

ACODDEN

A CLASSROOM OF DIFFERENCE – DIVERSITY EDUCATION NETWORK

Reference Number: 90282-CP-1-2001-1-BE-COMENIUS-C3

Duration: 3 years

Coordinator : CEJI (Centre Européen Juif d'Information) - Avenue Brugmann, 319- B-1180 BRUSSELS

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Network website: under construction

Thematic area: **Intercultural Education**

Main objectives:

The aim of this network is to exchange best practices in the field of intercultural education. The network is built around a comprehensive approach integrating two strands of networking activities:

- **The European A CLASSROOM OF DIFFERENCE™ Network**
- **The European Diversity Education Network (EDEN)**

The purpose of the **European A CLASSROOM OF DIFFERENCE™ Network** is to consolidate and deepen the efficacy of existing anti-prejudice programmatic initiatives using the A CLASSROOM OF DIFFERENCE™ Programme. The structure of the network is designed to reinforce the link between organisational partners while at the same time sharing expertise that will increase their autonomy and success in the programme's implementation at the local level.

The purpose of the **European Diversity Education Network (EDEN)** is to bring together experts in different pedagogical approaches that contribute towards intercultural understanding and successful participation in increasingly diverse societies. Many partners and participant organisations represent other national or international networks that are dedicated to intercultural education. Some of the thematic approaches considered are: intercultural communication, anti-prejudice education, mediation and conflict intervention educational programmes, migration, Shoah education, multilingual education, the arts in schools, etc.

Target groups:

- National Coordinators of the A CLASSROOM OF DIFFERENCE™ Network
- Trainers of the A CLASSROOM OF DIFFERENCE™ Network
- Teachers/Schools trained in the A CLASSROOM OF DIFFERENCE™ programme
- Organisational Heads of Educational and Research Networks
- Teacher Training Institutes
- Educational Resource Experts/Distributors
- Educational Programmes with Specific Pedagogical Approaches
- Third Party Intervenors (Consultants, Trainers, Mediators, etc.)

Main activities:

European A CLASSROOM OF DIFFERENCE™ Network

- Coordination Meetings

- European Trainers' Meetings
- European Roundtables for Teachers trained in the programme

European Diversity Education Network (EDEN)

- Coordination Meetings
- Thematic meetings
- Annual International Conference

Main Outcomes:

- Web Site: discussion forums, material posting, e-learning mechanisms
- E-group of the partners
- Distribution of coordination and trainers' guidelines of the A CLASSROOM OF DIFFERENCE™ Network
- Production of material for the trainers of the A CLASSROOM OF DIFFERENCE™ Network
- Annual newsletter of the A CLASSROOM OF DIFFERENCE™ Network
- Cross-fertilization of different educational approaches and preparing the ground to innovative projects
- Annual International Conference of the network

Main events:

- European Coordination Meeting of the A CLASSROOM OF DIFFERENCE™ Network - Brussels (Belgium), November 17, 2001
- European Trainers Meeting of the A CLASSROOM OF DIFFERENCE™ Network - Verbania (Italy), January 10-13, 2002
- First Coordination Meeting of the European Diversity Education Network (EDEN) - Brussels (Belgium), February 8-9, 2002
- European Roundtable for Teachers of the A CLASSROOM OF DIFFERENCE™ Network - Brussels (Belgium), April 26-27, 2002
- First International Conference of the European Diversity Education Network (EDEN) - Malaga (Spain), May 30-31, 2002
- Coordination Meeting of the European Diversity Education Network (EDEN) - Malaga (Spain), June 1, 2002

Expected impact:

- Creation of a virtual platform in the field of intercultural education, useful for the school community and the non-governmental sector
- Consolidation of national experiences through European networking
- Improvement of training skills
- Creation of a European schools/teachers network of the A CLASSROOM OF DIFFERENCE™ programme
- Research and development, especially in three thematic areas: interpersonal relations between adults; diversity education programmes for students; and intercultural documentation centres
- New projects in the field of intercultural education for the initial and further training of teachers, initiated through the cross-fertilization of different educational approaches

Partnership:

The ACODDEN project is built on a partnership of 26 partner organisations in 8 countries: Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal and Spain.

