



TOGETHER FOR BASIC SKILLS

Comenius Thematic Meeting
on Literacy, Maths & Science

Brussels, 6-7 December 2012

PROGRAMME

Day 1: Thursday, 6 December 2012

13.00-14.00 REGISTRATION

Plenary session

Chair: **Mr. António Silva Mendes**, Director, Lifelong learning: policies and programme, European Commission's Directorate-General for Education and Culture

14.00-14.30 WELCOME AND OPENING STATEMENT

Mr. António Silva Mendes

14.30-15.30 SESSION 1: KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS

Literacies - **Dr. Roberto Carneiro**, Portuguese Catholic University

Science Education: Achievement, Purpose, Outcomes - **Dr. Peter Gray**, Norwegian University of Science and Technology

15.30-16.00 *Coffee break / Exhibition of the projects*

Parallel sessions

16.00-18.30 SESSION 2: WORKSHOPS / PART ONE

Workshop 1

LITERACY: BEYOND READING AND WRITING

Too often, Literacy is assumed only being able to read and write. Literacy does not only mean being able to decode words and write phrases, it means much more! The High Level Group on Literacy defined Literacy as being able to read, write, interpret and critically evaluate multimodal texts in order to fully function in a modern society. The impact of new technologies, both challenges and opportunities of new media are aspects that have been taken into account in several Comenius projects. This workshop will therefore focus on ICT and the impact of digitisation on literacy skills.

Chair and speaker: **Prof. Dr. Christine Garbe**, Universität zu Köln, «Baculit»

Speaker: **Prof. Dr. Daniela Elsner**, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main, «Multiliteracy virtual»

Rapporteurs: **Ms. Nathalie Baidak** and **Ms. Isabelle Decoster**, Eurydice, Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency

Workshop 2

MATHS & SCIENCE: RIDING THE DIGITAL WAVE

In this workshop, we want to investigate how ICT can be used to address low achievement in maths and science, for example by diversifying teacher approaches, facilitating personalisation of teaching and learning, encouraging problem-based or hands-on approaches, and allowing «game-format learning». We also want to discuss how to avoid the pitfalls of increased ICT use, for example a digital divide between computer-savvy high achievers and entertainment-focused low achievers.

Chair: **Mr. Gaetano Bugeja**, Ministry of Education and Employment, Malta

Speaker: **Prof. Dr. Volker Ulm**, University of Augsburg, Germany, «Innovation in maths education at European level»

Speaker: **Dr. Elena Shulman**, European Schoolnet, «Quality Network for a European Learning Resource Exchange»

Rapporteur: **Mr. Stanislav Ranguelov**, Eurydice, Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency

Workshop 3

MATHS & SCIENCE: TEACHER COLLABORATION AND NETWORKING

Building a strong professional identity requires collaboration among subject teachers, but also collaboration across subjects. Similarly, continuing professional development promoting in-school, collegial learning is more effective than traditional courses or seminars. In this workshop, we want to look into how we can enable teacher collaboration and channel it towards addressing low achievement.

Chair: **Ms. Ülle Kikas**, Ministry of Education and Research, Estonia

Speaker: **Dr. Ilse Bartosch**, University of Vienna, «IMST: Transforming the Austrian School System into a Learning System»

Speaker: **Ms. Francesca Magrefi**, Amitié, «Science Teaching European Network for Creativity and Innovation in Learning»

Speaker: **Mr. Josu Waliño**, Elhuyar Foundation, «Stimulating science and technology competences through innovative means for teaching and learning»

Rapporteur: **Ms. Bernadette Forsthuber**, Eurydice, Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency

Workshop 4

MATHS & SCIENCE: UNLEASHING NEW PEDAGOGIES

Curricula around Europe are increasingly shifting their focus from knowledge to competences. This requires a more holistic approach to the skills and attitudes of learners, and can open new opportunities for changing pedagogies. Strengthening inquiry-based approaches, cross-curricular links, hands-on and co-operative learning can improve pupils' problem-solving skills and motivation for mathematics and science. However, innovations are often held back by existing structures, for example a traditional assessment system. This workshop aims to identify pre-conditions for changing didactics in mathematics and science.

Chair: **Mr. Claus Christensen**, Ministry of Education, Denmark

Speaker: **Ms. Michela Tramonti**, Università degli Studi Guglielmo Marconi, «Teaching mAthS through innovative LEarning approach and conTEnts»

Speaker: **Dr. Agueda Gras-Velazquez**, European Schoolnet, «Science Pedagogy Innovation Centre for Europe»

Rapporteur: **Ms. Teodora Parveva**, Eurydice, Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency

18.30-19.30 *Cocktail / Exhibition of the projects*

19.30-21.00 DINNER

Day 2: Friday, 7 December 2012

09.00-10.30

SESSION 3: WORKSHOPS / PART TWO

Workshop 1

LITERACY: BEYOND READING AND WRITING

Chair: **Prof. Dr. Christine Garbe**, Universität zu Köln, «Baculit»

Speaker: **Ms. Ida Cortoni**, Sapienza Università di Roma, «On Air: Effective use of media for school education»

Rapporteurs: **Ms. Nathalie Baidak** and **Ms. Isabelle Decoster**, Eurydice, Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency

Workshop 2

MATHS & SCIENCE: RIDING THE DIGITAL WAVE

Chair: **Mr. Gaetano Bugeja**, Ministry of Education and Employment, Malta

Speaker: **Mr. Borut Campelj**, Ministry of Education and Sport, Republic of Slovenia

Rapporteur: **Mr. Stanislav Ranguelov**, Eurydice, Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency

Workshop 3

MATHS & SCIENCE: TEACHER COLLABORATION AND NETWORKING

Chair: **Ms. Ülle Kikas**, Ministry of Education and Research, Estonia

Speaker: **Mr. Stelios Theophilou**, Ministry of Education and Culture, Cyprus

Rapporteur: **Ms. Bernadette Forsthuber**, Eurydice, Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency

Workshop 4

MATHS & SCIENCE: UNLEASHING NEW PEDAGOGIES

Chair: **Mr. Claus Christensen**, Ministry of Education, Denmark

Speaker: **Mr. Seamus Knox**, Department of Education and Skills, Republic of Ireland

Rapporteur: **Ms. Teodora Parveva**, Eurydice, Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency

10.30-11.00

Coffee break / Exhibition of the projects

Plenary session

Chair: **Ms. Margarita Lago**, Acting Head of Unit Comenius and school policy, European Commission's Directorate-General for Education and Culture

11.00-12.30

SESSION 4: CONCLUSIONS FROM THE WORKSHOPS AND PANEL DISCUSSION

Panel Chair: **Mr. Jurgen Rienks**, Head of the Dutch Permanent Representation to the European Union

Panel speakers:

- **Ms. Mary Honeyball**, Member of the European Parliament
- **Mr. Hans Van der Loo**, World Business Council for Sustainable Development
- **Mr. Claus Christensen**, Ministry of Education, Denmark
- **Mr. Jesper Just Jensen**, Lego Education Solutions

12.30-13.00

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Mr. Xavier Prats Monné, Deputy Director-General, European Commission's Directorate-General for Education and Culture

Mr. Ralf Rahders, Head of Unit, Lifelong Learning: Comenius, ICT and Languages and Programme Coordination, Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency

13.00-14.30

LUNCH

End of the Meeting