

WORKSHOP MINUTES

NATIONAL WORKSHOP

organized in the framework of the project “NELLIP – Network of European Language Labeled Initiatives and Projects”

11 MARCH 2014

SOFIA, BULGARIA

1. Opening words and explanation of the objectives of the workshop
2. The participants were presented with the ELL initiative since not all of them were familiar with the award in details. Discussions and recommendations were directed towards making the ELL more visible and providing information about the procedure and deadlines well in advance and not only on the NA website. Recommendation for continuing with the update of the NELLIP database on ELL projects was made.
3. The NELLIP project was presented and the participants were introduced to all developed products through the online portal of the project. Some of the good practices were discussed in detail. Discussions were open on different types of language initiatives and possible collaboration opportunities mainly related to ICT. A few participants presented their current language projects and initiated discussions on innovative approaches for language learning and what methods for language learning are currently available on the market. An improvised presentation of an online learning tool for the blind was made.
4. Coffee break
5. Group work on shared definitions of quality in language teaching and learning. The work was based on an adapted version of the worksheets provided by Richard Rossner from EAQUALS. The group work resulted in a discussion on quality issues related to the link “service-client-quality” extracting the main ideas of each group on a flipchart. As a follow-up the participants brainstormed on connecting their findings with the most important aspects of a quality project.
6. Individual work on the topic “Tools for management and quality assurance” followed by discussions and summary of the main factors with reference to existing good practices for language learning promoted by the participants
7. Presentation of the NELLIP Guidelines with reference to the quality issues discussed in the previous sessions. The Guidelines were of a specific interest to the participants and a lot of questions on different sections were asked and addressed.



8. Work on the Improvement Plans. Three working groups were formed – 2 of them undertook the improvement of an existing initiative and the 3rd one developed an idea for a new initiative.
9. Lunch
10. Work on the Improvement Plans continued.
11. Online transnational meeting with participants in the workshop in Sweden. Both sides presented the results of their discussions on quality, innovation and networking. The meeting was quite useful and gave an idea of what is done in Sweden.
12. Online transnational meeting with participants in the workshop in Romania. Both sides presented the development of their workshops. Ideas on language learning initiatives were presented. The meeting was quite useful.
13. Presentation of the results from the work groups on the Improvement Plans. Discussions on the presented ideas and feedback from the other groups.
14. Evaluation of the workshop and the NELLIP online portal.
15. Discussions on collaboration models and common interests in terms of language projects continued informally.
16. Closing of the event and announcing the next national workshop – 11 April 2014.