



European Institute of Education and Social Policy



Institut Européen d'Éducation et de Politique Sociale

Activity Progress Report 2010

1 Lifelong Learning – policy, strategy & implementation in the EU & partner countries

Romania: CALIPT: TVET policy & strategy review 2010 – 2012

The project is funded under the European Social Fund in Romania and is led by the National Centre for the Development of TVET (CNDIPT - <http://www.tvet.ro/>), Romanian Ministry of Education. The other partners are: EIESP (France), the Danish Technological Institute (Denmark) and S.C. GEA Strategy and Consulting S.A. (Romania).

The overall objective is to review the policies and strategies for initial vocational education and training over the last 15 years in order to assess their coherence with other national strategies and European priorities for vocational education and training (VET) and also their implementation at different levels: national/central, regional, local/school. One of the specific objectives will be the development of a self-assessment policy tool to help policy makers to measure policy performance. It is intended that the outcomes should provide input for future policies and measures. The project was signed at the end of 2009 and activity started in 2010 and will continue throughout 2011 with data collection, fieldwork and analysis. The EIESP is responsible for four of the themes that are included in the review:

- The place of TVET in the overall education system
- Access to TVET
- Curriculum and Qualifications
- Finance and Legislation

“Key Competences in Europe: Opening doors for lifelong learners across the school curriculum and teacher education” - follow up to the study

During 2010 the EIESP was invited to participate in a number of events, mainly for the EU Commission, as direct follow-up to the key competences study:

- **EU Thematic Forum on School-Business Cooperation** : DG Education and Culture organised the first EU Thematic Forum on School-Business Cooperation on the 24th and 25th March. Jean Gordon was invited to participate in a panel discussion on Transversal Competences.
- **Breaking the cycle of disadvantage - Social inclusion in and through education**: This Belgian Presidency conference held in Ghent from the 27th to 29th September aimed to put European, national and regional policy and models of good practice under the spotlight with a view to promoting equality and inclusion across all levels of education (preschool, compulsory, higher and adult education). Jean Gordon was

invited to chair a workshop session on "Pupils at risk of social exclusion: overcoming school failure and reducing school drop out". More information can be found on the conference website: www.eutrio.be/breaking-cycle-disadvantage-social-inclusion-and-through-education

- **People to People Programme - seminar in Sarajevo:** On the 18th and 19th May, the People to People programme of DG Enlargement organised a seminar for civil society organizations and education stakeholders in Sarajevo on Education in a multicultural society. Jean Gordon gave an overview presentation: 'Key competences for Education in a multicultural society'. More information is available on the website of TAIEX: http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/taiox/p2p/index_en.htm
- **Education for the Future: European Reference Framework of Key competences:** This is a conference that will be organised in Sarajevo by OSCE working with the BiH Agency for Pre-school, Primary and Secondary Education. Jean Gordon made a presentation at the conference for the teacher advisers from all schools in BiH.

Capacity-building for education reform - Turkey

This project, which finished this year, was led by SOFRECO. In March Alain Michel organised, with SOFRECO, a study visit to Paris for senior civil servants from the Turkish Ministry of Education. In May he made a presentation in Ankara at the final project conference organised by the Turkish Ministry of Education completing a cycle of interventions made for this project during 2009 and 2010.

Expertise for the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA)

Since 2009, EIESP has been providing expertise to the EACEA (http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/index_en.php) for the assessment of project proposals for DG Education's Lifelong Learning Programme. In the past we have developed and managed projects, been partners in projects, provided monitoring and evaluation for projects and programmes and this activity completes the cycle. It is an interesting opportunity to participate in the process upstream of grants being awarded. In 2010 Jean Gordon was an expert for two proposal evaluation processes under the transversal actions.

CEJI - consultancy on certification, accreditation and advocacy

The EIESP provide assistance to the CEJI (<http://www.ceji.org/>) in preparing a dossier for obtaining accreditation for the certification of the training that has been developed by the **Religious Diversity and Anti-discrimination** and the **Belieforama** projects by carrying out a feasibility study. The programme raises the issue of how non formal adult education programmes can establish forms of accreditation or certification that will be recognised across the EU member states.