Note: A CLASSROOM OF DIFFERENCE™ is a registered training programme created by an American organisation, the Anti-Defamation League A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE® Institute, and which is represented in Europe by CEJI, in partnership with national organisations.

Comp@ct (Comenius Multimedia Projects and Communication Technologies)

- **reference number:** 90773CP-1-2001-1-FI-COMENIUS-C3
- **duration:** 3 years
- **coordinator:** Institute for Educational Research- JYVÄSKYLÄ (FI)

Mr Pentti Pirhonen, pp@jamsa.fi; co-coordinator **Mrs Sonja Kurki**, sonja.kurki@peda.net;

- **address:** Peda.net/, Psykocenter, Agora, PO BOX. 35, FIN-40351 Jyväskylä
- **Network Website:** <http://global.peda.net/compact>

Thematic area: Educational use of ICT

Main objectives:

COMP@CT can be defined as a metanetwork, offering ICT tools and expertise, which bring effective support to distributed and distant collaboration.

COMP@CT's principal purpose is to assist Comenius schools to develop the use of ICT in their project work. The main roles of the network will be: a) Providing access to advice, support and training for teachers at all levels and educational institutions involved in Comenius projects. b) Creating a virtual base for teachers to share experiences and ideas, and to raise their awareness on ICT and promote innovation.

Target groups:

Comp@ct Thematic Network is oriented to support Comenius schools and teacher training institutions.

Main activities and types of activities:

Main activity is to create 3 – 4 SIGs (special interest groups of ICT; e.g. collaborative space, videoconferencing). These SIGs will provide web based information and material and also guidance (also some on-line help) on particular areas of ICT to Comenius teachers. In partner countries one important activity is to arrange in-service teacher training in using ICT and provide Comenius schools ICT tools. The dissemination of good experiences and practises will be one content of annual conferences. Different areas and activities of Comp@ct will be evaluated and research information on using collaborative learning (methods/tools/environments) will be disseminated.

Main outcomes:

Comp@ct's Web Portal provides information, material, links, and tools on the different thematic areas of the SIGs to Comenius schools. Teacher training together with SIG seminars and annual conferences are also the expected outcomes.

Main events:

In the first year there is mainly preparatory work of SIGs and their content to be integrated in Web Portal, SIG-seminars and workshops for in-service teachers; the last mentioned are arranged every year nationally by partner institutes. Annual SIG-seminars and/or conferences will be arranged together with other thematic networks or projects. Comp@ct events are informed on website.

Expected impact:

Comp@ct will strengthen Comenius schools' and teachers' knowledge and skills of using ICT in their project work by giving information, training, guidance and some tools to collaborate with. It is also expected that by this project more female teachers and disabled/disadvantaged people would be involved in using ICT.

Partnership:

- 13 institutions: universities/educational institutes, public organizations, ICT projects or centres
- involved countries: Finland, UK, Slovakia, Austria, Spain, Lithuania, France, Netherlands, Norway

More than 500 schools involved in Comenius projects and other educational institutions are members of the network and therefore will participate to the activities.

ECOLE - European Collaborative Learning Network

Reference number: 89693-CP-1-2001-1-NL-COMENIUS-C3

Duration: 3 years

Coordinator: University of AMSTERDAM- (NL) - Faculty of Social and behavioural Sciences

drs. Henk Sligte, email: henks@educ.uva.nl

Network website: <http://www.ecole.nl>

Thematic area. The thematic area addressed by the ECOLE network is the *Educational use of ICT* with the focus on how technology implementation can contribute to spread the practice of *Collaborative Learning* at school.

