

QUALITY, INNOVATION AND NETWORKING IN LANGUAGE PROJECTS,

14 MARCH 2014

MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP

The workshop was held within the programme of the annual meeting of the Lithuanian association of Language teachers (see the programme at <http://www.lkpa.uki.vu.lt/lietuvos-kalbu-pedagoqu-asociacijos-ataskaitinis-susirinkimas/>, also the LKPA newsletter No2.

NELLIP project was presented to the whole audience which later split to work in the two workshops (DIV.ED and NELLIP)

The NELLIP workshop started with the presentations of the participants (all from the Tertiary education sector) and sharing their expectation. Six out of seven participants have experience in EU-supported language projects, though not in the ELL- awarded initiatives. O.Medvedeva shared her participation in the two ELL awarded projects - Open to Every Citizen (2003) and FEEL (2006) which were initiated the Tertiary sector (Vilnius University and Vytautas Magnus University). Although the projects were implemented by university staff, their objectives were oriented rather to a much broader group of users, the general public. The workshop participants then discussed benefits and drawbacks of originally setting a broader user group as compared to restricting to a more narrow target audience (for example creating a course for a specific group of students).

The opinions differed: although most university and college teachers opted for working in international project teams to create innovative learning materials rather than create something for a less defined group of users, some participants insisted on the need to involve and address a much wider group of users and stakeholders as university activities (incl. projects) are bound to reflect the needs and priorities of the whole society. In the discussion, numerous examples with reference to the European and national priorities at various periods were used.

O. Medvedeva presented the aims and objectives of NELLIP, the ELL national and transnational reports, demonstrated the project databases and the Quality Guidelines.

In the Skype session with the team of Euro-Ed, the previous experience of cooperating in the ELL-awarded Euro Language Network (ELN) was referred to. The ELN project addressed the needs of all the involved countries, it set an excellent example of a long-term beneficial partnership.

The participants of the both workshops listed the areas of their immediate interests and looked for possible cooperation. They shared interest in promoting and supporting language Learning in specific – socially excluded- groups of people. The PSLC team presented their idea of a new project for social workers who work with vulnerable socially-excluded people to reduce harms and integrate them in society.

Then the participants started working on producing a new project idea. They focused on the issues: target groups and objectives, stakeholders, follow up activities.

They produced the Implementaion Draft (attached)