EXAMPLES OF BEST PRACTICE IN PROJECTS
THAT WERE AWARDED THE EUROPEAN LANGUAGE LABEL

ITALY

CMC_E: Comunicare in contesti multi linguistici

The "CMC_E: Comunicare in contesti multilinguistici" project aims at enabling university students to improve the quality of their linguistic knowledge, as required in transnational higher education contexts, through the Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) approach and the creation of an internet website. Those tools contribute to the development of academic and professional language skills in six different languages (English, Italian, Polish, Portuguese, Slovak, and Spanish), creating a multilingual network and promoting intercultural communication and linguistic diversity.

The project target groups are university leavers, who are preparing to enter the labour market, and in-service workers, who need to master essential business language skills.

The CMC_E project has been built on different levels. First of all, a survey carried out within enterprises, social enterprises and local institutions located in the countries of the six partners. The main goal was to identify the specific language competences needed. Then, the realization of the website and the upload of 5 Units (Training in the workplace, Administration, Business and Finance, Marketing, Technology and Environment) available for all the users. Each unit encourages the development of those skills which tend to be more difficult to master such as: writing a business plan, participating in a call for tender, communicating by telephone, writing e-mails, using technical lexicon appropriately, participating at exhibitions, describing products.

The main result of the CMC_E project is an internet website, which is widely used by students and workers who can autonomously work on their own developing the micro-linguistic skills required for the business specific context.

There are different reasons why the CMC_E project was included among the Italian Best Practice:

- it supports the mobility for language learning. This responds to one of the current European political priorities.

- it promotes multilingualism. This is very relevant for the promotion of quality and innovation in language teaching, also in response to the related European political priority.

- it promotes the development of teaching material for the learning of less widely spoken languages.

The success and sustainability of the project is confirmed by the fact that the project portal is currently used in 73 different countries. The project has been chosen to represent Italy at the Label of the Label ceremony held in Cyprus on 26-28 September 2012.

Project coordinator
Università della Calabria

Contact details
Dr. Carmen Argondizzo
Via Pietro Bucci
87036 Arcavacata di Rende (CS)
ITALY
Tel: +39 0984492239
Fax: +39 0984493961
Email: c.argondizzo@unical.it

Partnership
Wyzsza Szkola Informatyki
Instituto Politécnico de Castelo Branco
Technická Univerzita v Košiciach
Universidad de Santiago de Compostela
London School of Economics and Political Science

Web site
http://www.cmceproject.it/portale/index.cfm

Project duration
2 years
2010-2012

http://nellip.pixel-online.org/CS_scheda.php?art_id=21

Best Practice in
Vocational Education and Training, Italy

LALERA
LAnguage LEarning by RAdio

LALERA: Language Learning by Radio

In the last years, the number of Romanian home healthcare nurses in Italy has enormously increased, representing an important target group for activities aimed to improve their linguistic skills. A specific target group with a full-time work and few hours to be dedicated to language learning.

The LALERA project aims to produce new teaching material and educative approaches through the use of a traditional mass media, the radio, in order to improve the linguistic skills of the target groups and to conciliate their lack of time.

The main result of the "LALERA" project is the realization of a radio broadcast prototype. Such a medium combines moments of one-directional speech with moments when the listener takes over and "directs" the conversation towards personal needs. In addition, these elements enable learners involved in this training scheme to supplement the information provided during the programme with further didactic material and thus access both oral and written exercise, available on the free press. The addresses' feedback was positive in relation to the innovative approach and the materials produced.

The LALERA project is included among the the Italian Best Practice because it:
- uses the radio as main tool for learning Italian. The developed contents have the aim to provide the target group with specific language skills necessary to carry out their tasks at work. This responds to the European current political priority related to the promotion of language learning for specific purposes.

- the project also uses an additional tool, the free press, containing language exercises. This way, the Romanian home healthcare nurses can take advantages of the moments of pause (displacements, lunch breaks, etc.) to improve their linguistic skills.

- thanks to the transnational partnership, it was possible to create a positive exchange between the "University of Bucharest" and the "Università per Stranieri" of Siena: this exchange allowed the "University of Bucharest" to approach innovative methods in Italian language teaching.

- the transferability of the project, which was originally realized in 2008 and then developed in the "LALERA TOI" initiative: both the projects are still active and widely used.

