

EfVET Newsletter - December 2009

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Message from the President (December 2009)



Dear Members

I am delighted to welcome you to this our December 2009 newsletter and to inform you of developments within EfVET.

Firstly some administrative developments and introduction to new members of our Steering Committee.

On behalf of the Executive, Steering Committee and all members of EfVET I would like to offer our thanks wholeheartedly to Louise Rosthoj our Danish National Representative to the Steering committee who has recently resigned from her position at CPH West, Denmark and her role within the Steering committee. Louise has been with us many years and represented her National Board with great commitment and enthusiasm over many years. She has been a valuable contributor to the development of EfVET and taken key roles in moving us forward as an organisation. We cannot thank her enough for her efforts.

She will be replaced by **Vibeke Nørgaard** from January 2010 and has offered to support the transition over coming months. We trust this will not be goodbye – but more a respite from the demands of being a National Representative. I am sure Louise will not be far from our activities in the future and hope she continues to play a role in to the future. We of course welcome Vibeke in to the fold of the Steering Group and hope to continue the valued and close collaboration with the National Board of Denmark.

Equally – I would like to welcome Luis Costa – Director of ANESPO from Portugal who will hopefully join the Steering committee from January 2010 representing Portugal.

On other administrative fronts:

Rasa Zygmantaite – Lithuanian National Representative has now taken over the membership secretary role – managing the members database and invoicing processes. Rasa will be sending membership fee invoices to all members this month for the year 2010.

Raimo Sivonen is, as announced previously, our new Treasurer and once our Bank has finalised the new Powers of Attourney will gradually take up this responsibility from myself.

New offices: EfVET new offices in Brussels are located at:

EfVET
Rue D'Arlon 40
1000 – Brussels

Where members can book meeting accommodation for up to 20 persons – or find available small office space when visiting Brussels. The office has wireless access to the internet and is an ideal bolt hole in Brussels for those attending events and/or project meetings. To book the facilities please contact myself on president@efvet.org for the present until we put something more appropriate in to place.

A personal reflection on Conference 2009, Bilbao

It was my pleasure to meet many of you again at Conference – the theme of which was Creativity and Innovation in VET. This was perhaps our most successful conference and attracted over 180 delegates from over 17 countries. A big thanks to our Basque members for co-ordinating the programme and logistics at a local level. A great job – well done. Thanks also to the conference team for its excellent work in ensuring a smooth and successful outcome. I felt the vibrance and the atmosphere was electric at times – not least because of the energy and enthusiasm of delegates in making it such a great experience. Many thanks to our Past President Hans van Aalst for his excellent summing up and conference conclusions.

EC Symposium on Creativity and Innovation in VET

Immediately after Conference DG EAC held a symposium on the same theme as the Conference in Brussels. EfVET, represented by myself, was invited to join the expert panel on the subject of creativity and Innovation – its impact on learners. This was followed by an invitation to give a keynote speech on Creativity and Innovation in the context of VET reform in Europe. Both contributions were well received and clearly the messages and conference findings from our own event in Bilbao were presented to the Commission and delegates. A very successful outcome from conference.

You will find in this edition of the newsletter several reports on recent discussions within the EC – including one from Geoff Scaplehorn – our representative at the recent EQF/EQARF event. Full detailed activity reports can be found on www.efvet.org.

Finally – some really good news. Many of you will remember that EfVET as a founding member of EUCIS LLL Platform has been working with the Commission to secure Monopoly status as the key representative stakeholder for Education and Training issues and to support a permanent dialogue on policy issues. Monopoly status gives EUCIS LLL and its 24 member networks a budget line within the EU budget to assist in funding a work programme and facilitate its work across the Education and Training arena. We are currently planning the work programme for the coming year. We are delighted with this development which comes after almost 2 years of negotiation and building our credibility and representativeness. To find out more please link to the EUCIS website www.eucis-lll.eu

May my end with my best wishes to you all for a warm and pleasant festive celebration.

