

ECHOES PROJECT: TRANSFORMING HEALTHCARE EDUCATION THROUGH A NETWORKING PLATFORM



INTRODUCTION

The ECHOES project addresses critical competence gaps in healthcare education across Europe by fostering networking opportunities for expert mobility and collaboration. A key output is developing a dynamic networking platform to connect healthcare professionals and educators

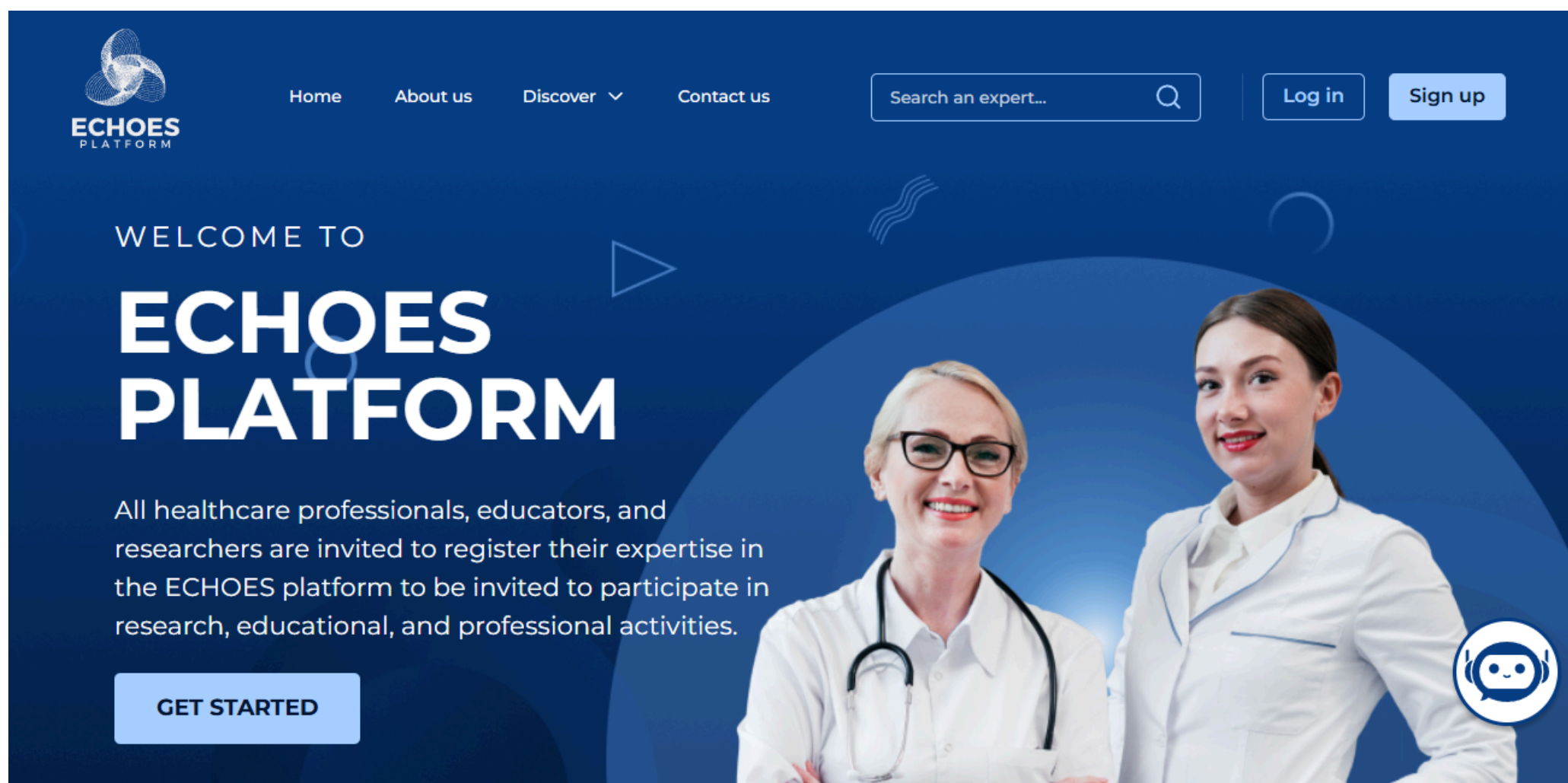
METHOD

A two-phase research approach was undertaken, involving quantitative surveys and qualitative focus groups to identify gaps in digital, green, transversal, and hard skills (WP2). Insights from these studies directly informed the design and functionalities of the ECHOES platform, which features customizable expert profiles, AI-driven matchmaking, and integrated communication tools (WP3). Extensive dissemination efforts and strong partnerships have further supported the project's objectives (WP5).

RESULTS & DISCUSSION

Research findings revealed significant gaps in healthcare education, such as lack of green skills, digital skills, knowledge translation, transversal skills, among others were identified across Europe. These insights have been pivotal in shaping the platform's features.

Early dissemination outcomes are highly encouraging, with social media engagement surpassing targets (741 followers) and the recruitment of 12 Associate Partners. The project website is live, providing up-to-date information and access to project resources.



www.ECHOESplatform.eu



CONCLUSION

The ECHOES project has successfully developed a transformative tool in healthcare education. The platform is already available as a pre-alpha version (it is not finalised, but experts are invited to try it out and provide feedback). The platform will be piloted in mid-2025. It holds strong potential to enhance collaboration, bridge regional skill gaps, and drive sustainable improvements in healthcare education across Europe.

Disclaimer: Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are, however, those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or European Union Programmes Agency (EUPA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

Jose Guilherme Couto, Helen Grech, David Smith, Matteo Vezzosi
Contact: jose.g.couto@um.edu.mt