Project coordinator
Centro Informazione e Educazione allo Sviluppo - CIES

Contact details
Paola Berbeglia
Via Merulana 198
00185 Roma
Italy
Tel: +390677262611   Fax: +39067724628
Email: cies@cies.it

Partnership
Università per Stranieri di Siena
Universitatea din Bucaresti
Lynx
Societatea Romana de Radiodifuziune
Universidad de Sevilla
Regione Lazio
Regione Toscana
PubliMedia Translation
Associazione Smile
Blocco Nazionale Sindacale

Web site
http://toi.lalera.org/

Project duration
2 years
2008-2010

http://nellip.pixel-online.org/DB_database_scheda.php?art_id=356

Best Practice in
Vocational Education and Training, Italy

DEAL: Deaf People in Europe Acquiring Languages through e-learning

Deaf people have to face to multiple barriers approaching a new language. The DEAL project aims to overcome the natural sensorial deficit deaf people have through the use of traditional tools (language of signs) and innovative ones (visual materials) provided through ICT. The DEAL project develops and concretizes various linguistic materials addressed to deaf people in order to definitively overcome the linguistic barriers deaf they have to deal with.

The project implemented an innovative e-learning approach and a didactic model specifically adapted to the needs of deaf people. Tools and resources are based on methodological strategies and didactic techniques that allow bettering using the main channel of the deaf, the visual one, through the support of the information and communication technologies. The project also developed a greater awareness about the natural difficulties deaf people have in learning their national language and a foreign language. The same awareness was acquired about how innovative tools may be useful to overcome those difficulties.

The DEAL project was further developed in the DEAL TOI project, which just received the 2012 European Language Label: an additional confirmation of the quality work carried out by the transnational partnership. The DEAL TOI project has two main objectives. The first is to transfer the educational model that has been tested by the first DEAL project to the United Kingdom, thereby creating a course in written English for business. The second objective is to test the DEAL courses thoroughly, so that they can become permanent elements of education for deaf learners in the partner countries.

The DEAL project was selected as an Italian Best Practice mainly because it:
- is addressed to a specific and interesting target group which would otherwise be excluded from the language learning process (deaf people).
- developed an important partnership with the "National Research Council" which provided the scientific base of the project. The partnership was extended to other national Public Administrations which guaranteed the sustainability and the visibility of the project.

Project coordinator
Istituto Statale per Sordi

Contact details
Dr. Giuseppe Nuccitelli
Via Nomentana 56
00161 Roma
Italy
Tel: +39 - 0644240194
Email: nuccetelli@gmail.com

Partnership
Istituto di Scienze e Tecnologie della Cognizione - CNR
Universitat de Barcelona
University College London – DCAL
Lynx
Istituto Statale d'Istruzione Specializzata per Sordi "A. Magarotto"
Ente Nazionale per la protezione e l'assistenza dei Sordi

Web site
http://toi.deal-leonardo.eu/

Project duration
2 years
2008-2010

http://nellip.pixel-online.org/DB_database_scheda.php?art_id=355

LeTS Go

New technologies have changed training methodologies, introducing elements of innovation that have redrawn the role of language teachers and trainers.

The LeTS Go project provided language teachers and trainers with the skills to use new technologies in language teaching. Teachers and trainers involved in the LeTS Go project acquired the skills to: select quality e-learning based language teaching tools; use innovative teaching material as an integration and/or alternative to classroom based teaching activities; develop new e-learning based language teaching materials.

The LeTS Go project developed the LeTS Portal addressed to language teachers and trainers. Through the LeTS Portal it is possible to access to:
- an online in service training course organized in three modules focusing on selection, use and development of e-learning based language courses.
- an online database of e-learning based sources for the teaching of 18 different languages. Each teaching source is reviewed by a language teacher or trainer according to a peer to peer approach. Over 900 teaching sources are available on the database.
- database of e-learning based language teaching experiences carried out by language teachers and trainers. Over 300 entries are available in the database.
- new e-learning based language teaching mini-courses produced – to be shared – by the language teachers and trainers involved in the project.

The LetS Go project was selected as an Italian Best Practice mainly because it:
- focuses on in service training of language trainers and teachers therefore addressing one of the European Commission's political priorities in the field of language learning . It provides language trainers with online courses for the effective use of new technologies for teaching language and for creating their own e-learning based language courses.
- promotes new approaches to language teaching and learning, that is also another priority of the European Commission as far as language learning is concerned. The LetS Go project indeed focuses on the effective use of ICT and e-learning in language teaching.
- promotes the acquisition by language trainers and teachers of the e-learning skills. This is very relevant for the promotion of quality and innovation in language teaching, also in response to the related European political priority.

