

XEC CoESE No-Code-Platform

Case Providing Department: Taicang Central Office

Supported by LM

1. Background

The case supports the efficient operationalisation of the Centre of Excellence for Syntegrative Education, building up virtual organisations and supporting cross-campus collaboration, communication, and synergy with industry and society.

The Centre of Excellence serves as an organisational model that supports the implementation of Syntegrative Education. It functions as a virtual team that brings together individuals from different sectors, organisations, and departments to collaborate effectively. It opens for university applications.

The previous practices resulted in excessive redundant work in administration and communication with numerous stakeholders, including the virtual team and the team members' line managers, who are also key stakeholders. As a result, the communication was initiated with the IT Manager at XEC. With his personalised support, the Taicang Central Team explored the No-Code-Platform to achieve the digitalisation

of CoESEs and improve the communication and administration efficiency.

The importance of CoESE could be found through this reference:

<https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/foYaxaztnZB15n3DFgEDhQ>

2. Solutions

Solutions were immediately confirmed through the consultation and support of the IT Manager at XEC. Key functions should include:

- 1) Achieving access to diverse team members, including staff, students, industry partners etc.
- 2) Streamlining the cross-unit communication with so many stakeholders on a CoESE;
- 3) Connecting the intertwined alignment with the XEC Strategy and Key Tasks in OKRs for AY2025-26;
- 4) Exploring the integration of the CoESE application and implementation via ECS.

3. Outcomes and Benefits

The implementation of the No-Code Platform has delivered tangible outcomes and clear benefits for CoESE operations. In its first round for Academic Year 2025 – 26, the system successfully supported 24 applications, ensuring a smooth and efficient submission and review process. More importantly, the platform has transformed communication practices across all CoESE projects—replacing scattered email exchanges and fragmented updates with a centralised, transparent, and structured workflow. This digital integration has significantly reduced administrative workload, improved response times, and enhanced collaboration among participating schools, hubs, and academies. By visualising progress and outcomes in real time, the platform enables data-informed decision-making and greater accountability across all stages of project management. Overall, the case exemplifies an agile and scalable administrative support system, demonstrating how digital innovation can strengthen institutional efficiency and foster a more connected academic community.

4. Replicability and Promotion Value

The case is applicable to other departments and potentially at the university level.

5. Next Steps

We aim to explore the possibility of supporting the implementation of CoESEs for managing budgeting expenditures and stocktaking equipment. More importantly, we also need to track challenges in data analysis and standardisation in the near future.