

Summary of the Grundtvig-Project ALFA

The ALFA partnership aims were to deal with family learning and to acquire an in-depth view of family learning by assessing the educative effectiveness of the exchange between parents and children and the ability to pass on experiences, knowledge, values and cultural tools needed to participate to social life.

The partnership objectives were:

1. Considerations on the family environment in each context involved: how it is changing, what form it is taking, the main roles played by each actor.
2. Evaluation of the educative potential of the family environment.
3. Definition of a specific theme in each context and analysis of how it is presented in the family environment.

The main activities were redefined as follows:

1. Theme choice - Each partner, on the basis of its own experience and specific context, has chosen a theme and determined whether and in what measure family learning can be an answer to the learner's training needs.

The main application had eight themes. Due to the partnership reorganization, the themes from the main application were re-distributed as follows:

- Poland: "Equality between genders"
- Romania: "Relationship between young and old people"
- Germany: "Domestic violence prevention"
- Finland: "Prevention of rural dispersion"
- The Netherlands: "The ICT technologies in family learning" and "Critical analysis of web contents".
- United Kingdom: "Dialogue between generations"

2. Research:

a. Every partner made a qualitative study of the relationship between older and younger members of a family in the chosen context. Every partner made this research on their national context, using its own research methodology, and presentet it at the meeting he organizes. All the themes were covered.

b. For the "acquisition of a more in-depth view of the family learning theme with special regard to the use of ICT technologies as instruments to bridge the generation gap and to create a neutral ground on which patents and children can meet using the same language and communication tools" (main application) we established that the research founding's presentation is completed (in every meeting) by an interactive international seminar that provide the learners participating in the meeting with the opportunities to exchange ideas and to talk about cultural differences on the meeting theme, with special regard to the use of ICT technologies. There were two international seminars: "Equality between genders" (in Poland) and "Relationship between young and old people" (in Romania).

3. Mobility:

- a. Exchange of competencies on the specific themes developed by each partner.
- b. Achieve the number of the mobility established in the partnership application.

4. Dissemination:

- a. Dissemination of the results and achievement of a positive response on the family learning theme by involving those actors who are considered strategic for the sector.
- b. Widening of the debate on how the effectiveness family learning can be increased and strengthened and also on the assistance obtainable from new learning technologies.
- c. Directing the results of the research carried out by each partner to the institutional subjects involved in the laying out of the strategies for adult education

The results of the learning partnership are:

1. Implementation of research activities planned
2. Sharing of methodologies and best practices on the theme discussed in each meeting
3. Diffusion of project activities and objectives involvement of strategic actors in the field of adult education innovation

The products are:

1. Blogs for disseminating information. The partnership blog is: <http://alfa.posterous.com>. Some countries made an own micro blog, so only on one official blog page the links to these blogs are given.
2. Project Newsletters or meeting minutes – after every meeting
3. Research product on the theme discussed. The research reports on the two themes covered “Equality between genders” and “Relationship between young and old people”
4. Meeting reports
5. Evaluative questionnaires – completed for all the meetings, except the first meeting in Germany
6. Local / national seminars were held in each country on the project themes, seminars including a small number of participants (10-20)
7. The Romanian EDU-World International Conference, which took place in 8th-9th of October 2010, was a good chance for dissemination activities, as articles on the project themes were presented at the conference.