Main objectives: The ECOLE Network is a networked web-based organisation in which support for ICT-based collaborative learning projects and other innovative applications is offered. ECOLE aims at innovating didactic practice at school by using Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for Collaborative Learning projects. The overall objective of ECOLE is to make available to COMENIUS schools and institutions content for collaborative learning projects, in combination with making available content for teacher education, and the creation of a learning community of teachers and pupils within compulsory education.

Target groups: Teachers from primary and secondary education who are involved in COMENIUS projects compose the target group that will *directly* benefit from ECOLE activities. As most of the networked activity will point at offering online services, the activity of ECOLE network will be also helpful in spreading the best of COMENIUS culture in the schools that are still not directly participating in COMENIUS projects. Students and pupils form also a target group that will *indirectly* benefit from ECOLE activities, as they will be involved in the collaborative projects. Other educational institutions with interest in the area can benefit from the activities of the network: universities, public authorities, teacher training institutes as well as National Socrates Agencies.

Main activities and types of activities: ECOLE is a network of pedagogical institutions and schools offering teachers pedagogical advisory services, technological tools, resources to plan, run and evaluate collaborative projects according to their didactical needs. The main activities of ECOLE will include: a) the establishment of the network itself (se regarding human and technological resources); b) the involvement of schools to be monitored; c) the development of a website and web services; d) the

development of pedagogical materials; e) an advisory service on ICT tools for education; f) the implementation of virtual training activities. The content of the ECOLE activity itself will be built in accordance to the best practices run under the COMENIUS umbrella.

Main outcomes: Over the years the main envisaged outcomes of the network are: a) a survey of COMENIUS best practice available on the web; b) a platform for discussing about projects and partners finding. Websites, webring, and database of projects (in collaboration with European Schoolnet, European Schools Project and national agencies) will be linked to the central website; c) Educational materials derived from the projects; d) a virtual advisory service about available Computer Supported Collaborative Learning tools; e) Information will be given to teachers on how to design and plan collaborative COMENIUS1 projects; f) a taxonomy of ICT-based collaborative learning projects, to be reflected in web-based resources; g) E-learning courses: teacher training materials and E-learning courses (for teachers and teacher trainers) are created on the basis of building blocks and conditions for successful European Collaborative Learning projects.

Main events: Annual conferences are organised for teachers, other educational actors, national agencies, and policy makers. These *working* conferences provide ample opportunity to explore ICT-tools for E-learning, and to design, plan and evaluate both content materials and computer-supported collaborative projects. In addition specific teacher training workshops are offered. Starting in the second year of activity the ECOLE will also offer E-learning courses: teacher training materials and E-learning courses (for teachers and teacher trainers) are created on the basis of building blocks and conditions for successful European Collaborative Learning projects.

Expected impact: The activity of ECOLE will have impact on teachers target groups under several layers: a) Teachers participating in projects will benefit from the collection of COMENIUS best practices and this will improve their skills in *planning, running* and *evaluating* such projects; b) Teachers will benefit from the proposal of tools for collaborative teaching and learning. They will also be able to analyse the relationship between tools and the specific didactic content in terms of learning effectiveness; c) Teachers will benefit from participating to virtual sessions of teacher training by having the possibility of following more courses than they could do by participating in presence; d) Teachers will have online resources available to be sustained for all the duration of planned projects; e) Teachers will have the possibility to have direct contacts with colleagues and experts during the conferences taking advantages from a supervision of collaborative projects since their very beginning. The ECOLE will also impact on children, as some tools for direct collaboration between students will be available for schools.

Partnership: The ten participating institutions from ten different countries represent a wide and complementary expertise and experience in the field of applied ICT-usage in compulsory education and in educational network organisations. The partnership includes universities, research institutes, pedagogical centres, local and national public authorities, and a large primary and secondary school. Countries involved are: the Netherlands, Italy, Slovenia, Portugal, Spain, Czech Republic, Estonia, Denmark, Sweden and Norway.

