CPD*Lab* *Newsletter*

Continuing Professional Development *Lab*

Summary

- Project partners and teachers working together
- Early piloting of courses
- Increasing digital competence for teachers' research
- Guide to deliverables published on CPDLab website

PROJECT PARTNERS AND TEACHERS WORKING TOGETHER

Bringing together the CPD*Lab* project partners and expert teachers from Finland, Norway, Portugal and Italy led to an exciting and productive exchange of ideas, while reviewing and developing the phase one course modules for the CPD*Lab* project. The project is developing three courses:

- a pedagogical-led Interactive Whiteboard course;

- a policy-led eSafety course;

- an implementation-led Future Classroom Scenarios course linked to the FP7, large-scale iTEC project.

In the workshop that took place in EUN's Future Classroom Lab in April, the group worked on reviewing and developing each of the three courses and first modules to share the wide-range of experience and best practice held within each partner country. Plans to pilot the first modules are outlined below. The Future Classroom Lab will be used to bring together those involved in teacher training at national, regional and local level to deliver the courses in a 'train the trainer' model, so they can be cascaded within local training models.

EARLY PILOTING OF COURSES

Following the workshop, early opportunities to pilot these courses are being explored in the EUN's Future Classroom Lab, with discussions to related projects and initiatives including the iTEC project, the IWB working group and the InSafe programme.

In April 2012, in liaison with the eTwinning programme, a two-day course entitled "Making the Most of your Interactive Whiteboard" was run, which provided feedback on the pedagogical-led IWB course design and some of the skills and competency development activities.

The course was led by Dr Diana Bannister MBE, Development Director for Learning Technologies Learning Technologies Unit, University of Wolverhampton School for Education Futures. Diana is working with the CPD*Lab* project partners on the design of the IWB course, pulling on earlier research on the use of IWB across Europe. Her earlier work in the field has led to the publication "Making the most of your Interactive Whiteboard" which is available to download from the website of the IWB working group.

Discussions are underway to pilot parts of the other CPD*Lab* courses, with plans to run a Futures Classroom Scenarios course in May and July, with similar opportunities are being sought for early piloting of the eSafety course in the autumn.

Going forward, each of the three courses will be registered with the Comenius in-service training database which will provide funding for teachers to attend the courses delivered from the Future Classroom Lab in Brussels, from the summer 2013.

INCREASING DIGITAL COMPETENCE FOR TEACHERS' RESEARCH

The research interests of one of the project partners, Gréta Björk Guðmundsdóttir from the Norwegian Centre for ICT in Education, focus on increasing digital competence for learners and teachers (pre and in-service) in Norway. Connected to this, Greta has been working within a group which monitors use and access to ICT in schools (grade 7, 9 and 12) learners, teachers and school leaders. A short summary in English of their last report is available here.
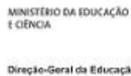
Speaking recently, at at the Comparative and International Educational Society Conference, in Puerto Rico, Greta connected the findings from the Monitor report on teachers digital competence, with the CPD*Lab* project, looking at how the project is aiming to increase digital competence among European teachers with the three courses we are developing. Greta wrapped up her presentation up with a discussion on some of the challenges and opportunities with the cooperation so far – as to finding a mutual platform/point of departure, language issues, funding, flexibility, sharing issues.

GUIDE TO DELIVERABLES PUBLISHED ON CPDLAB WEBSITE

The following deliverables are now available to download through the CPD*Lab* website:

- CPD*Lab* Project Brochure and Presentation: providing an overview of the project;

- Report on existing training support materials: reporting on a survey with partners and expert groups on existing materials in each of the three course areas;

- Course Validation Protocol: detailing how the courses are being validated;

- Quality Assurance Plan: explaining the quality assurance process;

- Dissemination and Use Plan: explaining how the project results will be disseminated.

CPDLab partners

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