



This summary is for organisations/countries considering the eTwinning-Teacher Training Initiative (TTI), to introduce eTwinning as part of initial teacher training.

eTwinning: summary and benefits

Since 2005, the European action eTwinning offers a professional social network for teachers in over 35 countries to exchange their practices, implement remote cooperative projects for their students to improve their language and digital skills and gradually build an innovative European community of teachers.

The activities at the heart of eTwinning are also rising in importance in the professional development of teachers in skills for the 21st century. For this reason, since 2012 eTwinning started European pilot projects to bring together training institutions from several European countries and their national eTwinning offices to include eTwinning in initial teacher training.

The contribution of eTwinning in initial teacher training, provides:

- discovery and implementation of project teaching, multidisciplinary work.
- development of ICT skills and language skills.
- European open / international, intercultural experience
- development of professional skills (project management, setting goals, planning, teamwork)
- reflection on professional practice: exchanges with teachers from other education systems

Models to introduce eTwinning vary by country and institution, they include:

- Introduction to eTwinning: the European system, eTwinning projects, online course for TTI.
- Design of a collaborative activity scenario working remotely with students in another class.
- Online Discussion with trainees-students from other European countries: mutual discovery, comparison of school systems, training, etc. (The eTwinning National Support Service (NSS) office can help linking with other institutions.)
- Implementation of a remote collaborative activity during the probationary period: with a class from another same country student intern (National eTwinning project) or with a class in another country eTwinning. This experience can be a truly memorable experience.

Educational and technical support, together with assistance in linking with TTI and their students from other countries is provided by the National Support Service (NSS) office of eTwinning. The NSS eTwinning academic correspondent as well as eTwinning ambassador (experienced teachers in eTwinning projects), will discuss proposed activities to support the training of trainers and trainee students. An overview of the process and conditions are shown overleaf,

www.etwinning.net: contact your local National Support Service to discuss further.

eTwinning-Teacher Training Institute (TTI) Initiative 2018

OVERVIEW OF THE PROCESS FOR ENGAGING TEACHER TRAINER INSTITUTES IN ETWINNING (Sept 18)

Teacher Training Institutes (TTI) – initial teacher education of future teachers (all phases)

1. INITIAL ENGAGEMENT

TTI engagement in eTwinning:

NSS present/discuss eTwinning to TTI
Quota: 2-10 TTI per country
Expectations managed by Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) agreed with national NSS.

Registration on eTwinning Live:

TTI Teacher Trainers (TTI TT) register as teachers, and institution.
Advisory quota: 3-4 TTI TT only.
NSS change affectation to 'teacher trainer'.
Note: to be confirmed, in 2019, for student teachers to register on eTw Live.

TTI Featured Group:

NSS invite TTI TT to join TTI Featured Group in eTwinning Live to meet with their peers in other TTI.

National Support Services (NSS):

Discuss and agree participation in eTwinning and local support model with TTI e.g.:

- eTwinning ambassador support
 - local/ regional/ national meetings
 - local professional development (PD)
 - helpdesk (email)
 - local resources and information.
- confirm written agreement with TTI (MoU)
- acceptance of TTI teacher trainer registrations on eTw Live. *Note: NSS manually apply 'teacher trainer' affectation for support and tracking.*
- invite to Featured Group, and update shared contacts list.

2. TTI PARTICIPATION IN ETWINNING

TTI participation: Observation

A good way to get started with planning.

Introduce student teachers to eTwinning

A simple way to start is with an introduction of eTw to student teachers (*support NSS/eTw ambassador as agreed*); as understanding grows eTw can be planned as an activity.

Engage student teachers in small eTw projects

Plan a small, collaborative eTw project for your student teachers, with another TTI at local, national or international level.
Projects are set up between TTI-TTI.
Projects are set up on eTw Live TwinSpace (TS).
Student teachers are invited to the TS to collaborate together on the project.

Participate in TTI professional development

Local and central events (online and face to face): NSS-led workshops and support; central online seminars and annual workshop in Brussels, is by invitation via NSS.

Complete monitoring surveys

Evaluation surveys (national and central).

NSS support TTI via local NSS-led workshops as agreed (e.g. local workshops, eTw Ambassadors)

Monitoring & reporting of TTI activity by NSS:

- keep shared contacts list up-to-date
- cleaning database of dormant TTI, students registered in schools as part of training
- tracking and provision of reporting information on TTI TT (registrations, activity, TTI-TTI projects, students), local and central monitoring surveys.

Central support services (CSS):

TTI Featured Group: information e.g. country presentations, and partner finding forum.

Online seminars for TTI teacher trainers:

five seminars in 2018. Ref FG.

TTI annual workshop

May 2019 date tbc, BXL. Aims: network, share practice, grow. Invitations via NSS

TTI annual monitoring

Coordination of annual evaluation survey.