1250 schools all over Europe are already in contact with ECOLE partners.

I – PROBE NET : International PROject Based Education Network on Evaluation

reference number: 89790-CP-1-2001-1-BE-COMENIUS-C3

duration: 3 years

coordinator: Landcommandery Alden Biesen (B)
Guy Tilkin guy.tilkin@alden-biesen.be

Network Web site: <http://www.I-probenet.net>

Thematic area: **Evaluation of quality in school education**

Main objectives:

The I - Probe Net network aims to create a common European approach to self-evaluation of projects and use this experience and culture as a vehicle to establish a culture of self-evaluation in other domains at school.

For most countries and schools this culture of self evaluation is new. Introducing it requires the right knowledge, the right material and the right strategies. On the other hand, a lot of experience is available in some countries, in some schools and for some domains. Bringing all this together, share experience and generate useful material, further European cooperation and create European partnerships in this field are also important aims of the network. The main objectives are:

1. To improve the quality of European school projects through self evaluation.
2. To promote a European culture of self-evaluation at school.
3. To improve the quality of evaluation material in this field.
4. To help schools and educational institutions share experience in this field.
5. To establish a common European approach to project evaluation.

Target groups:

Teachers and project coordinators, initial and in-service teacher trainers, Comenius 2 project co-ordinators and course providers, the inspectorate, school management, National Socrates Agencies and universities

Activities:

1. Collecting, assessing and disseminating material in the field of self evaluation at school.
2. Setting up a website with a database, a virtual discussion forum, an on line magazine, news groups....

3. Setting up teacher training sessions and awareness raising days at national level.
4. Training the trainers at national and international level.
5. Organising major conferences on this theme.
6. Creating and disseminating promotion material (information leaflets etc.)
7. Using ICT to promote effective communication among partners and the sharing of experiences and expertise.
8. Testing and improving evaluation tools in schools and teacher training institutions.

Main outcomes:

1. A multilingual Web site with information (open to the public), a virtual workspace for participants, moderated by the partners.
2. Material for promotion, sensitising...and realising quality evaluation procedures.
3. Trained trainers at national and international level.
4. A pool of speakers and experts on evaluation, international project-based learning.
5. International conferences, in-service days, seminars, colloquia.
6. Improved material for self evaluation at school.
7. Improved implementation of project evaluation within individual school environments and systems of education.

Main events for year 1:

- Creating a website with a database, a virtual discussion forum, an on line magazine, news groups....
- Organising an international conference on self evaluation of project work and project based learning at school: in SIBIU, Romania 25 - 29 September 2002.
- Creating and disseminating promotion material (information leaflets etc.)

Partnership:

There are **16 partners** in the project: some ministries of education: inspectorate, curriculum development units; Comenius promoters, a teacher association, a university, some regional and local education authorities, a training centre for school management and 6 schools.

Nine countries are involved: B, FR, NL, UK, RO, SI, LT, IE, AT.

Members: Primary and secondary schools will be key actors in this network. They will be the testing field and the forum for discussion and sharing of experience. In a first phase Comenius 1 schools in the partner countries are invited, in a second phase other schools can join the network.

NEOTHEMI (The new Network Of Thematic Museums and Institutes)

REFERENCE NUMBER:90377-CP-1-2001-1-IT-COMENIUS-C3

DURATION: 3 years

COORDINATOR: University of Molise (IT)

Prof. Claudia Saccone, Via Giulio de Petra 16, 00162, Roma,

e-mail: api@mclink.it

NETWORK WEBSITE: Under construction

THEMATIC AREA: Cultural Heritage

MAIN OBJECTIVES: The main objectives of the network are: the creation at a European level of a common platform for cultural heritage and the availability of a virtual museum which will allow visitors to choose their own flexible geometry of paths through the exhibition space. It will be accessible all over the world via the Internet and will encourage young people to closely examine, protect and value their own and other people's culture.