DISCO II -Lifelong learning Transfer of Innovation Project (Funded by Leonardo da Vinci)

This project builds on a first phase of the work, also funded under Leonardo da Vinci (decentralised actions), called "A European Dictionary of Skills and Competences". The consortium is coordinated by an Austrian organisation, 3s Unternehmensberatung GmbH, and includes partners from 10 European countries (Austria, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Slovakia, Sweden, UK).

The EIESP, represented by Alain Michel, will contribute to improve general terminological guidelines, improve the multilingual thesaurus, collect and analyse French Certificate Supplements (CS) and NQF documents, translate new terms, improve the website, evaluate DISCO II products, disseminate DISCO II, to manage the implementation of the project. Alain will participate in the meetings. The project started in November 2010 and is a two year project.

2 Learning for Well-being

In 2010 EIESP continued to contribute to the core team of the **Universal Education Foundation** (<http://www.uef-learning4wellbeing.org/>) through programme development, drafting communication materials and coordinating European Operations..

In addition, the EIESP coordinates the Secretariat of the ‘Learning for Well-being’ Consortium of Foundations in Europe. <http://www.eiesp.org/site/pages/view/60-learning-for-well-being-consortium.html>

The ‘**Learning for Well-being’ Consortium of Foundations in Europe** was established in 2009, designed to support the vision of ‘Learning for Well-being’ in partnership with other actors of society. The founding group, all members of the EFC, come from different European countries and work with children and youth in different contexts: Bertelsmann Stiftung, Evens Foundation, Freudenberg Stiftung, Guerrand-Hermès Foundation for Peace, Robert Bosch Stiftung and UEF. The first Chair of the Consortium is Daniel Kropf, Executive Director and Founding Chair of UEF and the Vice-Chair is Corinne Evens, the President of the Evens Foundation. The purpose of the Consortium is to inspire and engage policy makers, foundations and other stakeholders in Europe to listen more to children and young people and to take more initiatives with them for their ‘learning for well-being’ in their diverse environments (as underlined in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child). Though well-being is increasingly present in European policy making (at all levels), recent work by the Consortium reinforced the observation that there is insufficient common understanding about what is meant by well-being, which is behind the decision about where to focus energies in 2010 & 2011. For the first phase of its work programme, the Consortium is developing a ‘Learning for Well-being’ Policy Glossary and organising an agenda-setting Learning for Well-being Conference in Brussels on 3rd November 2011.

Learning for Well-being’ Policy Glossary: (<http://www.eiesp.org/site/pages/view/73.html>)

Based on the very successful example in 2006/2007 of *European Perspectives on Global Health; A Policy Glossary* supported by EFC and some foundations (including UEF and the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation), which has become a valuable tool for policy making, the Consortium decided to launch a similar endeavour to develop a policy glossary for ‘learning for well-being’, designed to provide conceptual understanding for policy makers in Europe. It is focusing across sectors (e.g. health, mental health, social affairs, education, etc.), draws on state-of-the-art and multidisciplinary research on well-being and, crucially, it will propose principles for policies and ideas about how to ‘make it happen’. This work has received a grant from the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation for the lead author (Professor Ilona Kickbusch).

In November 2010, the Consortium brought together a group of experts in Marrakesh as the first consultation about the Learning for Well-being Policy Glossary. A detailed outline was presented to the advisory group with the intention of receiving feedback and guidance on how best to approach the challenge of drafting a *policy* glossary on learning for well-being. This meeting brought together a group of 20 high-level experts across Europe, as well as from the USA, Canada and the Middle East. They are all specialized in different fields of research, policy and practice in a range of ways influencing children's and young people's learning. Representatives of the Learning for Well-being (L4WB) Youth movement, and one of its member organisations (Power4Youth), were also invited to ensure that the perspectives of young people are fully integrated.

The first full draft of the policy glossary will be sent out for consultation in March/April 2011 to a broad group of stakeholders, including youth organisations. Following that the next version will be reviewed by foundations, the L4WB youth forum and international organisations and experts before its launch in November 2011.

'Learning for Well-being' Forum

On 3rd November 2011 the Consortium will hold an agenda-setting conference in Brussels, organised with young people, to launch the policy glossary and discuss how to take forward the recommendations. It will address European and international institutions, national governments, foundations, business, research and NGOs. The Consortium will use the forum as a springboard to partner with organizations from all sectors of society to reach a critical mass of partners.