Warmest regards to you all



Peter Hodgson
President
president@efvet.org

Message du Président (décembre 2009)

Chers membres,

Je suis fort content de vous accueillir à notre bulletin de décembre 2009 et vous informer des développements au sein d'EfVET.

De nouveaux membres

De la part de l'Exécutif, du Comité de Pilotage et de tous les membres d'EfVET, je voudrais remercier chaleureusement Louise Rosthoj, notre représentant national au Comité de Pilotage, qui vient de prendre sa retraite du CPH West au Danemark et du Comité. Louise représente depuis plusieurs années son conseil national avec tant d'enthousiasme et d'engagement. Elle a contribué énormément au développement d'EfVET dans les rôles clef qu'elle a joués.

Vibeke Norgaard prendra sa place en janvier 2010 et a offert de soutenir la période de transition. Nous espérons que Louise continuera à jouer un rôle quelconque dans l'avenir d'EfVET. Nous accueillirons avec grand plaisir Vibeke au comité de pilotage.

Aussi voudrais-je accueillir Luis Costa – Directeur d'ANESPO de Portugal, qui représentera son pays au comité de pilotage dès le mois de janvier 2010.

Rasa Zygmantaite, notre représentant national de Lituanie qui a pris le rôle de secrétaire d'adhésion gèrera le base de données de membres et distribuera les factures au mois de janvier pour l'année 2010.

Raimo Sivonen notre nouveau trésorier, prendra bientôt ses responsabilités et s'occupera des affaires financières d'EfVET.

De nouveaux bureaux pour l'EfVET

Les nouveaux bureaux d'EfVET se trouvent à Rue d'Arlon 40 1000 Bruxelles.
Nos membres ont la possibilité de réserver une salle de réunion pour 20 personnes, d'utiliser un petit bureau avec accès au WiFi. Pour réserver ces salles, contactez-moi à president@efvet.org

Mes réfections personnelles sur la Conférence 2009 à Bilbao

Pour moi c'était un grand plaisir de vous rencontrer tous à la Conférence, dont le thème était " La Créativité et l'Innovation dans VET" Notre conférence a connu un grand succès et 180 délégués de 17 pays y ont assisté. Je voudrais remercier nos collègues du Pays Basque pour l'organisation impeccable. L'ambiance y était formidable, grace à votre énergie et votre grand enthousiasme. Nos remerciements aussi à Hans van Aalst, notre ancien Président pour son sommaire des conclusions de la conference.

Symposium sur la Créativité et l'Innovation dans VET

Immédiatement après notre conference, j'ai représenté EfVET à un Symposium, organisé par la Commission Européenne sur ce thème. J'étais membre d'un groupe d'experts et aussi j'ai donné une présentation clef sur la créativité et l'innovation dans le contexte de VET. Toutes les deux contributions ont été bien reçues et les opinions des membres d'EfVET ont été bien représentées.

Vous trouverez aussi dans ce bulletin deux rapports par Geoff Scaplehorn, notre représentant - l'un sur le lancement formel par la Commission d'ECVET/EQARF et l'autre sur un événement, organisé par EUCIS sur EQF – tous les deux à Bruxelles.

Vous trouverez tous les rapports sur notre site web www.efvet.org

EUCIS

De bonnes nouvelles maintenant. La Commission Européenne vient d'accorder à EUCIS et ses 24 réseaux membres une position monopolistique et aussi des fonds pour financer un programme de travail. Nous sommes fort contents parce que cette décision vient après deux ans de negotiation. Vous trouverez le site web d'EUCIS – www.eucis-III.eu.

Je voudrais vous souhaiter Joyeux Noël et Bonne Année 2010!

Peter Hodgson
Président
president@efvet.org

19th EfVET Conference in Lisbon 2010

The 19th EfVET conference will take place in Lisbon in 2010 October 20th – 23rd

The conference will be arranged together with our portuguese member ANESPO, Assocao Nacional De Escolas Profissionais. More news about the conference very soon on our website and in the next issue og the Newsletter in March.

