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Teachers testing the pools-m courses in Italy and Lithuania

Languages:

Basque
Danish
Dutch
English
French
Gaelic
German
Greek
Italian
Lithuanian
Maltese
Portuguese
Romanian
Spanish
Turkish



Hop on board and join the pools teams i.e. pools, pools-t, pools-2, and pools-m

Pools-t has received the final evaluation of the project from EACEA, we received an overall 9 (out of 10) and we feel rather proud of the comments from the external EACEA evaluator:

"All planned activities were implemented as initially planned and no major deviations were observed. At the end of the project activities all expected outcomes/results were achieved and they all show a high quality as well as a good usability potential. Dissemination activities (including validation initiative involving the target groups) were implemented since the beginning of the project activities and a particular attention was paid on their usability and sustainability beyond project lifetime". "The following strong points were observed at final reporting stage: 1) project results demonstrate a high potential for being sustainable and used in the long term; 2) high engagement of co-operation among participating organizations; 4) excellent implementation process; 5) excellent". Weak points: "None"

Tools may be a new title to follow in future. In February a consortium of universities, vocational and adult training colleges submitted a KA2 application titled "tools", six week before the application deadline!

Tools will take the pools-t outcomes a major step forward. The limitation of the TextBlender, which only caters for Western European Characters, will be overcome by an online system (supporting Unicode) and even

more important the generated multimedia rich webpages will automatically become online. Anyone who can use e.g. Facebook will soon be able to create online language learning materials with all words automatically linked to hundreds of dictionaries, all skills required are to find a text, to copy and paste that text into a window, and if required select / point to video, audio and graphics. In less than a couple of minutes teachers will in future be able to create materials for learning e.g. Arabic and Lithuanian.



Marijampols profesinio rengimo centro Gimnazijos skyriaus angls kalbos vyresnioji mokytoja Jolita Lepšien



Kent Andersen the pools webmaster, was invited for a panel at the closing conference of the MOLAN network project in January. He used the opportunity to disseminate the projects from the panel and as usual some time was used for dissemination and handing out newsletters and brochures about the different pools projects.



Latest news: The POOLS-2 teams will present the project in Geneva on June 30th hosted by la Formation universitaire à distance, Suisse

The Portuguese pools-2 team has submitted an application to get the courses in Portugal accredited at an official level.

Go to www.languages.dk/pools-2 to read the submitted files and download the lesson plans for the proposed courses. These courses are free to attend for language teacher all over Portugal. Please email Maria João Marçalo: mjm@uevora.pt to register or receive more information.



Future teachers of Spanish and Portuguese

In Evora the Portuguese pools-2 team has been busy delivering courses to teacher students. The target group for the first courses has been future teachers of Spanish and Portuguese, in the coming months the inservice teacher courses can be started based on the official accreditation of the pools-2 in Portugal



Pools-2 T-shirts ready for you

All the pools-2 teams met in Evora to continue the work on updating and improving the pilot courses. Part of the work-

shop was dedicated quality assurance. Due to this the external quality manager, Gareth Long participated in the meeting and made an overview of the finding through the first eighteen project months. You can download his presentation slides with a summary from www.languages.dk/archive.html



The Cyprus team presenting the progress of their courses

We recommend all LLL-project to make use of Gareth Long as external Quality Expert, Evaluation, support and guidance service for projects in education www.glpm.co.uk Gareth and his associates deliver a great piece of work with valuable advice throughout the projects. You can download and read some of the GLPM reports for the pools projects in www.languages.dk/archive.html



Gareth Long summarizing his recommendations for the pools-2 project

In January the pools-2 team members received the sad message that Cesare Catania from Malta had passed away. We had all just learned to know Cesare in the autumn of 2010, but his dedication to the

Maltese language and culture as well as his wonderful spirit quickly made him the heart of the project.

Just before his passing away he had written a follow-up entry to his text in the previous newsletter: "One more note about Maltese. Until 1932 the language of culture in Malta was Italian, spoken mainly by professional people particularly lawyers. So while about 80% of the population spoke Maltese, Italian was used in the Tribunals and often the Maltese didn't understand it.

There is a historical reason for this. When the Knights of Malta came here they chose Italian as their common language. They came from 8 different nationalities, that's why the Maltese Cross has 8 points. They did this because technically speaking Malta was still under the Kingdom of the 2 Sicilies. Actually the Knights had to give a Falcon to the king ever year as a token for their lease. Maybe you've heard the story of the Maltese Falcon.

Yet even today lawyers tend to use most technical words which come from Italian. But nowadays many people understand Italian. We receive all the national Italian TV stations. This was conditioning our children so much that they started thinking in Italian."

Latest news: You are invited to participate in the POOLS-M courses in Italy, Lithuania, and Turkey

The first part of the Lithuanian "pools-m" courses finished in February, 2011 in Marijampole. The Lithuanian team implemented part of the foreign language teachers' training courses. Over 30 language teachers participated in the courses, they were from different region basic schools, gymnasiums, Marijampole college. The course was organized and lectured by Rasa Zygmantaite and Jolita Lepsiene.



In the first part of the courses the teachers were introduced with 2 methods: TBL (Task Based Learning) and E-Tandem. Teachers acknowledged not only the theoretical materials but also implemented various practical activities, tried the possibilities to learn a foreign language via Internet.

It's vitally important that in nowadays-always- changing world the younger teachers' generation would be prepared for different life challenges, would work non-traditional ways, would use active language teaching methods, that's why the Lithuanian "pool's - m"

team, decided to organize the courses for Marijampole College students, future English and German teachers.

The students got to know all the project methods (Simulation, E-Tandem, PhyEmoc, TBL, Call), they tried them out, they also foreseen what methods could be used during their pedagogical practice. In many discussions students cleared out the ways how one or other method would be useful for providing an active language lesson with different school students. Many students got the idea how to use IT and the Internet for a lesson. But most of all they liked PhyEmoc, which stimulates a teacher to become an actor and play, sing songs, use physical movements together with students.

All pools-m courses are free, please contact Rasa Zygmantaite by email rasazyg@zebra.lt to participate in one of the upcoming courses, e.g. April 12-15

Several teachers, who have attended pools-m courses have started uploading videos showing their results with their students. Watch the videos from <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=220788363613>

In Italy the CSCS team is busy with a sequence of courses during April, March, and June. To take part in one of the free courses in Italy please contact Stefano Tirati by email: stefano.tirati@gmail.com Stefano can of course assist you with information about hotels etc. and mail you the Italian leaflet.



POOLS-M pilot courses for teachers who work in State Schools across Turkey and candidate Teachers of English at the ELT Department of Maltepe University have been approved by the Ministry of Turkish National Education. The dates of these pilot courses are planned as follows:

- 19-20 March 2011
- 02-03 April 2011
- 16-17 Nisan 2011
- 07-08 Mayıs 2011
- 28-29 Mayıs 2011

Important Notice: The date for the 5th group may be changed. Please contact Burak Demirkazýk by e-mail: demirbur@yahoo.com about the date for the 5th group and participation in the courses (free for language teachers)

When you click on www.mek.k12.tr, you can view the Turkish informative abstract about the Turkish pools-m pilot courses for teachers by clicking on the first subtitle WHICH SAYS "Ýngilizce Öðretmenleri Eðitim Kursları" under the heading HABERLER.

