

Getting Out of Comfort Zone (GOOCZ)

Getting Out of Comfort Zone (GOOCZ) – an Erasmus+ Cooperation Partnership in Higher Education – is designed to give academic staff first-hand experience and raise consciousness of the diversity, complexity, challenges of the industrial setting, particularly in **green transition** and **digitalisation**, so that they ensure that student learning and curriculum **foster understanding and competencies for the societal, industrial challenges** they will meet in employment helping to **bridge the gap between academia and industry**.

GOOCZ objectives are to:

- Enhance academics' understanding of industry work environment, challenges and unmet skill requirements
- Develop relevant learning and teaching to prepare graduates for current and future work
- Connect universities across borders, strengthening cooperation between academia and industry

GOOCZ achieves its objectives through high-quality, state-of-the-art pedagogical development:

- **Get Out of Your Comfort Zone:** A 5 ECTS interdisciplinary pedagogical development company attachment programme (IO1).
- **Get Your Curricula Out of Comfort Zone:** A 3 ECTS interdisciplinary pedagogical development programme (IO2). It builds on IO1's learning.
- **Getting Out of Comfort Zone case-book**

GOOCZ's outputs and outcomes:

- Capacity building and competence
- Relevant, responsive, change-oriented higher education curricula
- Sustainable staff development programmes

GOOCZ invites participants such as:

- Junior and senior faculty; Members of staff actively engaged in curriculum development and enhancement

GOOCZ is delivered by a dynamic international consortium consisting of:

Aalborg University (Denmark, Project Coordinator); *Halmstad University* (Sweden); *Mykolas Romeris University* (Lithuania); *University of Oulu* (Finland); *University of Siegen* (Germany)

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