

Erasmus+ KA2 Knowledge Alliances project "Greening Energy Market and Finance - GrEnFIn"

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WP10 – D10.2: Report on the Consultation survey on the virtual platform: Umbrella Organization meeting PROMETEIA, April 2022 M30



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Executive Summary

This report provides an assessment of the survey conducted at the Umbrella event organised on the 11th of April 2022 by UNIBO at the Italian consulting firm Prometeia. The event was held in person and in Italian. The survey received **10 responses**. The results show that the audience had mostly a good impression of the GrEnFIn programmes, and were willing to cooperate further with it to an extent.

1. Prometeia survey analysis

The first set of questions aimed to profile the respondents through some basic questions. In particular, two respondents belonged to UNIBO, one student and one professor. Five others were employees of Prometeia, with positions such as "senior specialist", "analyst", "principal", and "deputy head of climate change and ESG risk." The remaining three respondents were professionals from other companies in the banking and insurance sector, with occupations in finance and human resources. With regard to how they found out about the event, half of the respondents were reached through direct communication, and the other half through promotion by Prometeia.

The first questions on content were then on the master programme. All participants responded that they were interested in both the topics of the GrEnFIn master and the professionals that would be trained through it. When asked about the curriculum tracks that would be most in line with their needs, a majority of six respondents picked the "Environmental Finance" curriculum (see figure 1). The other two options were picked by two respondents each.

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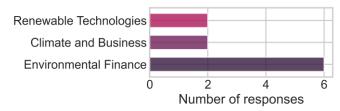


Figure 1 - Tracks of the master programme most in line with respondents' needs

Then, respondents were asked to identify competences that would be most urgent for future graduates of the GrEnFIn programme. Each person could pick several competences. The results are represented in figure 2. The three competences in the lead -- all picked by a majority of six people -- are statistics, finance and business. Law was seen as the least important in that respect, being picked by only two respondents. Note that the six competences represented constitute the full set of options provided. These results are likely to be reflective of some bias due to the field in which the respondents are working.

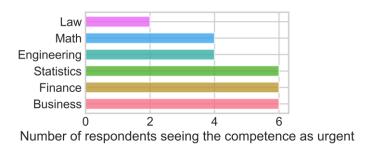


Figure 2 - Competences favoured by respondents

Next, respondents were asked as potential partners of the Master course, whether they would be interested in activating a collaboration with the University of Bologna to establish internships, events, dedicated meetings and lectures. Excluding the two respondents from UNIBO, seven professionals replied positively and only one negatively. In the first group, only one gave indications about their potential role, which was to present banking needs to support the greening of technology and production system of industrial firms.

The next questions were then focusing on the professional programme. The first one in that part was asking respondents whether they were interested in GrEnFIn's professional module (summer/winter training) as instrument for updating professional figures. Seven out of the ten replied positively, i.e. expressing a dominant opinion in favour of the training. The second question on this asked if the methodology based on case studies in specific topics is adequate for the programme. The question was asked for each of the tracks, i.e. environmental finance, climate & business, and renewable technologies. The responses were all positive, except for one negative reply in the case of the renewable technologies' curriculum. The one negative reply was motivated by a lack of interest for the curriculum in general, and thus may not reflect a negative appreciation of the methodology per se.

Then, on the practicalities of the e-learning lectures, all respondents indicated that an early availability of the course material would be useful. Moreover, 5 out of 9 responded that the adequate duration for an e-learning lecture was up to one hour. Four others preferred shorter lectures of up to 30 minutes. No other options than these two were provided.



With regard to the price of the module, respondents were asked how much they would charge if they were in charge of the commercialisation themselves. A large majority of 8 chose the middle bracket of 400€ to 700€ (see figure 3).

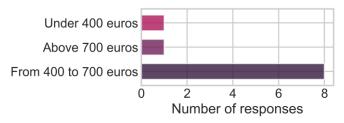


Figure 3 - Recommended commercialisation price for the professional module

Then, with regard to the involvement in the professional module, six respondents indicated that they were interested in cooperating with the students, while three others responded negatively. When it comes to having a more active role in the teaching offer of the professional module, seven out of the eight industry professionals responded positively, and one from Prometeia responded negatively.

Finally, coming to general appreciation of the event, when asked if they found the event interesting, all respondents replied positively, and similarly to the question as to whether they found the topics to be challenging and important. Note that the questions might have been answered on the basis of the whole event, which included presentations by non-GrEnFIn-partners and discussions of other topics. That is, the interest is not clearly for the GrEnFIn presentations alone.

A last question aimed to identify what might have been missing from the event, and received two responses. The first one regretted that there were no illustrative sections of the GrEnFIn master, and the second one wrote that satellite user case experience could have been added, by which the respondent probably meant either the illustration of curriculum for one master student, or a detail testimony from a participant of a previous programme. Both responses seem to reflect that communication could have been improved by showcasing more concrete examples from the programmes.

2. Discussion and conclusion

The event and corresponding survey assessed here covered both the GrEnFIn master and its professional module. For both, the feedback received has been mostly positive. As with previous surveys, it appears that the background of the respondents influenced their relative interest for different topics, i.e. giving a preference for themes and skills that relate more closely to finance and business. More importantly, most of the professionals surveyed declared an interest in further taking part to the programme, either as a direct participation in the study plan, or through punctual collaborations.

However, several issues appear in the design of the survey itself and should be highlighted, owing to the lack of early consultation of partners and the fact that feedback has not been taken into account. The most salient aspect is the collection and storage of personal information in the form email addresses. No clear usage was indicated for it, and this was not otherwise justified, either internally or to respondents. A second aspect includes proof-reading and the design of questions that cannot be differentiated with the results data alone because non-headline question texts are not included (questions 11-13).

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