



Pestalozzi Programme

European Modules
FRAMEWORK and APPROACH

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Introduction

The European Module Series are directed at trainers working in the field of education and wishing to improve their knowledge and to develop their skills in the priority fields of the Council of Europe, namely, democracy, human rights and the rule of law. The modules offer a unique experience in a stimulating international environment which gathers trainers coming from across Europe and beyond¹.

The training includes 5 phases at the end of which the participants will be invited to submit a proposal of educational training materials that they will have designed, tested and improved throughout the course. Participants are expected to invest about 120-150 hours to accomplish the training which is spread over 12 to 18 months.

Aims

While European political leaders have recognised the school as a major actor regarding the transmission of democratic values, the respect of human rights and the building of the rule of law, it is however difficult to develop meaningful and appropriate educational materials and resources adapted to the realities of European teachers. More precisely, the European Modules aim to:

- › Raise awareness and provide training for trainers on the priority themes of the Council of Europe (democracy, human rights and the rule of law).
- › Co-develop educational resources for training
- › Create a network of expert trainers
- › Disseminate the training resources

General approach

The work is based on three main pillars:

- Content: standards and principles as well as project results of the Council of Europe.
- Methodology: learner centred, peer-training, collaborative work on issues of common concerns to find fit solutions for diverse contexts.
- Four-fold concept of competences development: developing sensitivity and awareness, knowledge and understanding, individual practice, societal practice.

A flexible five step approach

The training programme is based on a flexible approach that allows participants to pursue their various activities while continuing the programme. The Module Series spreads over nearly 18 months and consists of five steps in which only two (Module A and B) require the participants to travel across Europe. For the other steps of the training, participants are free to carry out their collaborative work according to their priorities and agenda but within the

¹ From the 50 signatory states of the European Cultural Convention and from southern Mediterranean countries.

time limits set by the programme. For that purpose, exchanges between participants are facilitated by a social networking platform.

- 1- Planning and preparation (6 to 8 months): The goal is to establish the priorities of the training, to share documents and training materials and agree on a common project calendar.
- 2- Module A (4 days): This kick-off workshop gathers participants in the same place and is designed to lay down the basis of the collaborative work, to establish priorities and to develop the foundations on which the participant will collaborate.
- 3- Development and piloting (6 months): This phase is conceived to elaborate educational training activities in connection with the theme of the Module Series. Once designed, the activities proposed by the participants will be tested.
- 4- Module B (3 to 4 days): This follow-up workshop gathers participants in the same place where they are encouraged to exchange experiences on the challenges faced during the piloting phase and to find personalised solutions to their common challenges.
- 5- Editing and dissemination (2 to 3 months): Participants have two to three months to finish the drafting of their educational training resources. The materials will then be selected, formatted and made available via the website of the Pestalozzi Programme. The production of selected training materials in the form of interactive CDs will also be considered.

Thematic planning

The themes for the module series together with their specific focus are decided by the Secretariat of the Pestalozzi Programme after consultation with the relevant units in the Education directorate. Since 2006, the following themes have been explored:

- Sex/sexuality education – personal development, prevention of discrimination and violence (2013/2014)
- Respect – responsible attitudes and behaviour in the virtual social space (2013/2014)
- The use of social media for democratic participation (2012/2013)
- Education for the prevention of discrimination (2011/2012)
- Education for the prevention of violence in schools (2011/2012)
- Diversity of world views and world knowledge in the classroom (2010/2011)
- Pestalozzi core knowledge, skills and attitudes for all teachers (2010/2011)
- EDC (education for democratic citizenship) core competences for all teachers (2009/2010)
- Education for the prevention of crimes against humanity (2009/2010)
- Media literacy based on human rights (2009/2009)
- Education for linguistic and cultural diversity (2007/2008)
- History teaching with a focus on multiperspectivity (2007/2008)
- Intercultural education (2006/2007)
- Education for democratic citizenship and human rights (2006/2007)

Facilitators' team

Each module series is supported by a team of facilitators selected by the Secretariat after a « Call for Trainers » and consists of 3 expert trainers selected on the base of their theoretical knowledge, practical experiences and competences in training.

Target group and profile

Participants should come from a pre-service or in-service training context of formal or non-formal education. More precisely, the programme favours the participation of:

- Trainers of trainers
- Trainers of teachers in either pre-service or in-service training contexts of formal and non-formal education
- Other multipliers (authors of textbooks, university professors in the field of education...)

Participants have to demonstrate their experience and their interest in the theme of the Module series. They also need to be competent users of at least one of the two official languages of the Council of Europe: English or French.

Nomination of participants

The Modules are designed for a maximum total of 55 participants:

- One or two participant(s) from each of the 50 signatory states of the European Cultural Convention selected and nominated by the respective national authorities (National Liaison Officer for the Pestalozzi Programme);
- Up to 5 participants from countries outside Europe selected by partner organisations.

Travel and accommodation

For participants coming from the 50 signatory states of the European Cultural Convention travel and accommodation costs are covered by the Council of Europe in cooperation with the authorities of the country hosting one of the modules. For participants coming from other countries the costs are covered by their respective sending organisation.

Certification and recognition of participation

The participants receive two certificates. The first one at the end of Module A is to certify that they are participating in the module series on the chosen theme. The reason for this is that an official certification of their participation can help to justify the amount of time and work they invest in this collaborative work under the umbrella of the Council of Europe.

The second certificate after Module B certifies the completion of the training programme including information on the duration and intensity of the training.

Pestalozzi Network of trainers

Trainers who have completed a training cycle and who are interested in staying actively involved in the work of the Pestalozzi Programme form the Pestalozzi Network of Trainers and are asked to participate in the work of Programme in different ways:

- specific projects to further develop the programme (identification of core elements, evaluation and assessment of soft skills, methodology, etc)
- participation in the plenary meetings of the network of National Liaison Officers of the Pestalozzi Programme
- facilitating training activities (modules, seminars, workshops, targeted cooperation activities with particular countries or regions, etc)
- participation in think tank activities providing feedback on project results
- etc

How to participate

Candidates interested in participating in a module series are invited to contact their National Liaison Officer (NLO)².

² A list of NLOs can be found on www.coe.int/pestalozzi