

Reelika Kuusik

From: Stella Polikarpus <stella.polikarpus@sisekaitse.ee>
Sent: reede, 28. veebruar 2025 11:21
To: Reelika Kuusik
Cc: Reet Kasepalu; Assoc. prof. Katarina Holla, PhD.
Subject: ViSiChem support letter
Attachments: EST_Letter of Support.docx; ViSiChem_cover_letterERB2025.docx

Dear Reelika,

It would be fantastic, if you could get this support letter signed and sent to Katarina and me 😊

In an era marked by both human-induced and natural crises, the imperative to enhance preparedness in civil protection has never been more critical. Trainers should adopt evidence-based instructional strategies to support the professional development of personnel who prevent, prepare, and respond to chemical accidents. This research-informed approach is essential for mitigating the consequences on the public health as well as the environment and property. The ViSiChem Project (**V**irtual **S**imulations for **C**hemical Accidents) addresses this need to reinforce the preparedness phase within civil protection organizations. The project seeks to elevate the quality of instruction for practitioners in Higher Education (HE) and Vocational Education & Training (VET) across the EU.

The project fosters collaboration of trainers among educational institutions, researchers, and civil protection organization specialists on developing Virtual Simulation-Based Training (VSBT). Our approach centers on self-regulated learning, wherein educators provide targeted guidance and scaffolding. To improve the learning environment, ViSiChem prioritizes the development of educators' digital competencies and integrating technology, pedagogy, and content knowledge. Through collaborative efforts among ViSiChem partners, we aim to create VSBT resources that significantly advance chemical safety training in both stationary and mobile risk environments.

As part of our initiative, we will develop a library of scenarios, which features a central storyline as well as multiple variations of open-source scenario storylines that trainers all over Europe can integrate into their future training scenarios. The ViSiChem consortium will extend targeted support to trainers in crafting VSBT scenarios, thereby equipping them to enhance students' situational awareness during chemical safety training. This approach is anticipated to facilitate a more effective and efficient transfer of chemical safety knowledge and support the development of problem-solving skills.

The ViSiChem consortium comprises highly specialized professionals with expertise in chemical safety, VSBT, and educational strategies. Through this interdisciplinary collaboration, the consortium will deliver innovative learning methods and materials that significantly strengthen overall preparedness in civil protection efforts.

If you have any questions, please contact me!

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