TARGET GROUP: The network will benefit the following target groups: students and teachers in schools, libraries, cultural centres, museums, universities, research and training centres and, more in general, the virtual community of Internet users.

MAIN OUTCOMES: The main outcome of the network is the development of a new concept of museum seen as both a physically flexible place and a virtual space. The visitor will enter a common space where he can find, at his disposal, general information about the project, its philosophy and the possibility of exchanging ideas with the network. The contributions of the ten participating countries will be organized within wide thematic areas, all related to cultural heritage, and called thematic pavilions.

Are you interested in 'e-walking' through our national identities, our common memory, our citizenship? You'll find traces of our past and present cultures, which will reveal individual national identities within a common European framework.

A special section, within each pavillion, is the virtual library where all Socrates projects, already finished or underway, can be easily disseminated to a wider audience.

MAIN ACTIVITIES: The main activities will be centred around the creation of the virtual museum and the organization of the thematic pavillions. Students and teachers will work together to choose which 'cultural icons' to display in our rooms and will research and organize didactic modules to be used by colleagues all around Europe. A

constant monitoring and evaluation process is among our main tasks together with a clear dissemination of all steps in our development.

MAIN EVENTS: The main events in the real world will be organized around the seminars of the network, where all major decisions and negotiations will take place, and mainly in the annual conferences.

The first year conference in June 2002, in Budapest, is open to everyone who wants to start working on a project based on cultural heritage and the use of ICT. Participants will be encouraged to exchange ideas and reach common goals through Neothemi.

A programme of the conference will soon be published.

In 2003 and 2004 two more annual conferences are planned in Helsinki and Campobasso, site of the coordinating university.

EXPECTED IMPACT: The predicted impact will be felt on students, teachers and on the members of the wider Internet community. Neothemi will arouse a deeper sensibility to people's own cultural heritage and that of others, the development of new analytical abilities and ICT knowledge, an increasingly professional approach to culture and especially new motivations for studying, working and, more in general, researching.

PARTNERSHIP: The partnership is made of 13 institutions of a range of types: research-based universities, colleges, schools, museums and teacher training centres. Ten are the countries involved: Italy, Ireland, UK, Finland, Denmark, Norway, France, Germany, Hungary and Portugal, and there are also a large number of associated members which have already worked with us and are keen to be involved in this cultural heritage project.

The Treasure Within

- **Reference number** : 90721 - CP - 1 - 2001 - 1 - BE - COMENIUS - C3PP
- **Duration**: 3 years
- **Co-ordinator**: Non-profit association for staff development in catholic education- BRUSSELS (B)
Rudi Schollaert VSKO Guimardstraat 1 B-1040 Belgium
rudi.schollaert@vsko.be
tel. +32 2 507 07 82
- **Network Website**: www.treasurewithin.com

Thematic area: **Evaluation of Quality in school education**

Main objectives: The overall aim of the network is - on a transnational European scale - to make a significant contribution to the empowerment and professional growth of the teaching profession and to the development of the internal expertise within schools. Indeed, as the learning of teachers is strongly affected by the institutional context in which they function, the network also aims to contribute to the full deployment of schools as learning organisations par excellence, thus disclosing 'the treasure within'. The operational objectives of the network are for partners to acquire skills and strategies in various areas of quality management.

Target Groups: All those who take a professional or personal interest in primary and secondary education: teachers, middle-management, school heads, governors, parents, in-service trainers, advisors, inspectors, government officials...

Activities of the network will include an annual international conference as well as the publication of an annual state of the art publication.

The early days of the network will be devoted to taking stock, making a comparative analysis and finding a common denominator for the areas of quality looked into. This will eventually lead to the design of a common European framework on the one hand, but also to the transfer and piloting of successful materials, models and approaches in other countries.

