

# netbox news

issue 4, 2014

## WELCOME

Welcome to the fourth and final edition of NetBox News. In this newsletter, we will share with you some of the latest outputs of the project and future possibilities for NetBox:

- Film Documentary: NetBox in Action
- Live and Learn: NetBox Final Conference
- Towards Educational Self Sufficiency: Project's Policy Paper
- Future of NetBox: Erasmus +

## NetBox in Action: Film Documentary

With the support of multi-media company, Eurav, we commissioned and produced a 30 minute documentary of the NetBox Project, featuring interviews with key local actors from across the six Netbox communities, samples of the learning activities that took place within the project and analysis of the project's impact from the perspective of project partners. Premiered at the NetBox Final Conference, *NetBox in Action*, tells the project's story from the point of view of the most important stakeholders engaged, namely the residents.

Declan and his crew travelled to each of the six rural areas in November and December 2013 and captured some really interesting and engaging footage. The full documentary can be viewed on [www.netboxproject.eu](http://www.netboxproject.eu) and or on Meath Partnership's vimeo channel.

## Netbox Live and Learn: Final Conference

The Conference took place on 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2014 in a hugely impressive conference centre in Ryki, Poland. With more than 60 delegates, community members, project partners and dignitaries in attendance, the closing conference of the project was a fitting end to 27

months of creative, collaborative, challenging and rewarding work. The conference was addressed by keynote speaker and Regional Policy Advisor Mr. Andrzej Danilkiewicz. His presentation "Local Resources - opportunity for the sustainable development of local communities" was an appropriate fit with the NetBox project and set the context for the event perfectly. A full Conference Report in English is available from the project website.



The 2 day event provided an invaluable opportunity for members of the six NetBox communities to network, interact and chat with one another sharing their experience of community learning and exchanges within NetBox.

The host community of Ryki created a very warm welcome for all in attendance and showcased their local culture, food, dance and traditions in a most inspiring and uplifting way. Conference attendees from partner countries were treated to recitals from local school children, exhibitions of local art and craft, and guided around the community's most impressive local business, JKP Flowers – the largest producer of Orchids in Europe. There were 100s of photographs taken over the 2 days, but some are featured here.



## Towards Educational Self Sufficiency

On behalf of the project consortium, the University of Paderborn developed a policy paper for the NetBox examining the cost: benefit of the NetBox Model based on a comparison of the NetBox open learning approach and the standard form of learning – a face-to-face course. Focusing on the factors affecting costs of provision of learning provided in the IITE Policy Brief of the UNESCO, the paper describes the potential of NetBox and describes it at a cost-effective response to education provision in rural areas. The Policy Paper demonstrated the *“all in all the NetBox approach is much cheaper than the same educational course system provided in a traditional way”*. To read the full paper, please visit [www.netboxproject.eu](http://www.netboxproject.eu)

## The Future for NetBox is bright

As part of our exploitation activities within the project, we are actively encouraging the online twinning of NetBox communities across Europe to raise cultural understanding and achieve positive learning outcomes through collaboration and exchange. Twinning opportunities presented and discussed at the NetBox Final Conference forged connections that provided a unique perspective on the increasing interconnectedness of Europe. These experiences produced a deeper understanding of the importance of intercultural diversity and cooperation. With the launch of the new Erasmus + programme and the priority on mobility actions, the potential and future for NetBox is bright.



NetBox Communities Members, Ryki, Poland, January 2014

For more information of all aspects of the NetBox project, please visit [www.netboxproject.eu](http://www.netboxproject.eu)

