

# WORKSHOP REPORT

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## NATIONAL WORKSHOP

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

**11 APRIL 2014**

SOFIA, BULGARIA

### 1) Information

The third NELLIP national workshop was organized on **11 April 2014 in Sofia, Bulgaria**. The preparatory work before the workshop included distributing information on the project to relevant organizations active in the field of language learning and making reference to the project website, the developed databases and documents. 10 people signed up for the workshop, 9 of them attended. Invitations and event programmes were distributed online and on print well in advance through email, associated partners, relevant events, etc.

### 2) List of participants

**9 participants from the school education, adult education and VET sectors** attended the workshop.

The participants by sectors included:

- School education – 2
- Adult education – 3
- VET – 4

The list of participants is enclosed.

### 3) Programme of the workshops

The programme of the workshop was focused on:

#### PRESENTATIONS:

- ▶ Presentation of the NELLIP project, performed activities and achieved results
- ▶ Presentation of the European Language Label award – opportunities and benefits
- ▶ Presentation of the NELLIP Guidelines – a guided tour via the project portal

#### DISCUSSIONS:

- ▶ Shared definitions of quality in language teaching and learning
- ▶ Criteria and strategies for improving quality
- ▶ Brainstorming on risk management issues
- ▶ Comparison of examples of good practices

**GROUP WORK:**

- ▶ Group work on a selected language learning initiative and strategies for improving its quality
- ▶ Production of an Improvement Plan for the selected initiative
- ▶ Interactive transnational meeting for exchanging ideas on the issues discussed (live online meetings with workshop participants from Romania)

**EVALUATION:**

- ▶ Evaluation of the workshop
- ▶ Evaluation of the NELLIP portal

The programme is enclosed.

**4) Moderators and the experts involved**

No external experts have been involved.

**5) Materials used**

- PPT presentation on the NELLIP project
- PPT presentation on the ELL initiative and the NELLIP Guidelines for quality in language learning
- Guided tour through the NELLIP portal (through hyperlinks on each project deliverable)
- Worksheets for group discussions
- Improvement Plan template
- Form for evaluation of the workshop
- Form for evaluation of the NELLIP portal
- Attendance certificates
- Registration form
- Workshop invitations
- Workshop programmes
- NELLIP folders (with project logo and website)
- NELLIP pens (with project logo and website)
- NELLIP block-notes (with project logo and website)
- NELLIP posters (for announcing the workshop)
- NELLIP leaflets (with information on the project)

The materials are enclosed.

**6) Conclusions**

The workshop was very successful. It gathered organisations from various fields of activity and grounds for cooperation were established.

The participants found the NELLIP findings extremely useful and highly appreciated the information provided on the ELL initiative. The ELL award is still not that popular in Bulgaria and for some of the participants the information received was completely new.

The discussions and group work on quality issues were extremely interesting and resulted in a brainstorming session on risk management issues and challenges for developing successful language learning initiatives.

The online meeting gave an overview of the workshop in Romania and was a good forum for exchanging ideas on quality, innovation and networking.

The participants highly appreciated the developed Guidelines and evaluated them as useful, practical and applicable for the development of high quality language projects and initiatives.

The conclusions are enclosed.

## **7) Minutes of the workshops**

1. Opening words and explanation of the objectives of the workshop
2. The participants were presented with the ELL initiative.
3. The NELLIP project was presented and the participants were introduced to all developed products through the online portal of the project. Participants presented their current language projects and initiated discussions on the future opportunities for initiating and implementing language projects in Bulgaria in line with the new programme Erasmus+. A discussion on the challenges of the new application form took place. It was agreed to make reference to different aspects of the new programme throughout the workshop and make maximum use of the NELLIP findings in practical terms.
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. A second group work took place on the topic
7. Individual work on the topic “Risk management” followed by discussions and summary of the main factors with reference to existing good practices for language learning promoted by the participants in language project. The brainstorming session resulted in a list of recommendations on important aspects of the risk management (also included as a section on the new application form).
8. 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.
9. Work on the Improvement Plan. All participants worked on the improvement of an unsuccessful language proposal.
10. Lunch
11. Work on the Improvement Plan continued.
12. Online transnational meeting with participants in the workshop in Romania. 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 Romania.
13. Presentation of the results from the work group on the Improvement Plan. Discussions on the presented ideas and feedback.
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.

The minutes are enclosed.

### **8) Evaluation Report**

The evaluation of the workshop took place via 2 different questionnaires providing the participants' feedback on the organization, objectives and results of the workshop as well as on the NELLIP online portal and all project outcomes.

The evaluation of both was very high with an average score of 9,4 pts out of 10 pts.

The participants also provided their feedback and comments on what they considered most effective and useful.

The summary of the evaluations is enclosed.

### **9) Results and Deliverables**

- Summary of brainstorming session on "Risk management in language projects"
- 1 Improvement Plan
- 1 online transnational meeting

A report on the results is enclosed.

### **10) Photos**

Photos enclosed.

### **11) Videos**

N/A