

This project is cofunded by the European Social Fund of the European Union. *TelNet - Transnational Entrepreneurial Learning Network - is a transnational partnership of 4 EQUAL projects from Scotland, Czech Republic, Portugal and Netherlands.*

3rd Transnational Conference, 5th October 2006, Litvínov, Czech Republic

The International conference of the Transnational Partnership TELNET was held in the Czech Republic on the 5-6th October 2006. The conference was split into two parts: the first part was held in the Centre for Bachelor Studies in Litvínov.

The Common part of the conference dealt with the introductions of each national project within the TELNET Partnership. Each national project was introduced by the representatives of TELNET DPs: Scotland - Brenda Walker, Portugal - Inacia LopesRebocho, the Netherlands - Polly Weber and the Czech Republic - Dagmar Prošková.

There were also representatives of the Czech state and Local Government at the conference: The Czech Ministry of Labour and Social affairs was represented by Milena Blatníková, the Ústí region



was represented by Zuzana Kadlecová who talked about possible future funds from the EU in the future programming period 2007-13.

Pavel Kouda, a representative of the Regional Government, highlighted the necessity and importance of such future projects. The Director of the Most Labour office, Oldrich Malý also voiced his appreciation for the good results shown by the INNOSTART Project. Especially important was the contribution of the towns of Most and Litvínov. Representatives of both towns, Milan Šťovíček and Pavel Weiss both also expressed their views on the importance of the success of the INNOSTART Project. The DALKIA Endowment fund introduced possible forms of support for new entrepreneurs.

Viktor Koláček introduced one of the outputs of INNOSTART an educational programme for secondary schools called "Entrepreneurship Step by Step" that is now being piloted.

Vladimíra Ilievová spoke about a special educational programme for new entrepreneurs called SMALL BUSINESS. Nelly Kopecká held the participants' interest with her presentation of her practical experiences working at the HELP DESK, which is an initiative of the INNOSTART Project.

The first part of the Conference was concluded with a presentation from students of a secondary school for marketing and economics. Hana Baločová and Marcela Lindnerová, presented the opportunities they have identified for their future enterprise after graduating from school.

All partners also expressed thanks to our two interpreters Renata Menclová and Jana Vránová.

Partnership Overview

The four organisations that make up the Equal funded TelNet Partnership are Nova Agricultura (Portugal), Delta (Czech Republic), Equal Enterprise Scotland (Scotland) and the Green Entrepreneurship project (Netherlands).

These four projects are focused on support of starting entrepreneurs from disadvantaged groups - young people, unemployed, low-qualified people and other groups of persons with special needs.

The EQUAL Community Initiative tests and promotes new ways of combating all forms of discrimination and inequalities faced by those groups most disadvantaged in the labour market.



Working group A met in a room of the Most Labour office, on the afternoon of 5th of October 2006. Its target was to analyse possible forms of support for new entrepreneurs provided by the State. At the beginning all participants were welcomed by the Director of the Labour office, Mr. Malý. Ivana Matuščinová explained the type of support available for new entrepreneurs in the Czech Republic.

Robin Miller and Derek Gavin introduced Scottish support available for entrepreneurs and the work of Business Enterprise Scotland. One of the current Scottish initiatives- “New Deal” is a programme for new entrepreneurs which allows them time to try setting up in business. They also talked about the other types of support currently available for prospective and new entrepreneurs. Those present found this information very interesting and valuable.

Dutch partner, Oege Doornbos and Portuguese partner, Jorge Coelho introduced forms of business support in their countries in the discussion that followed. All systems were compared and processed into a special report.

Working group B met at the School for Marketing and Economics. At the beginning all the work group participants were welcomed by school headmistress,

Working group A at the Labour office



Vladimíra Ilievová. The task of this working group was to compare school systems in

Sharing information and experience: workshops & thematic seminary 5th & 6th October 2006

the participating countries and to focus on finding information about tools for supporting enterprise in educational settings.

Tereza Viceníková from the Czech DP Delta, gave an overview of the education system in the Czech Republic and introduced a special new programme that was developed within the INNOSTART Project - “Entrepreneurship Step by Step”. She also talked about practice firms and other programmes used for business education in the Czech Republic.

Jan ten Cate gave information regarding new ways of teaching at Clusius College in the Netherlands. Miriam Smith presented very interesting information regarding Scottish programmes of support for entrepreneurship, particularly targeted at children within primary education.

Inacia Lopes Rebocho presented information regarding the education system in Portugal.