Main outcomes: Apart from the annual conference and publication, the main outcomes will be the creation of an international platform for communication on the content area, a

common European framework in the field of quality in education, and the transfer and dissemination of good practice. Expected spin-offs are Comenius 1 and 2 projects, the latter of which are also expected to result in Comenius 2 courses and national or local seminars.

Main events: There are two main events in 2001-2002. The first one was a transnational partner meeting that took place in Vienna (AU) from November 28 to December 2 2001. The second one is the first international conference, which will be taking place in Prague (CZ) on April 26 and 27. It will be organised back to back with the second partner meeting.

For **expected impact**, see above the point concerning outcomes.

Partnership: The network includes 24 partners from 10 different European countries: AU, BE, ES, IT, NL, SW, UK, CZ, PL and SL. About half of the partners are secondary or primary schools, the others are educational support organisations, s.a. in-service training institutions, advisory services, inspectorates, university departments of education or educational umbrella organisations. Apart from the partner institutions, the network also counts scores of associated member institutions.

BARFIE (BOOKS AND READING FOR INTERCULTURAL EDUCATION)

Reference: 90769-CP-1-2001-1-AT-Comenius-C3

Duration: 3 years

Co-ordinator: House of Children's Literature - Kinderliteraturhaus, AT,
Mayerhofgasse 6, A-1040 WIEN

Lilia Ratcheva-Stratieva, lilia.ratcheva@netway.at

Network Web-site: Under construction

Thematic area: Intercultural education

Main objectives:

- to promote intercultural education through children's books and media;
- to provide a creative platform for the exchange of information, discussions, dissemination and the implementation of best practice in the innovative use of literature in intercultural education;
- to connect the completed and the ongoing Comenius and some non-Comenius projects based on books for children and young people (as well as inspire new such projects) and disseminate their results in order to allow the greatest possible number of schoolchildren, teachers, librarians, researchers and educators to use them;
- to help disabled, minority and bilingual children, and children who are victims of violence, racism and xenophobia interact better with their various social environments;
- to contribute to art education and stimulate creativity through books combining successfully the verbal and visual medium;
- to increase awareness of the cultural heritage in Europe through the multimediality of the book;
- to aid language-learning and promote better educational use of ICT.

Target groups: The network is targeted at teachers, student teachers, educators, librarians, parents, researchers, school authorities and thus ultimately at schoolchildren and young people.

Main activities and types of activities: By linking completed and on-going educational (mainly Comenius) projects based on literature, BARFIE will pool the resources of professionals and institutions working with children's books. Specifically, BARFIE will prepare a collection, an annotated catalogue and a travelling exhibition of contemporary European books focusing on disadvantaged children, test their applicability in and beyond the classroom, and thus develop teaching methods and modules for schools and libraries. BARFIE will also prepare strategies for disseminating the existing projects'

results and recommend best-practice examples. Through a website, BARFIE will publicize its results and link with other networks.

Main outcomes : Web-site

- Catalogue of projects
- Catalogue of books
- Information folder about the network
- Electronic Newsletter
- Teaching package

Main events : Meeting of BARFIE national co-ordinators: January, June, October 2002.

A Conference and a Workshop on the use of books in working with disabled children will be held in October 2002 in Denmark.

Further conferences and seminars will be organised during the second and third year.

Expected impacts:

Teachers, librarians educators and students will improve their subject and teaching skills through:

- exchanging pedagogical material, comparing approaches and gaining access to genuine material used by partners;
- implementing active learning methods;
- doing action research and providing the network with feedback.

The intercultural awareness of schoolchildren and young people will be raised

Partnership:

The BARFIE partnership unites 13 institutions from 11 European countries (Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Portugal, UK, Bulgaria, Poland, Slovak Republic and Czech Republic) working in the field of children's books and media teacher-training colleges, universities, houses for children's literature, libraries, schools etc.

The institutional and geographical diversity has been deliberately sought; it combines expertise in children's literature and intercultural education from different European countries and aims to subsume different perspectives and enable BARFIE to use the bilateral and multilateral regional partnerships of each participating institution so that its outputs may benefit a wider audience beyond the network itself.

