

THIRD INTERNAL EVALUATION REPORT ON THE ELFE 2 PROJECT – SEPTEMBER 2009

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Since the second Internal Evaluation report, written in May 2009, some activities were organised, in line with the work plan and approved project application. In comparison to the period described in the Second Internal Evaluation Report there were less events from May 2009 to the end of September 2009: 5th and 6th Steering Committee meeting (Copenhagen and Bled) and the final conference in Bled (Slovenia)

The steering committee focused on preparing the final documents which summarise all activities of the ELFE 2 Project, in particular the final reports and policy recommendations.

5th Steering Committee

The project experts: Ela Gajek and Ulf Fredriksson underlined that the findings show that ICT is mainly used to support traditional teaching and that no innovative use of ICT can be reported. ICT is used more frequently in schools and to a lesser extent in the Teacher Education Institutions.

The Steering Committee accepted the structure and content of the policy recommendations report which should include:

- the paragraph mentioning the OECD TALIS 2008 and PISA study with the ELFE 1 recommendations included in an annex;
- the paragraphs with keywords: Innovation, Co-operation, Variation, Dissemination, and Evaluation to be used in the headings.

The agenda for the Final Conference was accepted, i.e. the organisation of the pre-event and the conference, key-speakers, subjects and organisation of the working group sessions and the voting system with electronic devices.

6th Steering Committee

The participants agreed with the policy recommendations. The recommendations will be presented at the Executive Board on 12 October 2009.

The final project report for the European Commission will be a compilation of three elements:

- a description of the concrete project activities
- the final report with its annexes
- the final policy recommendations

The descriptions of the national education systems involved in this project will be included as an annex to the report. The descriptions will consist of a table of the school systems based on EURYDICE reports compiled by the ETUCE, and description (one page per country) covering:

- secondary education
- teacher education
- number of pupils per computer

The participants also discussed the final brochure of the project, which will be written and printed by the ETUCE secretariat. It will summarise the project activities, findings and the policy recommendations. A table of the recommendations showing the two dimensions – target groups and topics could go in this final brochure.

Final Conference in Bled 13th – 15th September 2009 (Slovenia)

The conference was satisfying for the participants; the presenters were well-selected for the purpose. The electronic voting system was appreciated by the participants. The school and trade unions' presentations were a good introduction to the conference and there were many interesting presentations. The working group sessions could have been planned better using creative and active methods.

These conclusions have been confirmed in the assessment of the participants' evaluation forms. The evaluation form concerned the pre-conference event, the seminar content, the environment, the conference documents, the speakers and the results. The most additional comments highlighted:

- practical ideas for the future,
- interesting, inspiring information and references,
- good organisation.

OVERALL PERFORMANCE AND CO-ORDINATION OF THE PARTNERSHIPS

It can be stated after the conclusion of the Second Internal Evaluation Report that although all the people involved in this project have many tasks other than the ELFE 2 project the time schedule has been followed according to the application.

The participants expressed very good interaction between the project co-ordinator and the experts. Also the person responsible for the project in the ETUCE secretariat was very helpful. The participants highlighted that the project was a very positive experience and the possibility to express ideas and exchange them.

All participants agreed that it would be interesting and useful to continue the project.

IDENTIFICATION OF CHALLENGES/RISKS

During the last SCM in Bled we had a discussion on:

- how to stimulate the implementation of the results of the project,
- how to promote the ELFE 2 recommendations,
- how to use the inspiration from the ELFE 2 among participants from European countries.

It was highlighted that there was a change of attitude concerning ICT policy. In many countries we can observe the kind of regression towards ICT. This situation makes it difficult to achieve a qualitative change in teachers' skills in using ICT.

EFFECTIVENESS AND IMPACT

During the discussion at the 6th Steering Committee meeting it was expressed that influence on effectiveness of the project depends on few factors:

- the brochure should be available and straightforward,
- it would be helpful to organise a monitoring or survey, how trade unions use the results of ELFE 2 in their work,
- the survey should also examine how many strategic documents will be prepared inspired by ELFE 2.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The brochure should have a practical aim towards the implementation of the policy recommendations and be a document that can be easily translated into other languages.

The discussion forum should be referred to ELFE-homepage, where people can respond, discuss, and give examples of their work.

The draft of the brochure should be sent by ETUCE to the Steering Committee for comments by the beginning of December 2009 to give time for translation of the corrections and changes, and printing.

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