Leif Haar

EQF and NQF: Tools for Learning Continuity

Geoff Scaplehorn (UK) represented EfVET at a Public Hearing on the European Qualification Framework and National Qualification Frameworks in Brussels on September 22 2009. At this event, organised by EUCIS, Geoff also gave a presentation on the method used by the England national agency (QCDA) to reference the English Qualification Credit Framework to the European Framework.

Following this Hearing, EUCIS has produced a position paper, entitled "EQF and NQF: Tools for Learning Continuity"

The European Qualification Framework (EQF) works as a translation device between different national qualifications systems (NQF). The core of the EQF are eight reference levels describing what a learner knows, understands and is able to do. Countries are invited to relate their NQFs to the EQF by 2010 and to introduce a reference to EQF levels in certificates and diploma supplements by 2012.

This initiative contributes to the implementation of lifelong learning strategies in Europe. It encourages Member States to rethink their education and training systems in a more global perspective. Indeed the EQF applies to all types of education and training including non-formal and informal learning. It thus implies that the systems be open to lifelong learning.

It is perhaps regrettable that currently the debate remains on a technical instead of being part of a more reflexive process. The way that qualifications are defined means a lot about how our societies value education and training, which are the key element of the European Social model.

There remain the following concerns to be addressed:

- A definition of qualifications based on learning outcomes
- To take into account non-formal and informal learning
- To develop the validation of non-formal and informal learning
- To promote continuity and progression
- To enhance comparability and recognition
- To develop guidance, quality assurance and to change mentalities
- To involve civil society stakeholders
- To define the next steps to be taken after 2012

For further information and a copy of the full text of the EUCIS Paper, contact Geoff Scaplehorn
geoff.scaplehorn@acer.ac.uk

New EUCIS LLL Website

EUCIS LLL has updated and redesigned its Website and now outlines all its activities and published documents. It is well worth frequent visits.

The address is www.eucis-lll.eu

Civil Society Platform to promote Multilingualism

The European Commission has encouraged the establishment of a Civil Society Platform to promote Multilingualism. The Platform must be self-financed, run by its member networks and bring members' opinions to the European Commission. The Commission will propose to the Member States to have a restricted call for proposals within the Lifelong Learning Programme to enable the work of the Platform to be funded in part. The immediate activity of the Platform is to come with proposals by September 2010 in order to influence the decision-making process at EU level over the new generation of funding programmes 2014 -2020.

At the Launch Meeting in Brussels on October 23 2009, the keynote speech was given by European Commissioner Orban. He emphasised the importance of promoting multilingualism for social cohesion and intercultural dialogue. One priority is for migrants to learn the language of the host country, but they should also have the chance to learn and cultivate their native language and culture. The media in particular have the potential to open channels for intercultural dialogue. Multilingualism policy includes all languages, official, regional, minority and migrant languages. Language learning is for all citizens, throughout their lives. The European Commission has the role of facilitator supporting an open method of coordination, which involves all governments.

The Platform has already established four working groups

- **Education** (Language learning, minority languages, lesser used languages, early language learning, motivation and promotion)
- **Linguistic Diversity and Social Inclusion** (minorities, host country language learning, intercultural dialogue)
- **Translation and Terminology** (literary translation, subtitling, culture, terminology)
- **Language Planning** (Language learning structures, assessment processes)

Geoff Scaplehorn (UK), member of the EfVET Executive Committee is representing EfVET on the Platform and will report regularly to EfVET members of the progress of the Platform's work. Soon he will be circulating an initial questionnaire to EfVET members through National Representatives. He would welcome all responses to this questionnaire.

For further information contact Geoff on geoff.scaplehorn@acer.ac.uk

Creativity and Innovation

As the European Year of Creativity and Innovation draws to a close, the European Ambassadors have published a Manifesto which sets out their priorities and recommendations for action. The need for change and a new initiative is urgent. Europe and its Member States must give full attention to creativity and innovation now in order to find a way out of the current stalemate.