SAB – MTW / School and Business – Making Transition Work

Reference number: 89730-CP-1-2001-AT-COMENIUS-C3

Duration: 3 years

Co-ordinator's name and e-mail address: Styrian Economic Society
Dr. Peter Härtel, ph@stvg.com

Network website: <http://comenius.stvg.at>

Thematic area:

School and the world of work (intersections and bridges between school, training and the vocational and professional world)

Main objectives:

- Creating more effective transition channels between initial training on the one hand and further training and vocational paths on the other hand
- Appraisal, dissemination, transfer of results derived from COMENIUS projects, other European measures and other activities in the area of “School and the world of work”
- Securing, arranging, maximising and making use of the results in the general European context
- Developing transferable guidelines for action for the professional integration of young people
- Comprehensive exchange of experience and networking between stakeholders, experts and institutions.

Target Groups:

- The target group basically includes all the young people and stakeholders at the intersections between school and the world of work
- Direct target groups of the network are i.a. those who work professionally and responsibly with young people at these intersections– teachers, entrepreneurs, social partners, policy makers, etc.

Main activities and types of activities:

- Full inventory of all past and on-going COMENIUS projects and of further European and other activities/projects in the area of school and the world of work.

- Comparison, analysis, assessment and setting up of examples of best practice
- Development/dissemination of documentation, materials, concepts for concrete implementation in teaching.
- Thematic conferences, relevant workshops and meetings
- Promoting reference projects for translation into other European training and vocational systems
- Setting up and on-going maintenance of a growing and comprehensive Internet-data base.
- Concurrent internal and external assessment, assistance to self-assessment and ex-post evaluation
- Acquisition of further network members and promotion of a structured exchange of experience

Main outcomes:

- Each phase will include collecting and recording around 50 projects in the thematic area of “School and the world of work”
- The conditions for transfer into other training systems have been defined and are available in several languages
- Internet applications for the exchange of experiences (at European level) between users, as well as basic offers from the network, including a project data base, have been set up (around 30 new users in each phase).
- Concurrent external and internal assessment are in place, self-assessment processes are being implemented.

Main events (particularly in the first project phase):

The activity of the network is complemented by annual meetings of the transnational steering team, annual thematic conferences and 2 thematic workshops. The first thematic conference, on the topic “The Changing European World of Work – How does school prepare to it ?”, will take place late in September 2002 in Poland.

Expected impact:

A number of Comenius projects - and other European activities - have dealt with the topic “School and the world of work“ in the past. The outcomes and experiences deriving from these projects and activities will be collected, recorded and made available to a broader public for the first time. This and the further network activities will lead to the following project outcomes :

- for young people: better vocational integration as a pre-condition for successful and lifelong learning. This could lead to a decrease in unemployment among young people.
- for teachers, advisers i.a: access to concrete information, tools, materials, supports, project guides, for appropriate use in schools, institutions, businesses;
- for entrepreneurs and trainers in businesses: businesses eventually hire young people who hold the orientations and qualifications required by the business itself;
- for all the network members: a European-wide (including the accession countries) communication network of experts, decision-makers and stakeholders, supported by a data base.

Partnership:

Number of partner institutions and countries (including the co-ordinator): 7

Types of institutions: *Austria* (AT, co-ordinator): association of public interest ; *Germany* (DE): research institution; *Spain* (ES): secondary school; *France* (FR): secondary school; *Finland* (FI): secondary school; *United Kingdom* (UK): private business ; *Poland* (PL): institution for higher education

Number of associated members: 13 (*Austria*: 9; *Italy*: 2; *Hungary*: 1; *United Kingdom*: 1).