3 Futures and foresight

Future of higher education in Romania

In June and in September 2010, Alain Michel participated, on behalf of the EIESP and Futuribles International, in two seminars on the future of higher education in Bucharest, organised by the Romanian authorities. They followed two precedent seminars held in 2009. This activity is financed by the European Commission. Alain wrote a chapter for the report, *Blueprint on foresight for higher education in Romania* which is being published. Riel Miller and Ilkka Tuomi also participated in this activity as consultants.

Seminar in Paris on the future of higher education

Alain Michel participated in an international seminar held in Paris on May 7th on the future of higher education, organised by the Foundation Leopold Mayer.

Seminar in Brussels on foresight

On March 12th 2010 the European Commission organised in a seminar on foresight in Brussels in which Alain Michel was invited to participate. It followed on from the first seminar organised in September 2009.

4 Dissemination and publications

The European Journal of Education

In 2010 (Volume 45) the four thematic issues were:

- Knowledge, Globalisation and Curriculum
- Human and Social Capital Development for Innovation and Change
- Building European Learning Cities and Regions
- Ten Years of the Bologna Process —What Future?

The annual editorial board meeting was held on the 8th October 2010. The board decided to increase the number of members. The current board members are:

Chair: Roberto Carneiro, Universidade Católica Portuguesa

Joint editors: Jean Gordon and Jean-Pierre Jallade

Members:

Norberto Bottani, Consultant

David Istance, CERI/OECD,

Barbara Kehm, International Centre for Higher Education Research, Universität Kassel,

Alain Michel, Chair EIESP

Anne Sliwka, Pädagogische Hochschule Heidelberg,

Alejandro Tiana, UNED, Spain,

Albert Tuijnman, Institute of International Education, Stockholm University and European Investment Bank.

Assistant Editor: Christina Keyes, EIESP.

We are pleased to welcome as new members :

- Gaëtane Chapelle, Université Catholique de Louvain
- Richard Desjardins, Department of Education, Danish School of Education, Aarhus University and seconded to OECD (Directorate for Education)
- Gabor Halasz, former Director-General of the National Institute for Public Education in Budapest (now Institute for Educational Research and Development) and University Eötvös Loránd
- François de Jouvenel, Director of Studies, Futuribles
- Ilkka Tuomi, Founder and Chief Scientist, Meaning Processing Ltd.

The group of Editorial Correspondents is also being extended to include colleagues from more countries, including outside Europe.

Forthcoming themes of the journal in 2011/2012:

- 1/2011: Education policies in Europe: how effective are international initiatives?
- 2/2011: Inclusion, poverty and education
- 3/2011: Key Competences
- 4/2011: Teachers (*title to be decided*)

- 1/2012: Higher Education in Russia
- 2/2012: Privatization of Higher Education (with a seminar organised in Heidelberg University in October 2011 as part of the 650th Anniversary celebration)

Other themes under discussion are:

- Impacts and consequences of international surveys

- Early years education and care
- Education and migration
- Leadership and change in schools and universities

Website - <http://www.eiesp.org>

In 2010 the EIESP website was completely reviewed to update the graphics and the content and set up the new EIESP emails.

We are working with a new webmaster, Jean-Christophe Taisne, who proposed a design that suited our requirements, transferred the elements we were keeping from the old site and worked with us on developing the new elements. The new site is currently online in English and the French version is being developed and will be on line in 2011.

Contribution to the AFAE Journal: *Administration et Education*

The EIESP contributed to *Administration et Education* by coordinating some issues and writing articles (Alain Michel, Michele Sellier and Jean Gordon), translating some articles (Christine de Tarr, François-Xavier Chevrier, Alain Michel) and by taking responsibility for the regular section on “*Actualités européennes et internationales*”.

5 Other activities (training sessions and visits)

University of Créteil: lecture for school principals and teachers

Alain Michel gave a lecture at the University of Creteil in March 2010 for 45 principals and teachers of the AEFÉ network coming from 23 countries on the salient features of the French education system and the ongoing reforms.

Training session for a Chinese delegation

In October 2010, Alain Michel organised a 2-week visit of 22 directors and deputy directors of institutes for training civil servants in China along with ENA, *Ecole Nationale des Impôts* and OECD.