

Strategic Plan & Quality Standard of Partnership against ESL



Index

Introduction

Strategic Plan against ESL

Quality Standards of Partnership

Conclusion



**KA.1 Mobility of Youth Worker
Partnership Building Activity**

Introduction

The Strategic Plan and the Quality Standard of Partnership against Early School Leaving (ESL) are the tangible results of the Partnership Building Activity (PBA) project, called "Erasmus+: a Tool Against ESL" implemented in Palermo between 10th and 14th May 2016.

The project was financed by the European program Erasmus+_Ka.1 Mobility of Youth Worker and it was implemented by Per Esemplio (Italy) in collaboration with Seiklejate Vennaskond (Estonia), Active Youth (Greece), Santa Casa da Misericordia de Santarem (Portugal), Scola Nostra (Romania), Baskent Genclik Hareketi Egitim Kultur Sanat Spor Gezi Ve Yardimlasma Dernegi (Turkey), SZÁMALK-Szalézi Szakközépiskola (Hungary), JIC "B.u.M.s." (Latvia), Galicia connection (Spain).

Both the tangible project results are the outcomes of the 27 participants' work based on non-formal learning activities and realized thanks to the trainers' facilitation.

We hope that these results could be a valid base for designing future projects or implementing interventions that can contribute to the achievement of one of the European Strategy 2020 objectives: Reduce the rates of early school leaving below 10%.

Strategic Plan against ESL

The following list reports the overall solutions to combat ESL, coming out from the participants during the "Six Thinking Hats" activity. Six Thinking Hats is a system designed by Edward De Bono which describes a tool for group discussion and individual thinking involving six colored hats. "Six Thinking Hats" and the associated idea parallel thinking provide a means for groups to plan thinking processes in a detailed and cohesive way, and in doing so to think together more effectively.

- New teaching methodologies
- Life experiences in education (knowledge + skills)
- Open air schools
- School as an active participant of individual paths
- Travelling as an educational method
- Connection between theory and practice / more practical classes so as be related with the job market

- More available funds for schools
- Raising awareness about importance of education
- Educational system adapted to the needs of people/ focused curricula
- More non-formal education inside the formal education
- Facilities
- No homework
- Self-Direct Learning in schools
- Learning To Learn activities in schools

Quality standards of partnership

In order to carry on successful projects that aim at combating ESL or at any other purpose, one of the key aspects is to build a quality partnership. For that reason, the PBA's participants elaborated some general and shared standards for quality partnership with the purpose to respect them in future cooperation and collaborations. The following list of standards came out thanks to two role plays, in which participants, through the situations proposed by the trainer, reflected on the cooperation between partners and shared experiences:

- select partners according to the topic of the project
- respect the established criteria and agreements
- create a long-term partnership
- respect the deadline
- respect the fixed tasks and roles
- give value to the competencies of all the partners involved

Conclusion

Member States are working on the Europe 2020 target to reduce the rate of ESL to below 10% by 2020, and many have made progress. However, developments are not happening everywhere at the same pace, and some countries performed worse in 2012 than in previous years. Some of them are countries involved in the project, such as Turkey, Italy and Spain.

Good results in reducing ESL can be obtained through a shared and comprehensive strategy based also on a quality partnership at local and international level.

The Strategic Plan against ESL and the Quality Standards of Partnership may, therefore, be a starting point addressed to organizations working in the education and Youth field for future initiatives and projects against ESL.

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication and/or communication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.