RCC – Roots and Wings

Reference number: 90326-CP-1-2001-DK-COMENIUS-C3

Duration: 3 years

Coordinator: Mr. Ole OESTERGAARD ole@acu-vejle.dk

Network website: <http://www.roots-and-wings.dk/>

Thematic area: Cultural Heritage

*“There are two values,
which you can give your child
as a present for life.
First of all: Roots,
And then: Wings.”*

American Indian proverb

Main objectives:

- To enhance and facilitate cooperation between schools in primarily the seven European regions of the Network - based on a common working platform of cultural heritage.
 - To support the processes and classroom projects, which develop and integrate an international dimension in the whole school community.
 - To offer and raise skills within ICT that supports the cooperation and communication between schools.
 - To support Comenius partnerships within the network in qualitative planning of educational projects.
- To disseminate experience achieved in existing partnerships to a wider number of schools all over Europe.

Target Groups:

Primarily the target groups are teachers and head teachers in both primary and secondary schools. Ultimately the pupils and students will benefit from the commitment, planning and strategies developed by the teachers/head teachers/schools in the (Comenius) partnerships. – But an important target group is the persons and heads involved with adviser functions and in-service training.

Main activities and types of activities:

The main activities in the network will be:

- Supporting schools in establishing partnerships – primarily within the seven “Roots and Wings” regions. Schools can register via the website, and based on the information given the RCC will match the wishes from the schools and facilitate partnership contacts according to the school wishes.
- Establish an ICT working platform for the schools to dispose of in their collaboration. – Once they register the schools will receive a “tool box CD” containing software for common use in the partnerships and the network – and they will have access to 1) a

closed communication platform for the partnership; and 2) a common “Roots and Wings” website and network communication and information platform (First Class).

- In-service training at national level in the seven regions to facilitate and disseminate the Roots and Wings idea.
- The Network will release a Newsletter four times a year with information, ideas and advice to schools and teachers working within the thematic area and/or have joined the Roots and Wings network.

Main outcomes:

- Based on experience collected from partnerships, the network will release a booklet on the “Roots and Wings” idea along with description and experience of school and classroom projects.
- Release a directory of schools working within the thematic area, including examples of good practice.
- The website and the First Class communication platform will be developed as a dynamic working space for schools and teachers to benefit from in planning and working phases of their cooperation.
- A network of schools in close relation and contact to benefit from each others’ experience in working with processes facilitating and integrating an international dimension in the whole school community.

Main events:

The main events will be three annual thematic conferences, each focusing on particular fields of cultural heritage and working with this theme as the foundation of international partnerships:

Year 1 (2.-5. October 2002 in Malmo, Sweden): Roots and Wings idea, classroom experience and use of ICT in the network.

Year 2: (May/June 2003 in Graz, Austria): Evaluation processes relating to the thematic area, and in particular to the whole school approach.

Year 3: Not yet planned – will be based on needs and wishes from schools/partnerships in the Roots and Wings Network.

Expected impact:

- Numerous schools will have an international profile and the international dimension integrated as part of the school curriculum or aims and objectives.
- Head teachers and teachers will obtain 1) a raised awareness of the assets and importance of working in international partnerships; 2) a raised awareness and competence of working qualitatively with topics relating to cultural heritage.
- Pupils will ultimately have raised knowledge on a number of subjects relating to international topics; perhaps even an international competence including mutual understanding; flexibility; awareness and understanding of others and own cultural heritage and background; experience that cultural diversity is an asset to cooperation.

Partnership:

The members of the RCC (Regional Coordination Centres) - Roots and Wings Network are Educational Resource Centres, Regional Authorities; a University and a ICT-Support

Centre in Steiermark, Austria; Dublin, Ireland; Regione Toscana, Italy; West Wales; Vejle County, Denmark; Olomouc, The Czech Republic and Malmö, Sweden.

The associated members of the network are a number (approximately 50) of Comenius partnerships (both terminated and working as regards Comenius funding) as well as individual schools based in the regions of the network. – This number is increasing along with the registration via the website from schools and partnerships in all Socrates countries.