

Information

EC - Project Nr. 519055-LLP-1-2011-1-IT-KA2-KA2NW **AMuSE – Approaches to Multilingual Schools in Europe**

By now multilingualism has become reality in day-to-day-life in the European society and in European schools. Nevertheless, education policy and teachers in general are often disposed towards monolingualism and do not make use of the full potential of multilingualism. EU-policy supports multilingualism as a guiding principle for EU-citizens; however, the difficulties to transfer and to implement these goals are often to be found on the level of national education policy.

In the „Lifelong Learning Programme“, developed by the European Commission¹, the project “AMuSE” is financially supported. The University of Teacher Education Vienna (Pädagogische Hochschule Wien) participates in it together with the following partner institutions:

- European Academy Bozen (EURAC) – Co-ordinator
- Göteborgs Universitet, Sweden
- Zurich University of Teacher Education, Switzerland
- University Tartu Ülikool, Estonia
- Middle East Technical University Ankara, Turkey

The overall goal of this project is to develop and to gather existing scientifically based know-how for policy makers in the field of education. These instruments should provide support in changing school models, processes and programmes to achieve multilingual schools.

For the team of the University of Teacher Education Vienna will work in two main areas:

Area 1: Multilingualism in schools

Existing models in dealing with multilingualism at Austrian elementary schools, special needs schools and secondary modern schools in minority regions and urban conurbations will be collected, evaluated and presented. In addition, this research aims at outlining if and how far the current teacher education reflects the social reality concerning multilingualism in schools in Austria, esp. in Vienna.

Area 2: Expert Meeting September 24th - 25th 2013

The second area of work concentrates on the organisation and implementation of an expert meeting: „The Resource Multilingualism in education NEW“(Draft title!). This expert meeting will take place in Vienna and will bring together all experts within the AMuSE-project, scientists, policy makers and other experts in the field of education from Austria and other countries. The meeting aims at informing participants about the status quo of the earlier mentioned subject and further more to discuss relevant issues in terms of multilingualism. The target groups should be national und federal educational authorities and experts in schools and universities.

Our motto:

„Multilingualism is our future.“ (Elisabeth Furch 5/2012, Vienna, Austria)

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