



EDISON: strategies and training to encourage entrepreneurship

A Leonardo da Vinci Transfer of Innovation project

Why a project about entrepreneurship?

Entrepreneurship is attracting growing interest as a way to rebuild economies and stimulate growth. Both recent research and recommendations in Europe strongly support the belief that entrepreneurship education can be taught and has a part to play in determining peoples' attitudes and developing the skills needed by the labour market. This is the underpinning view of the project EDISON.

What are we going to do

Successful 'entrepreneurial learning' strategies from Spain and Austria will be used as the source of inspiration and learning with special attention to the language needs of the modern labour market by integrating the methodology of Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL). The further addition of other already existing good practices regarding entrepreneurship learning from all participating countries will deliver the building blocks for a train the trainer course and for learning materials on entrepreneurship learning.

Work in progress

After the kick off meeting in Vienna, there have been two other meetings; one in San Sebastian (January 2014) and the other in Rome (May 2014). Important progress was made regarding the selection and transferability of good practices, next to those from Austria and Spain (Basque country) that were already chosen. The partnership also agreed upon the structure of the Train the Trainer course. Further progress was made concerning the design and development of the website and it was decided to have an additional meeting in Leeds (November 2014) in order to demonstrate the outline of the Train the Trainer course before the testing the materials and content in all countries.

Results from the first phase



Visit at TKNIKA

During the first working phase the EDISON partners mainly focused on existing Good Practices regarding Entrepreneurship Education, not only from the exporting countries Austria and Spain (Basque country), but from all partner countries.

Emerging messages from this research were:

- Good practices were found in all partner countries.
- In Austria there is a holistic approach, which means that Entrepreneurship Education (EE) can be taught in all kind of schools. The national government is promoting this.
- It appears that schools in NL and UK have more autonomy than others to decide on approach at school or college level.
- In Spain (Basque Country) students spend extra study hours on enterprise business set ups. This is open to all students but not all will take up the opportunity. Like in Austria, the Basque government is supporting EE rather strongly.
- It is important to encourage entrepreneurial skills for everyday living and/or employment not necessarily just for setting up a business.

Next to the work on existing Good Practices and the strategies to transfer these to other countries. There has been done a lot of work on the content and structure of the Train the Trainer Course. The course will contain 120 hours, subdivided into 30 face to face hours and 90 on line hours through the E-platform, that can be found on the project website.

The 30 face to face hours will contain the following modules:

- Introduction module:
Exploring the concept and developing the mindset of being an entrepreneurial teacher.
- Module 1:
Identifying entrepreneurial competencies
- Module 2:
Enhancing the core entrepreneurial competencies
- Module 3:
Cross curricula approach to embedding the entrepreneurial concept
- Module 4:
Assessment and Planning for future developments

Coming soon...

On 3 and 4 November, there will be an additional meeting in Leeds. At that point the content of the modules will be presented, ready to use for the course-takers. By that time, the E-learning platform will also be far enough developed to have a first demonstration and the opportunity for comment and any additional improvements. The meeting will be used to gather and modify the learning materials in order to make it one comprehensive course. Between the meeting in Leeds and the next meeting in Ireland (March 2015), all partners will run pilots in order to gather feedback on the Train the Trainer course from teachers in their national networks.

The next newsletter will be released in March 2015

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