The Manifesto

1. Nurture creativity in a **lifelong learning** process where theory and practice go hand in hand
2. Make **schools and universities** places where students and teachers engage in creative thinking and learning by doing
3. Transform **workplaces** into learning sites
4. Promote a strong, independent and diverse **cultural sector** that can sustain intercultural dialogue
5. Promote **scientific research** to understand the world, improve people's lives and stimulate innovation
6. Promote **design** processes, thinking and tools, understanding the needs, emotions and aspirations and abilities of users
7. Support **business innovation** that contributes to prosperity and sustainability

Lines of Action

Action 1: Invest in Knowledge in order to strengthen the competitiveness of Europe.

Action 2: Reinvent Education so that education prepares people for the learning society

Action 3: Reward Initiative so that people who take new initiatives in business, the public sector and civic society are rewarded.

Action 4: Sustain Culture by supporting capacity-building in the cultural sector through national and European programmes and mechanisms.

Action 5: Promote Innovation by increased investment in science, technology and design.

Action 6: Think Globally as Europe should be at the world-wide forefront in terms of science, culture and competitiveness.

Action 7: Green the Economy as Europe must mobilise creativity and innovation to transform itself into a post-carbon society

The full text of the Manifesto and reports on all the activities of the Year can be found at <http://create2009.europa.eu>

AGM in EfVET-DK

On November 18th members of EfVET Denmark met for a thematic discussion and the AGM. The theme was "How do we get internationalization out into each corner of the school?"

- Experiences from Aalborg Business College
- Cooperation with the USA
- Cooperation with Turkey
- Practice abroad for social- and health care students
- The transatlantic cooperation
- World skills in Canada
- Dissemination of Leonardo Innovation project

AGM:

Louise Rosthøj has chaired EfVET-DK since 2001. She has now retired from the labour market, and a new chair was elected.

Vibeke Nørgaard has been working with internationalization during the last 10 years and has huge experience with various EU-funded programmes. Many of you have met her during the last 6 EfVET conferences.

The board:

Mrs. Vibeke Nørgaard, chair
Mrs. Annie Philipsen, vice-chair
Mrs. Rikke Skov-Nielsen
Mr. Torben Lindy Christensen
Mr. Henrik Hjorth

Louise Rosthøj, EfVET-Denmark



Green-e Project for Piloting professional Standards of greenkeeping in Europe

Many of us may think why it is important to have common professional standards for such a small industry as greenkeeping. The fact is that greenkeeping is one of the most international professions. That means that labor movement has been free for years in Europe and even between continents. Greenkeeping work remains the same and only slight difference is growing conditions for cold and warm season turf grasses. Maintenance procedures, machinery and products used on golf courses are manufactured by international companies.

Green-e project is needed and expected among greenkeepers throughout Europe for they made the very first move to standardize profession. Greenkeeping umbrella organization FEGGA (Federation of European Golf Greenkeepers' Association) is representing around 20 national greenkeeping organizations and holds annual conference every year. Four years ago the necessity of professional standards became obvious when new and developing golf countries were struggling with professional qualification. More developed and organized countries couldn't help enough new ones because there were common and agreed standards for greenkeeping profession (greenkeeper, supervisor and manager). FEGGA took responsibility of development work and established EGEU (European Greenkeeping Education Unit) which started to create standards. Standards were approved in 2009 by FEGGA's national associations and all the main umbrella organization in golf in Europe.

Project is created to pilot standards in small scale before taking them into whole Europe. Pilot will indicate a need of changes in standards in different circumstances. Project partners are from four different countries: Scotland, Finland, Czech Republic and Lithuania. Scotland and Finland have already vocational greenkeeping education but Czechs and Lithuanians are about start to implement standards to their vocational educational system and will be assisted by experienced countries. The kick off meeting took place in Scotland in October in 2009 and expectations towards to project are high. It is obvious that project is followed by many greenkeeping national associations in Europe to get information about standards implementation process. Results will be launched in October 2011. Meanwhile more information is available on project webpage (will be opened soon) and on FEGGA's webpage (www.fegga.org). FEGGA will take care of project dissemination and results will be launched in conference 2012.