- The LeTS Go project has created a valuable network among language teachers throughout Europe. The network, according to a peer to peer approach, shared assessments and evaluations of e-learning based language teaching tools that can be used for the teaching of 18 different languages including those that are less widely taught. Over 900 e-learning language teaching products have been reviewed and uploaded on the LetS portal.
- The LeTS Go network of language teachers and trainers also shared their experiences in using IT and e-learning for language teaching. Over 300 direct experiences in this field are described on the LetS portal. All are related to language teachers who experimented IT and e-learning in language teaching. The shared experiences are also commented by other teachers. This responds, again, to one of the current European political priorities, that is a peer to peer evaluation of language teaching performances.

Project coordinator
Istituto Statale di Istruzione Superiore "Leonardo da Vinci" – Firenze

Contact details
Rossella Grassi
Via del Terzolle 91
50127 Firenze
Italy
Tel: +39 - 0554596255   Fax: +39 - 055412096
Email: itiprogetti@comune.fi.it

Partnership
Pixel, Italy
International Certificate Conference e.V., Germany
Connectis, Italy
SILabo, Italy
C.I.P.A.T., Italy
Associazione Hermes, Italy
University La Sapienza, Italy
COSEFI, Italy
WSINF – The Academy of Information Technology, Poland
EuroEd Foundation, Romania
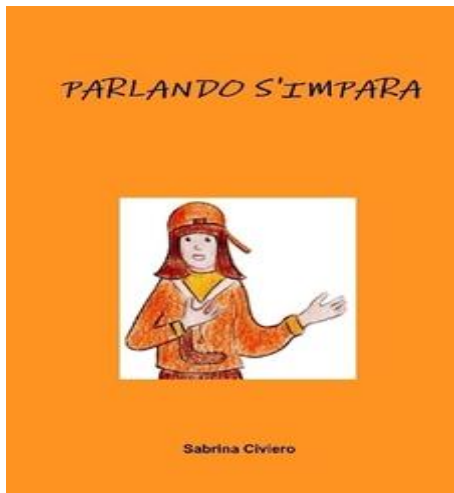FASE.net, Spain

Web site
http://letsgo.pixel-online.org

Project duration
2 years
2009-2011

http://nellip.pixel-online.org/CS_scheda.php?art_id=8

Parlando s'impara

The background of the "Parlando s'impara" project is represented by the specific needs of a target group composed by foreign teenaged patients of the Oncology ward of the "Ospedale Infantile Regina Margherita" of Turin. These young people do not speak Italian and spend months in hospital before returning home. Generally they cannot attend school in Italy because of their ill state of health. The same communicative barriers concern their parents. The "Parlando s'impara" has been written and realized in order to face to those barriers.

The "Parlando s'impara" project aims to give voice to those people who risk not to be heard for months, living a period of physical and psychological isolation. Learning Italian as L2 becomes a mayor objective in order to start a basic communication with the doctors, the nurses, the teachers and the volunteers. The objective of the project is the creation of an e-book which can be a resource for hospital teachers: it aims to offer the basic vocabulary to the young patients, giving them the possibility to communicate in simple situations inside and outside the hospital.

The "Parlando s'impara" approach can be explained according to the specificity of teaching in hospitals: face-to-face lessons and recurrent communicative situations. The project is the result of different steps: the detection of the problem, the production and the translation of the learning brochure, the check about the validity of the learning material, the creation of the first e-book, the upload of the e-book on the school web site where it can downloaded by users.

The "Parlando s'impara" project allowed the foreign teenaged patients to: start a basic communication in Italian language, develop their linguistic skills, speak to doctors and nurses, ask for general information, make questions about and comprehend their health situation, express specific needs, know something more about Turin and Italy.

Thanks to the vocabulary offered by the "Parlando s'impara" project, patients may autonomously move inside and outside the hospital. The main result, however, is in terms of psychological development of their condition.

The "Parlando s'impara" project was chosen as Best Practice for its consistency with the political priorities of the European Commission in the field of language learning. In particular, the project promotes the multilingualism in a complex reality where the lack of linguistic skills carries the risk of a social exclusion and isolation.

Project coordinator
Istituto Tecnico Statale Commerciale e per periti aziendali e corrispondenti in lingue estere "Vera e Libera Arduino" Sezione ospedaliera

Contact details
Sabrina Civiero
Via Figlie dei Militari N.25
10131
Torino
Tel: +39 011 8197133   Fax: +39 011 8197300
Email: segreteria@itcarduino.it

Web site
http://www.itcarduino.it

Project duration
3 years
2010 – on going

http://nellip.pixel-online.org/CS_scheda.php?art_id=23&tla=&sec=6&cou=19&yea=