

**OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting****Warsaw, 28 September – 9 October 2009
Working Session 9****Contribution of the Council of Europe****The Pestalozzi Programme, the Council of Europe programme
for the training of education professionals****Background**

The Pestalozzi Programme situates itself at the interface between policy and practice. It looks at how education policy can best be transposed into the everyday practice of teaching and learning so that the desired change influences the day-to-day experience of all learners. In doing so it acknowledges the vital and crucial role of education professionals in the process of change. Since it is important that all learners develop the competences – knowledge, skills, attitudes and values - which are necessary to make societies democratic and sustainable, all teachers in different educational settings need to contribute and need to be trained. This is why the Pestalozzi Programme potentially targets all education professionals and societal actors with an educational role.

Training approach

The Pestalozzi Programme seeks to promote effective change and adopts an approach to training and development which reflects the principles and values of the Council of Europe, its standards, frameworks and guidelines in education, are the basic ingredients of education for sustainable democratic societies.

The approach to training reflects a strong concern for effectiveness and impact. It builds on the expertise and experience of the trainees. It is interactive, learner-centred, and offers an opportunity to learn by doing, to work together over time to collaboratively find fit solutions for diverse contexts. Training needs to be organised and delivered in a way that is coherent with the content of the training and the competences which it seeks to develop. The training intends to cover the main domains of competence development: the development of sensitivity and awareness, knowledge and understanding, individual practice and societal practice.

Programme structure

The programme comprises two main strands of activity: European Workshops and Seminars and European Modules for trainer training. Co-operation activities with the European Wergeland Centre and other international organisations, or targeted assistance activities in particular countries round off the action of the programme.

Themes

The “Pestalozzi” programme offers training activities for different categories of education professionals and on priority themes of the Council of Europe such as

- Education for democratic citizenship and human rights
- Intercultural education and education for cultural diversity
- History teaching
- Remembrance and education for the prevention of crimes against humanity
- Education of Roma children in Europe
- Children’s rights and the prevention of violence
- Plurilingualism
- Gender equality and equality in education
- Media literacy based on human rights
- Aspects of general interest concerning teaching, learning and methodology

Specific examples

Human rights

In the framework of its trainer training for *Education for democratic citizenship and human rights* sample training resources have been developed and piloted. These resources are available for download on the web site www.coe.int/pestalozzi.

In 2007 and 2008 a series of trainer training activities focussed on the *Human rights aspects of media literacy development*: educating young people to become responsible users and producers of content in the new media environment (Web 2.0). The respective training resources will become available before the end of 2009.

Remembrance and education for the prevention of crimes against humanity

The Pestalozzi Programme has offered numerous training activities on Remembrance and the Holocaust. In the framework of these activities related teaching material has been developed which will soon be available.

In 2009 a new series of trainer training activities was launched which intends to focus on the development of the knowledge, skills, attitude and values which the younger generations need in order to contribute to the prevention of present and future crimes against humanity. Tried and tested training material will become available in the course of 2010.

The intercultural dimension of religious diversity

In the framework of its cooperation with the Anna-Lindh Foundation, the Pestalozzi Programme has substantially contributed to the elaboration of teaching material for an intercultural approach to religious diversity. The teaching material is available through the [Anna-Lindh Foundation](#).

Roma

In the framework of the “Pestalozzi” programme for education professionals of the Council of Europe, some training seminars were devoted to Roma issues (use of teaching material, Roma culture and history in schools, Roma school mediators, etc.).

Contact: Mr Josef Huber (E-mail: Josef.huber@coe.int)