Reason for the Green-e project is the very heterogeneous, and for a number of countries totally lacking, education systems. The core element in his project is implementation of Pan European Greenkeeping Education Standards (PES) into partner countries education systems. Aim is to test PES in real education systems in four different countries in a smaller scale before introducing the best practices of greenkeeping vocational education through wider dissemination in Europe. It is vital that implementation process is transparent and independent of individual educational body and comparable to ECVET and EQF.

Aims and objectives of this project is development, testing and implementation of Pan European Standards into existing educational systems in partner countries. To develop greenkeeping vocational education based to Standards, pilot development work in practice and collect feedback from it. The outcome on long run is A) Pan European skill structure B) high level of awareness of greenkeeping professions C) environmentally sustainable greenkeeping and greenkeeping education and D) best practices of greenkeeping vocational education E) increased free mobility of labor in Europe.

The characteristics of consortium builds up so that Kainuun ammattiopisto delivers e-learning, Elmwood college brings in the experience in international education, Czechs bring in the knowledge of new, increasing market, Lithuania brings in the viewpoint of an area without any educational system in the field and FEGGA will have a major role in dissemination.

Tangible outcome is the framework and program for education and skills examination. Intangible outcomes include higher level of competence, environmentally sustainable best practices throughout the Europe and framework for mobility of employees. The impacts of the project are twofold; impacts into the golf industry and impacts to the educational bodies. Impacts to the golf industry are i.e. more skilled people, better quality of work and higher environmental awareness and practices. To educational bodies the impacts include transparent framework for educational programs, ability to acknowledge prior education and mobility of students and teachers.

Raimo Sivonen, EfVET Finland

Leonardo Transfer of Innovation project: The Good School – the journey from good to excellent

We have now finished our work and the results will be available very soon on

<http://goodschool.cphwest.dk>

We have made an "appetizer" of app. 20 pages presenting the highlights of our findings:

Do we adapt to actual change in society?

How much can we demand from the teachers?

Why can't we retain students?

How do we create an attractive school for all?

Is our management style suited to the 21st Century?

When you have read these shortened results and find that you want more on the background, you can go to the relevant articles written by the expert group.

We can do it! – Even better

Louise Rosthøj, CPH WEST

EfVET-DK

Virtex4all – Leonardo da Vinci Transfer of Innovation

Preparing students for foreign language use in work placements in the hotel and catering industry. Based on the original and prize-winning VIRTEX project, Virtex4All is going more in detail in order to make it easier for teachers to use the material. The original Virtex project developed language learning CD-Roms in English and German with film sequences, tasks and assignments. Virtex4all will refine and supplement the materials, and above all clarify the levels of the tasks of the six units using the Common European Framework of Reference (CEF). Teachers will have access to a description of how to use Virtex.

The method of Virtex can be applied to any field of education.

The project partners are from the Czech Republic, Estonia, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Spain, Turkey and EfVET as a disseminator.

www.colorez.nl/virtex4all

Meeting in Podébrady (CZ) December 4-5 2009

The partners presented the extra exercises made for units 1-6 - a very sober work. Two experts had been invited to go into depth with issues that had been discussed at the previous meeting in Turkey.

As the materials should refer to the CEF, the participants were activated in a workshop led by Ellie Liemberg – and it was really hard work agreeing on the levels of the students presented on videos. Well, eventually the participants DID agree but they certainly did NOT agree with the results from the EU's experts on CEF.

Intercultural Communication was another issue. Here Barbara Schouten put us in a role play situation and even though we knew what she wanted to prove, we did fall into the trap of "the white man's superiority". It was really an amusing workshop.

Louise Rosthøj EfVET-DK



Transfer of Innovation and Development of Innovation projects in which EfVET or its members are a partner.

At the EfVET Conference in Bilbao, there was a lot of interest in our Train the Trainer pack and some of you tried out one of the activities from the pack – thank you! This marked the start of our pilot during which the pack will be tested as part of teacher training programmes across Europe. If you are interested in finding innovative ways to embed life skills into vocational teaching, we would like to hear from you. For more information, visit the website <http://www.life-keyskills.info/> or contact rosaleen.courtney@nortcoll.ac.uk



Trans-national project partners include Norton Radstock College as co-ordinator, Cebanc- Cdea (ES), CSCS (IT), Marijampoles Vocational Education & Training Centre (LT), IMCS Intercollege Ltd (CY), Pascal Education Ltd, (CY), Marijamoples Chamber of Commerce (LT), KEI IVAC Basque Institute for Qualifications & Vocational Training (ES), Bath Spa University and EfVET.

