

NATIONAL WORKSHOPS

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

Austria

General Information

- **Organized workshops: 1**
- **Date:**
 - 11 April 2014 , Graz
- **Total number of participants: 16**
- **Educational sectors covered: All**
- **Online transnational meeting with Sweden**

Programme

PARTIAL OBJECTIVE AND ACTIVITIES

Opening and introductions - Creating a good group atmosphere :

- Ice-breaker: describe a language project, however small, that you have been involved in as an organiser or participant, or one you selected from the Nellip database
- Overview of workshop content

Brief presentation: what does 'quality' mean:

- in a general context?
- in an educational context?

Discussion task in small groups: what makes a good quality language project?

Feedback from task

Presentation of key criteria and the checklist, with examples

Presentation of ESIS and SPIN by Doris Bammer & Karin Weitzer

Task: developing a possible new project proposal

LUNCH BREAK

Presentation by participants of project ideas

Selection of one proposal to take further & preparation for Skype link

Exchange of ideas with participants in Sweden

Coffee break

Presentation/discussion: dissemination, exploitation and networking

Flexible time for questions & comments

Evaluation, and closure of the workshop

Conclusions

- ▶ Target number achieved
- ▶ Generally well appreciated by participants, and very interesting for the moderator
- ▶ Adapted to participants' interests more than NELLIP objectives
- ▶ General interest in projects, project planning and project management, more than in ELL
- ▶ Very time-consuming to organize

Development / Improvement plan

- ▶ Concept as indicated in the template does not seem to fit with workshop experience
- ▶ Focusing instead on main ELL criteria:
- ▶ Comprehensive
- ▶ Adding value
- ▶ Motivating
- ▶ Original/creative
- ▶ Transferable
- ▶ European angle

How can these be taken into account at each phase?

- ▶ Deciding objectives/ intended outcomes
- ▶ Planning
- ▶ Organizing project resources
- ▶ Inspiring participants and staff
- ▶ Evaluating progress at milestones
- ▶ Communicating
- ▶ Concluding the project, and following up/on.

How to plan a language project

2. PLANNING THE PROJECT

The plan is your step by step guide to ensuring that the objectives are achieved, so it needs to be prepared with care bearing in mind exactly what you expect to happen at each stage. Involving others, including the learners, in the planning will help to ensure that it is realistic, and that everyone understands the intended steps. 'Milestones' in the project plan will help you to evaluate how things are progressing and make any adjustments that may be necessary.

Comprehensive	Plan the project in such a way as to ensure that language activities and tasks lead language learners to develop their communicative competence in the target language in various complementary ways, for example both their vocabulary in specific areas, and their oral fluency
Adding value	The plan should involve activities and tasks that stretch learners both cognitively, interpersonally and from the point of view of their language competence
Motivating	The plan should build in opportunities for learners to suggest activities, developments and ways of working that they themselves would find interesting or/and fun, and would allow them to use their individual strengths, but would still lead to the agreed outcomes
Original/creative	The plan should include activities that are new for learners, and which they may need some additional training or ingenuity to accomplish, such as theatre, video editing, doing presentations in a foreign language etc. Learners should have the chance to contribute their creative ideas to the planning
Transferable	The plan should be very clear and include milestones, resource requirements and evaluation activities so that the same plan could serve as a model for, or be easily adapted by, others.
European angle	The plan should include activities that focus on the international and intercultural nature of many communications in the world of business, leisure, etc.