At the end of workshop there was a discussion with students. This was so lively and interesting that participants ran over the programmed meeting time. The opportunity to

participate in this discussion was welcomed, especially by the students, who gained not only new information about education and the life of students in Europe, but also very good, practical experience of communicating in English. The outputs were concluded in a special report.

On the second day of the Conference, there was a common seminar where both working groups came together. It's target was to disseminate the information gleaned yesterday at the individual working groups, to all participants. The Czech members prepared a presentation containing the findings of Working group A and B, as a tool to promote further discussion. The outputs of working group A were introduced by Vilemína Mršíková and she mainly highlighted the very interesting experience of the Scottish partners. The discussion identified the similarity of the Czech, Dutch and Portuguese systems.

The outputs of working group B were introduced by Kristýna Drienová. Particularly interesting points in the Dutch system, were the special kind of secondary education called “pre-vocational education” and also the school attendance

starting at the very early age of four. All the systems are basically very similar. As far as support of entrepreneurship is concerned apart from Scotland, specific tools are not incorporated into the educational systems. The Scottish Policy Initiative “Determined to Succeed” ensures that every school child in Scotland will have at least one enterprise activity at school annually.

In the other three partner member countries there exist various educational programmes for support of business education in the secondary education. But they are not an integrated part of the system.

While in the Netherlands and Scotland these educational programmes are often part of education, in the Czech Republic they are used only by specialist economic schools. In Portugal the connection between schools and companies is just beginning and the integration of business education into curriculum has yet to be started

Working group B welcomed Mrs. Vladimíra Ilievová



Presentation of TELNET in the media

The entire conference was followed by the regional media. TV coverage was shot.

It presented basic information about the conference of the TELNET Partnership. The TV coverage also showed



Inacia from Portugal speaks with TV participants from Scottish, Dutch and Portuguese national partnerships.

Four articles were published in regional and state press and Dagmar Prošková was also live on Most radio. The Conference therefore

Milan Štoviček, representative of the town Litvínov and media



was publicised not only in the region but also in the whole Czech Republic and received some very positive responses.



Results of common work - summarised into a report

A specific report on the Conference has been prepared. It will be one of the shared outputs of the work of the TELNET Partnership. This report is in two parts. Each part deals with the outputs of either working group A or B.

Progress up to date

Each national partner introduced up to date progress for each national project.

Dagmar Prošková summed up information about developments in the INNOSTART Project. She stated that all project activities were currently on track in line with the agreed schedule.

Within the INNOSTART Project there was one important change. A new partner joined the partnership. Deloitte BPO G&I substituted partner Výzkumný ústav pro hnědé uhlí. All outputs of projects are valuable and well advanced.

The Scottish partner have increased their students and staff exchange activity from their initial project plan and the Dutch partner has also increased this activity.

The Portuguese partner negotiated with their managing authorities for a long time about the extension of their project for two more months. This change was approved by their National authority in November 2006.

All partners of the TELNET Partnership also specified common outputs of process and content and they agreed on the time schedule for the final outputs of TELNET Partnership.



Report shows results of common discussion



Czech project manager Dagmar Prošková and one of czech national partners Mr. Jiří Škrábal



Foreign partners could taste typical czech cuisine

Hněvín Castle

At the end of conference there was a social evening at Hněvín Castle.

This provided a possibility to exchange ideas and experience and to broaden the informal relationships among the members of each partnership team.

Foreign guests could taste typical Czech cuisine and learn something about the history of the region of Most. All national partners of DP DELTA also took part in this event with their visiting guests.

TELNET



Newsletter

Exchanges - an opportunity to learn new things and to meet different culture

Having experienced Student Business Week in Scotland in June 2006, the Scottish and Dutch partners highlighted the positive contribution that transnational exchanges of students and also of staff from the institutions engaged in the TelNet Partnership in all member countries make.

For this reason, TelNet partners agreed to focus on exchanges and study visits as an important and effective way of co-operating. A number of exchanges were planned and discussed at the Steering Group Meeting to be engaged in over the next phase of projects. This will include the participation in exchange of students and experts, including - advisors, teachers, mentors and other specialists.

Steering group meeting

The Steering Group Meeting took place in the offices of the Re-training and Information Centre, which is the Lead Partner of the Czech Innostart Project.

The Group agreed the format and schedule for the outputs detailed within the TCA and discussed future possible ways of working in partnership.

The members agreed to create one main document - "Support Framework for Creating Entrepreneurship" that will consist of various methods, tools, processes and approaches. After testing, these strategies and examples of best practice, will be ready for mainstreaming.

TelNet will also create a Dissemination/Mainstreaming Map, showing the best ways of promoting entrepreneurship within the TelNet Partnership countries.

Steering group members held a brisk discussion