International Development Officer Validation of non-formal and informal learning

At the last project team meeting in Bath, UK, partners met the Mayor and Mayoress of Bath (pictured below) as part of the intercultural programme. The team worked on the design of a training package and ways of assessing and validating informal and non-formal learning for those involved in international development work in VET institutions. The outcomes of the project will be useful to the VET sector and others involved in international work such as businesses.

The partnership includes members from Finland (Co-ordinator), Romania, France, Greece, Italy, Norton Radstock College (UK) and EfVET.



For more information on project progress go to www.idolearn.net .



Envolve – Nature Based Entrepreneurs and VET Providers Learning and Working Together

Our first meeting was held at the Estonian Life Sciences University and the Emajõe Suursoo Nature Reserve Centre, the perfect setting for discussions on nature based entrepreneurship.

The aim of our project is to increase the quality and attractiveness of VET by strengthening the cooperation between VET and micro enterprises and providing the tools and methodologies for creating meaningful and sustainable local partnerships.

We discussed best practice cooperation models from partner countries and built on the lessons learned from the NEMO project on which the transfer is based. The next step will be to start identifying and talking to nature based entrepreneurs to test the models.

Project partners are: University of Helsinki Ruralia Institute (Lead Partner), The Finnish Nature-based Entrepreneurship Association and Ylä-Savo Municipal Federation of Education from Finland; Eesti Maaulikool Estonian University of Life Sciences; Rogaland School and Business Development Association from Norway; Centro Servizi Cultura Sviluppo Srl, Research Centre for Cultural Development from Italy; Norton Radstock College from the UK; Euracademy Association from Greece and EFVET.



For more information, see the website <http://www.luontoyrittaja.net/envolve/>

TACTALL – The Accessible City – Tourism for All

The course is almost complete; the first pilot will commence in Denmark in early January. The UK have opted for a high-profile first workshop and have the chief executive of a national charity (Tourism for All) to make the keynote address, the Business Case for Change.

All partners are working with national and local organisations and getting good support and interest in the project. One Spanish partner went to an event in Barcelona this week and met an organisation from the UK and found they could talk about the same project – so dissemination is working well!

There was a round table at the EfVET conference in Bilbao last month, see picture below. The partners recently met for a meeting in Budapest and good progress is being made with the project.



Partners are co-ordinator Cdea (ES), Norton Radstock College (UK), Gruppo Adapta (ES), CSCS (IT), Neils Brock College (DK), Euro_Contact Business School (H) and EfVET. Social partners include Pantagruel (IT) and Bath Tourism Plus (UK).

For more information, go to www.tactall.org .

QUAVETS – Quality improvement in Vocational Education and Training.

The partners in this project have been very active over the last few months. 3 meetings have been held in 08/09 and have provided opportunities for sector specialists from Construction, Tourism, Care and Catering to attend and have an input to the work. The key competencies covered by qualifications in each nation have been identified and compared. Questionnaires have been designed by the sector groups and distributed to students, teachers, workplace supervisors and employers. These have been used to gather views on other characteristics of 'skilled workers', including personal and social skills. The results of the survey are being analysed now, in preparation for the next meeting in Norway in January 2009.

The second phase of Quavets will also be considering comparisons between school-based and work-based modes of delivery - seeking to see how each contributes to the development of the 'skilled worker' in the four sectors under consideration.

The partnership includes: Iceland (co-ordinator), Norway, Lithuania, Spain, Portugal and two partners in the UK – ACER and Norton Radstock College.

More information can be found on the project website:

<http://www.idan.is/throunarverkefni/quavets/>



Modular e-course with virtual coach tool support

The project is progressing, with the e-learning objects now completed. The next stage is testing the course with 'Clara' – the 'coachbot' avatar who will assist and guide participants through the course, testing their skills are the start and end of the course.