Online help and support:

- eTwinning Live community materials and self teaching materials <https://stm.etwinning.net>

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SUPPORTING MATERIALS:

1. NATIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES (NSS) ROLE

NSS are invited to cooperate with the national and regional authorities responsible for teacher training (Teachers Training Institutes), to introduce eTwinning to pre-serving/trainee teachers, on the basis of the quotas agreed together by CSS and NSS.

The amount of work will depend on how involved the NSS wish to become and what numbers of TTI they will be dealing with. As an indication, NSS typically carry out the following tasks:

- Liaising with the designated person/s in the TTIs and providing personalized support to each TTI for training, integration in curriculum, contacts with Ambassadors and Regional authorities, follow up of partner finding and implementation of projects, etc.
- Supporting and training the TTI representative/s locally about eTwinning and its features, support in the use of TwinSpace for TTI-TTI projects. Encouraging participation in online PD seminars by CSS.
- Supporting the TTIs in running an introductory course on eTwinning by identifying ambassadors or other suitable persons to deliver the relevant information.
- Validating and assigning 'teacher trainer' job role to new TTI registrations, tracking, reporting.
- Attending the CSS-NSS TTI meetings and involving themselves in the organisation of tasks such as partner matching where appropriate, annual TTI workshop in Brussels.
- Monitoring the TTI activities and preparing a country Report for the EC

Note: current status on plan to allow student teachers to register on eTwinning

Currently, only TTI 'teacher trainers' are allowed to register (with the specific role 'teacher trainer' assigned by their NSS on registration). The exception to this, is when student teachers are on placement in schools.

From 2019, there is a clear intent that eTwinning should facilitate the further involvement of student teachers in the platform by introducing a new role in eTwinning: TTI student-teachers.

Following CSS-NSS discussions at the May 2018 workshop, a discussion paper was prepared (Summer 2018) detailing the changes in process that would enable student teachers to register direct on eTwinning, in a way that was manageable and secured the ongoing safety of the platform. The proposed change in process (additional tasks by CSS and NSS) will be reviewed at the November 2018 NSS-PSA meeting, to help finalise prior to implementation in 2019.

2. FEATURED GROUP: ETWINNING FOR TEACHER TRAINING INSTITUTES

This group is specifically aimed at teacher trainers working for Teacher Trainer Institutes (TTI) involved in initial teacher education. The FG is moderated by Irene Pateraki (CSS) and provides information on how to participate, different models, examples of TTI activities, showcase presentations from the 2018 workshop, and partner finding forum

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3. ETWINNING TTI INITIATIVE: COUNTRY EXAMPLES

This initiative has grown from the initial pilot in 2012/13, to now engaging the interest of most of the eTwinning National Support Services (NSS) as a way to embed eTwinning as a part of the practice and professional development of their future teachers.

The initiative has a growing number of examples from across the different countries demonstrating the belief both by the NSS and the universities that introducing eTwinning into the training of student teachers delivers significant value to them and their institutions. It offers a practical application of C21st skills, project and international experience, and is aligned to the priority of digital citizenship. Examples of established models:

- **France:**
 - eTw-TTI initiatives now held in 12 out of 30 académies in 2018. eTw ambassador/trainer-driven. Integrated into the curriculum in Amiens, Strasbourg, Orléans-Tours. Different models and variation across regions. Year 1, explore the platform; year 2, student teachers run projects tutored by eT trainers when on school placement. Key is flexibility.
- **Italy:**
 - Now involves c10 universities spread across the different regions. Leverages connection of eTw ambassadors with universities. Embedded into the curriculum, with introduction to eTw in early years, planning and engaging in projects with tutors, planning and implementing own projects when on school placement. 2016-17 numbers: 10 universities, 122 tutors, 1,888 students trained, 85 students in eTw-TTI projects (involvement voluntary).
- **Spain:**
 - Example: Universidad Rey Juan Carlos. Four years in the making, eTw integrated in the curriculum of MA secondary teacher education, MA education management, BA Primary Education, BA Pre-primary education. 5 practical sessions and seminars. eTw MOOC. Engaged in 8 eTw-TTI projects (2014-17).
- **Other examples – Belgium-Flanders, Iceland, Norway:**
 - Howest International in **Belgium-Flanders**, has engaged their student teachers in collaborative projects since 2014 [starting in 2014 with Four Pics One World (working locally with secondary school students); in 2015, ICT in the classroom, an international collaboration with teacher trainees from Ostfold University College in Norway; followed by a comparison between language and science education (DK, BE, NO); and with current involvement in the DLaB (Digital Learning across boundaries) project (DK, BE, NO,UK). In **Norway**, the NSS has worked to extend participation in the eTw-TTI initiative across the different regions, which today incorporates 3 universities: University of Ostfold, University of Oslo, University of Tromso. **Iceland** has the sole university, and their participation in projects is centred around the active engagement in the project by their teacher trainer involving student teachers in a range of international projects (2014-15: UK, ES, IS, DK comparing education settings; 2015-16; UK, IS, DK insights into field practice and schools in other countries, with synchronous online discussions and sharing practice via blogs; used the May 2018 workshop to set up a project in the area of digital citizenship).