

“Regional Support for Inclusive Education”

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An inclusive school is a school where:

every child is welcome,

every parent is involved,

every teacher is valued.

Inclusive TeacherNet Workshop

Skopje, 24-25 June 2014

Draft Concept and Agenda

The Inclusive TeacherNet Workshop is a regional meeting of teachers from the 49 pilot schools of the Joint EU/CoE Project “Regional Support for Inclusive Education” in the South East Europe. The TeacherNet is one of the regional platforms for learning and exchange among teachers created by the Project. The meeting is taking place in Skopje, on 24-25 June 2014, kindly hosted by the Ministry of Education and Science of “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”.

Background

Council of Europe member states consider **quality education** as education which among other things relies on **qualified teachers** who are committed to continuous professional development.¹ Education and training report for EU recognizes appropriate teacher education and training to deal with diversity in the classroom and work effectively with pupils at risk as essential for teachers, especially for preventing early school leaving.²

The Joint EU/CoE Project “Regional Support for Inclusive Education” has dedicated one of its components to teachers, with the main objective of improving teacher competencies and practices for inclusive education.

The teachers and schools in the regional project are members of the *Inclusive TeacherNet* and *Inclusive SchoolNet*, two key platforms for *learning through exchange*. The Project also established the *Inclusive PolicyNet*, a multi-composition of key stakeholders in the area of policymaking in education, which will be influencing the policies based on the learning and successful examples from schools and teachers.

In the first Regional PolicyNet meeting in Sarajevo, on 6 March 2014, *teacher professional development and support to teachers* in terms of pre-service and in-service teacher training, policy frameworks for teacher preparations such as standards, qualifications frameworks, were identified as crucial issues from all the three thematic groups of policy members.³

The project will support teachers by upgrading existing teacher training modules and programmes on inclusive approaches in pre-service, in-service and teacher mentorship areas. As a basis for this process, a mapping of existing quality inclusive education training programmes

¹ Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe member states Recommendation on *ensuring quality education*. Recommendation CM/Rec(2012)13

² European Commission/EACEA/Eurydice, 2013. Education and Training in Europe 2020: Responses from the EU Member States. Eurydice Report. Brussels: Eurydice.

³ For more info see [Policy support](#)

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within the SEE region and the CoE/EU is being carried out by a team of international experts. Aspects of teacher education relevant to inclusive education were analysed and meetings were held with main stakeholders, project partners, local experts and teachers across the region.

The first Inclusive TeacherNet workshop will engage teachers to discuss and provide input on the findings from mapping of existing modules and programmes of teacher professional development. Feedback from teachers on relevant teacher competencies and practices for inclusive education will be incorporated into the framework that will help upgrading innovative modules and programmes. The workshop will also aim to strengthen the TeacherNet through shared learning and exchange of experiences.

Objectives of the workshop

- 1) to present the findings from the mapping study carried out to assess the existing teacher training programmes/modules in inclusive education in SEE and CoE/EU, and
- 2) to obtain feedback on the findings from the participants -teachers from the TeacherNet, pre-service teacher education institutions and in-service teacher training providers from the region.

Expected result

Consultation process and feedback from participants incorporated into the mapping study construct a solid basis for upgrading the existing modules on inclusive education to innovative training modules and programmes.

Participants

Teachers from primary, general secondary and VET pilot schools of the Project across seven Beneficiaries in the South East Europe, representatives from Ministries of Education, initial teacher education institutions, in-service teacher training providers, regional and international experts.

AGENDA

DAY ONE – Tuesday, 24 June 2014

08:00 – 09:00 **Registration of participants**

09:00 – 09:30 **SESSION 1: Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Chair: Council of Europe

Host: Ministry of Education and Science of “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”

Lead Moderator: Raisa Venäläinen

09:30 – 11:00 **SESSION 2: Findings of the mapping of existing inclusive teacher training modules and programmes in the SEE and CoE/EU**

Presentation by Prof. Dr. Judith Hollenweger, Zurich University of Teacher Education, Lead Expert

Question and answers session

11:00 – 11:30 **Coffee break**

11:30 – 13:00 **SESSION 3: Working groups on the mapping findings**

Aim: the working groups to reflect and give feedback on findings of the mapping study

| Working group 1: Initial teacher education for inclusion | Working group 2: Continuing professional development for inclusion | Working group 3: Teacher mentorship for inclusion |
|---|---|--|
| Moderator: TBC Rapporteur: TBC | Moderator: TBC Rapporteur: TBC | Moderator: TBC Rapporteur: TBC |

13:00 – 14:30 **Lunch**

14:30 – 16:00 **SESSION 4: Working group on the upgrade of teacher training modules**

Aim: to make recommendations that will feed the framework for upgrade of modules.

| Working group 1: Initial teacher education for inclusion | Working group 2: Continuing professional development for inclusion | Working group 3: Teacher mentorship for inclusion |
|---|---|--|
| Moderator: TBC Rapporteur: TBC | Moderator: TBC Rapporteur: TBC | Moderator: TBC Rapporteur: TBC |

16:00 – 16:30 **Coffee break**

16:30 – 17:00 **SESSION 5: Discussion of the web-platform concept**

Plenary presentation of the web-platform concept by the expert
Interactive discussions in small café tables of the web-platform

17:00 – 17:30 Summary remarks and preparations for the next day

DAY TWO – Wednesday, 25 June 2014

09:00 – 12:00 **SESSION 6: Presentations of the working groups**

Groups make their recommendations for upgrading of the existing inclusive teacher training modules and programmes

Discussion

12:00 – 12:30 **CLOSING REMARKS AND NEXT STEPS**

12:30 – 14:00 **Lunch**

Departure of some groups