Language for Work

Developing a European learning network to support practice

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3rd intergovernmental conference on Quality in the Linguistic Integration of Adult Migrants (LIAM): From values to policy and practice | Strasbourg, 3-4 June 2014
Language for Work project

• Four year project (2012-2015) to create a European learning network for professionals – sponsored by ECML

Language Policy Unit, Strasbourg
European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, Strasbourg
The ECML is a Council of Europe institution based in Graz, Austria. In cooperation with the Language Policy Unit of the Council the Centre functions as a catalyst for reform in the teaching and learning of languages.

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**European Centre for Modern Languages and European Commission cooperation on INNOVATIVE METHODOLOGIES AND ASSESSMENT IN LANGUAGE LEARNING**

**CONference**

20-21 / 03 / 2014 Graz, Austria / Autriche

Quality education and language competences for 21st century society: traditions, challenges and visions

All news items

Austria - ÖSZ-Sprachbox: Newsletter of the Austrian Centre for Language Competence (ÖSZ)

Places still available for ECML Workshop “Collaborative Community Approach to Migrant education” (COMMUNITY), Graz, Austria 25-27 June 2014

Participate in the ECML online survey to further develop the website on the Framework of Reference for Pluralistic Approaches to languages and cultures (CARAP/FREPA)
ECML approach to language education

Context  Globalisation, increased mobility of people, rapid innovations in communication technology

ECML approach  Build on diversity, promote inclusive approaches, aim at plurilingual and intercultural competences, focus on needs and perspective of the learner

ECML vision: Language education to help individuals become confident, responsible social agents engaged in lifelong learning
Programme 2012-2015 - Learning through languages

Promoting inclusive, plurilingual and intercultural education

The new programme builds on the Centre's previous work and widens its scope to move beyond the foreign language classroom to include all linguistic abilities and the needs of all groups of learners.

Within this context language(s) represent(s) the principal medium through which learning is achieved, so the programme will address not just the foreign language classroom but the teaching of the language of schooling, of other languages present in the educational environment and the languages used in subject teaching (formal learning). Projects will also focus on informal and non-formal language learning and on the dialogue with stakeholders involved in the education process (mediation). ...read more

As part of its quality assurance procedures, the ECML calls on the assistance of external programme consultants.

The projects

- Plurilingual whole school curricula (PlurCur)
- European portfolio for student teachers of pre-primary education
What is **language for work**?

**Language for Work** includes

- **Pre-employment programmes**: language skills for job-search, applications, interviews + **generic work tasks** (e.g. telephoning, explaining a procedure, dealing with forms)

- **Language for specific occupational areas**, e.g. engineering, social care, leisure & tourism, healthcare

- **Workplace language learning**: learning provided directly in the workplace, linked to work activity – may be the only language support accessible to employees working long hours in low-paid roles
Why a Language for Work network?

• Diversity of approaches in Europe to migration, work organisation, labour market structures, learning
• Growing importance of communication, learning at work
• Language for work = emerging field of practice
• Network to enable learning providers, employers, policy makers, researchers, trade unions etc to benefit from diversity, inform policy and practice, develop more effective local responses
Language for Work project

- International four-person team (Germany, France, Spain, UK)
- ECML supports
  - Four team meetings (one in each year of the project)
  - Two network meetings, each with funding for 16 attendees from ECML member states, plus self-funded attendees
  - One workshop meeting, attended by one delegate per ECML-member state (2015)
  - Development of network website
  - Promotional activity & materials
Language for Work network

- Network meetings (2012 and 2013) attended by
  - Learning providers, university researchers, civil servants, trade unions, educational publishers and others
- Network members in 15 countries
  - Austria, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Russia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom
Welcome to the Language for Work network

Language for Work is a European learning network to support researchers, learning providers, employers, trade unions and policy-makers and other practitioners working in an emerging field: work-related learning of the majority language by migrants and ethnic minorities. The network aims to help members share and develop practice.

What’s on this website

On this website you will find a

- Resource centre
- Links to useful sites and a
- Community section for network members.

Resources are available free to all registered users. Registration is free.

Join the network to access the Community section. Network membership is free.

Network website – under construction
Examples of work by network members

• Transfer and development of ArbetSam Results (TDAR)
  – International project to test application of Swedish approach to workplace language learning in Germany, Belgium, Spain, UK

• Supporting migrants in low-paid, low-skilled employment in London to improve their English
  – Research for Greater London Authority to identify practical ways to support language learning by low-paid migrant workers
Find out more about the LfW project at

To join the LfW network, please visit
http://languageforwork.ecml.at/

Language for Work project team
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