

INCLUSIVE STEAM EDUCATION ***A successful Infoday of SpiceE project, by DAISSy-HOU***

A very successful **Infoday** entitled «Towards Holistic and Inclusive Educational and Instructional Approaches. STEAM Education and the project SpiceE: An opportunity for educators and schools» was organized, on Friday, 6 September 2024 at the **Conference Hall of the Hellenic Open University (HOU)** in Patras (Greece). It was implemented on a hybrid mode, with parallel broadcasting (live-streaming) through YouTube.



Co-organised by the [DAISSy Research Group of the HOU](#) and the **1st Position Educational Advisor for Philologists of Achaia** prefecture, as well as the **3rd and 6th Position Educational Advisors for Primary School Teachers of Achaia**, the infoday was part of the European project «[Special Education STEAM Academy \(SpiceE\)](#)», coordinated by DAISSy-HOU and under the Scientific Supervision of Prof. Achilles Kameas, Dean of School of Science and Technology, HOU. Mainly, it aimed at urging educators to adopt inclusive STEAM teaching and learning approaches and also introducing them to the [training programme for inclusive STEAM education](#) (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics), the [Community of Practice](#), and the [Inclusive STEAM Alliance](#) of SpiceE project.

It is noteworthy that the infoday attracted the interest of **one hundred forty-seven (147)** participants onsite, who were school principals and educators of both Primary and Secondary Education, as well as **ninety-two (92)** additional participants, who attended it online.

Achilles Kameas, Professor of HOU and Director of DAISSy, launched the sessions by welcoming the participants and presenting the activities of the Research Group.



The participants were also welcomed by **Dr Nikolaos Kladis**, Director of Primary Education of Achaia, **Dr Athanasia Balomenou**, Regional Educational Quality Supervisor of Western Greece (who also delivered the greetings of the **Dr Nikolaos Delegkos**, Regional Director of Primary & Secondary Education of Western Greece), and **Dr Evgenia Pierri**, Director of Secondary Education of Achaia.

During the first part of the infoday **Prof. Achilles Kameas** presented the [SpicE: Special Education STEAM Academy](#) project, and then **Dr Marianna Bartzakli** and **Dr Aikaterini Nikolakopoulou**, Educational Advisors for Primary School teachers of Achaia, presented current perspectives about the Inclusive Education and Pedagogy, and the STEAM Education, respectively.

The second part of the infoday was devoted to the SpicE Educational Programme. Specifically, **Ms Georgia Sakellaropoulou**, Educator of Special Education, analyzed the competences framework of educators for Inclusive STEAM education, whereas **Ms Natalia Spyropoulou**, Project Manager and Researcher of DAISSy, PhD Candidate of HOU, presented the educational programme of the SpicE project. Furthermore, **Dr Spyridon Papadakis**, Educational Advisor for Computer Science of Achaia, explained the use of Blended Learning for the design of Inclusive STEAM Learning Scenarios in the context of SpicE project, and **Dr Magda Spella**, Project Manager and Researcher of

DAISSy, informed the audience about the SpicE Community of Practice and the Inclusive STEAM Alliance.

The last speech was delivered by **Dr Zoi Antonopoulou**, Educational Advisor for Philologists of Achaia, about the challenge and the perspective to develop a schools-educators network for the application of STEAM education, leveraging the results of SpicE project under the supervision and support of the three organising Educational Advisors.



A fruitful discussion took place at the end of the infoday, coordinated by **Ms Pinelopi Frantzi**, M.Ed., M.A., Director of the 2nd Primary School of Patras – Stroubeio, which led to conclusions and vivid exchange of views.

➡ SpicE is a three-year project, co-funded by the Erasmus+ programme (Teacher Academies) of the European Union and implemented by a consortium of ten (10) partners from five (5) European countries (Greece, Cyprus, Spain, Bulgaria, Belgium), coordinated by the **DAISSy** Research Group of the HOU. **SpicE is so far the only project**

to combine STEAM Education with Inclusive Education. The modular educational programme is offered **free of charge**, starting with a [Massive Open Online Course- \(MOOC\)](#) entitled «STEAM education for all learners: Incorporating STEAM and Inclusive education practices in everyday teaching». [Registrations to the MOOC are open!](#)

For more information about the **SpiceE** project and other activities of the DAISSy-HOU:

- Websites: <http://daissy.eap.gr/en>, <https://spiceacademy.eu/el/>
- Facebook: @DAISSyResearchGroup, <https://www.facebook.com/SpiceAcademyEU>
- Twitter: @daissy_research, <https://twitter.com/SpiceAcademyEU>
- LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/daissyresearchgroup/> & <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/9353997/>
- Instagram: @daissy_researchgroup
- YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@spiceacademyeu>
- Email: info@daissy.eap.gr



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