides users with access to:

- instructions for using Blackboard and navigating the course,
- presentations and descriptions of all EMA modules,
- complete learning materials and downloadable written resources (OER),
- recordings of webinars and guest entrepreneur sessions,
- descriptions of activities and assignment instructions,
- self-learning tasks and practical exercises,
- quizzes at the end of each module with automated evaluation and feedback.

The sustainability model follows the principles commonly used in MOOCs and open online learning environments. Unlike the pilot implementations, the self-paced version no longer includes:

- online mentoring,
- discussion forums,
- formal assessment of participant activities,
- synchronous teaching sessions.

This approach significantly reduces organisational and staffing requirements while maintaining the educational value and accessibility of the course content.

Users can download written learning materials and activity descriptions for personal learning purposes. Video materials and webinar recordings remain accessible for viewing within the learning environment, but cannot be downloaded due to copyright and authorship protection.

The Blackboard platform also enables automatic quiz evaluation, providing learners with immediate feedback and correct answers after quiz completion, thereby supporting autonomous learning and self-assessment.

3 EMA as a shared educational pillar within Ecosys4you

The joint classes *Entrepreneurial Mind in Action* continue to represent an important shared educational pillar of the Ecosys4you network.

Core curricula, teaching materials, and selected open educational resources are hosted online under the Ecosys4you umbrella and remain available for future educational use and adaptation. The sustainability approach supports:

- regular repetition of the EMA course in a self-paced MOOC format,

- reuse and adaptation of modules by teachers and partner institutions,
- teacher-to-teacher exchange of entrepreneurial teaching practices,
- integration of selected EMA modules into local curricula and educational programmes,
- continued promotion of entrepreneurial learning across ecosystems.

Through this model, the EMA course remains transferable, scalable, and accessible to future learners beyond the project lifetime.

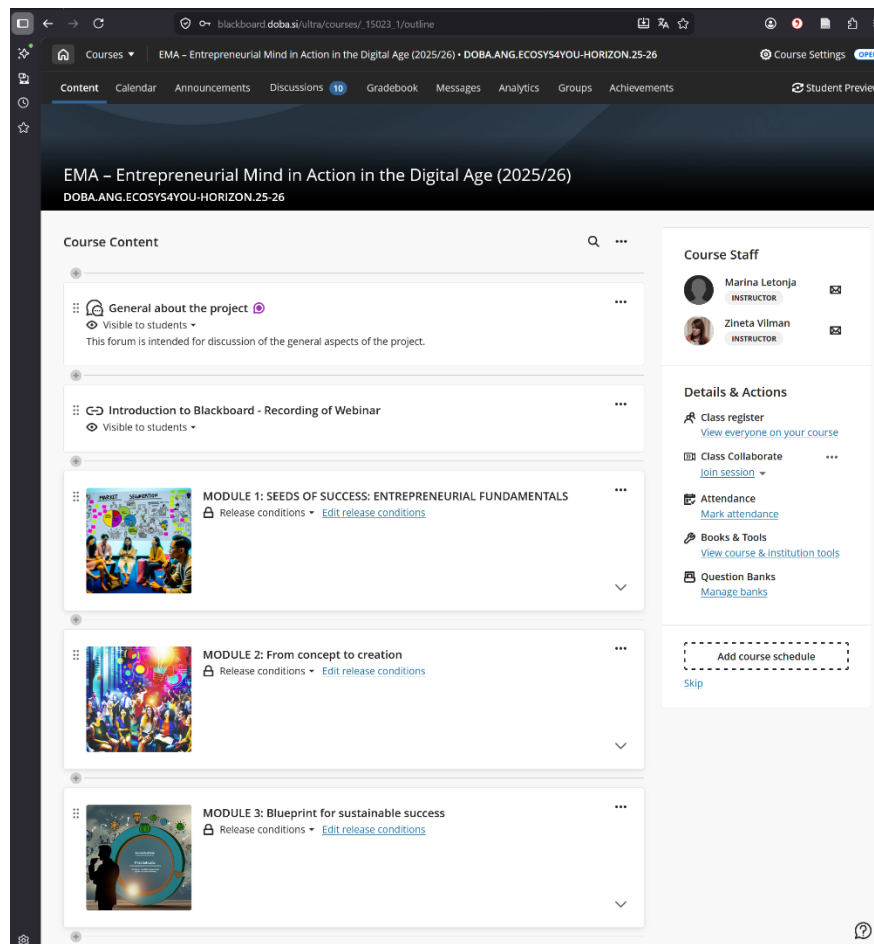
4 Conclusion

The EMA course has successfully evolved from a jointly developed pilot initiative into a complete, sustainable, and well-functioning online learning course.

Through two pilot implementations, continuous evaluation, and course improvements, the project partners established a high-quality entrepreneurial learning experience adapted to online international education. By transforming the course into a self-paced, MOOC-style learning environment hosted on Blackboard, the Ecosys4you partnership ensures the long-term accessibility, usability, and impact of the project's results.

The EMA course, therefore, remains a sustainable educational resource that supports entrepreneurial competencies, lifelong learning, and cross-ecosystem collaboration beyond the formal project duration.

Figure 1. Blackboard Screenshot



Imprint

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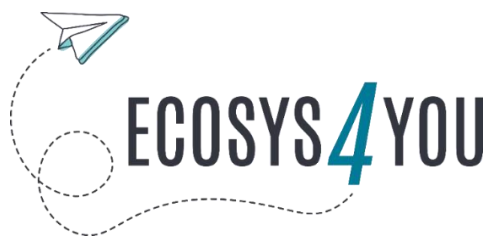
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Ecosys4you – Engaging Entrepreneurial Ecosystems for the Youth (2023-2026) strives to bridge the entrepreneurial ecosystems of the Ruhr in Germany, Varna in Bulgaria, and Slovenia by connecting young founders, start-ups, HEIs and other ecosystem actors.

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