The team are meeting next month to see the finished course before piloting with the trainees in the health and social care sector.

For more information, go to <http://www.forcom.it/coachbotproject/>

Network Promoting E-learning for Rural Development - e-ruralnet

This transversal project, promoted by the European Academy for Sustainable Rural Development, commenced in January 2009.

In order to improve and expand the documentation of e-learning supply and demand in rural areas, training provider questionnaires have been piloted and are now available online in various languages; all the languages will be available in the new year.

If you are a training provider, please visit the website and complete a questionnaire.

The first national workshop ran in Győr, Hungary in early September and was well received.



The main deliverable of the project will be to create a guidance tool using Games Based Learning (GBL) to familiarise users with the process of selecting and using e-learning products; and make available this tool to the network and any other interested organisation.

There are 13 partners, including EfVET - Euracademy Association –Project Promoter (GR), PRISMA-Centre for Development Studies)GR) –Project Coordinator, University of Helsinki, Ruralia Institute, Seinajoki Unit)FI), Nicolas Copernicus University (PL), University of Rostock (DE), Norton Radstock College (UK) Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Centre for Regional Studies (H), Mediterranean Institute for Sustainable Development (ES), EMMERCE EEIG (SE), Estonian Information Technology Foundation (EE), EduLearn, Software and Multimedia, Lda (PT), IBIMET (IT), Typical Mutations – Web Services LLP (GR).

The project website is available at www.e-ruralnet.eu

Rosaleen Curtney, Norton Radstock College, UK

News from a member in the UK

The Bircham International University distance learning system has been admitted by the European Union as a reference stand point for adult education. BIU learning proposal has been revised and approved by the OAPEE, the National Agency from the Ministry of Education in Spain responsible of the review of any adult education proposal for the Grundtvig program of the European Union. This achievement constitutes a clear indicator of the quality and efficiency of the BIU educational system. Still, this approval of our distance learning proposal does not affect the recognition status of BIU degrees.

More information at:

http://www.bircham.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=224&Itemid=147

The fact that BIU pedagogy has been selected and approved by the European Union means that the EU priority in the recognition and validation of non formal education initiatives is now a reality.

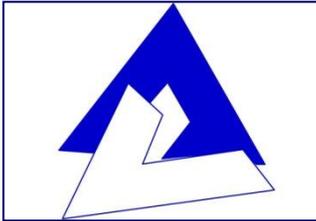
http://ec.europa.eu/education/lifelong-learning-policy/doc52_en.htm

http://www.bircham.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=217&Itemid=138

Do not hesitate to contact me if you have further questions.

-

William Martin, EO & Vicepresident, Bircham International University <http://www.bircham.edu>



New Member in the EfVET Steering Committee

Accelerated Learning systems Hellas, the new member of EFVET, is the exclusive distributor and associate of Accelerated Learning Systems UK for Greece, Turkey, the rest Balkan countries and Poland. The company currently operates in Greece and Poland offering blended learning courses ,e- learning + tutoring, (www.free-phase.com) for languages and providing content solutions to companies regarding adult training issues based on the principles of Accelerated Learning.

ALS Hellas has been actively involved in numerous educational projects and events (conferences, trainings, seminars, exhibitions) on continuous learning and vocational training, either as organizers or as participants. Our target is to offer our contribution to up leveling continuous learning and training.

Sofia Samara has been an educator for almost 25 years now. A graduate of Pedagogy and Psychology of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, she went on with postgraduate studies in School Pedagogy - Methodology in Pedagogic Research and Curriculum development and Evaluation. She's also a holder of the RSA diploma for Overseas Teachers of English.

Her work experience as a teacher varies from teaching young children and adolescents in public and private schools to teaching adults. She's also an experienced trainer for developing learning skills through accelerated learning techniques. She is a content developer for courses as far as learning skills are concerned.

She is the co-founder of Accelerated Learning Systems Hellas and National representative of EFVET for Greece.

Sofia Samara, EfVET-Greece

Impressum:

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