

## Participation in the Grundtvig project European InfoNet Adult Education III



The overall objective of the Grundtvig project [European InfoNet Adult Education III](#), which runs from October 2012 to September 2015, is to maintain a comprehensive information portal on adult education in Europe. This includes exchanging information on best practices in the participating countries and on European adult education projects. The project involves 35 partners from 29 EU member states and some associated countries (Norway, Serbia, Switzerland, Turkey). The project coordinator is the Catholic Federal Association for Adult Education (KBE) in Bonn, Germany. SIAE participates in the project as a partner, in the role of correspondent, and is also involved in the dissemination of information related to InfoNet. The contact person for InfoNet in Slovenia is Mateja Pečar.

At the end of 2012, following a year's break, InfoNet resumed its activities and relaunched its website. In January 2013 the first issue of the [InfoNet Newsletter \(Issue 1/2013\)](#) appeared. The newsletter will be published electronically six times a year and is a new version of the former *InfoLetter*, published between 2005 and 2011. Articles from Greece, Ireland, Portugal and the United Kingdom are published under the heading *Effects of the economic crisis*. The authors of the articles present the effects of the economic crisis in adult education. Other articles describe trends and development in Cyprus, Denmark, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland and Slovenia. Peter Beltram of SIAE publishes an article on the latest trends in adult education in Slovenia entitled [Slovenian Master Plan Focuses on Non-Vocational Learning](#). As the title of the article suggests, the emphasis is on the preparation of the Resolution of the National Programme of Adult Education in Slovenia (ReNPIO) for the period 2012–2020. One of the objectives is to increase the participation of adults in lifelong learning. Specific measures will be aimed at non-vocational learning in general, and in particular at the promotion of low-skilled participants. The Resolution, preparation of which is almost complete, is the result of numerous discussions among stakeholders in adult education. This article has received a lot of attention, which demonstrates that European readers continue to monitor developments in Slovenia with interest. Another aim of InfoNet is to provide information on important pan-European trends, including discussions and decisions linked to adult education in the European Union. These are presented in the section *European policies in adult education*. In the *Science* section, InfoNet intends to upgrade the coverage of science and research in adult education. With this issue of the newsletter, InfoNet introduces a new feature: the periodic publication of *articles on adult education policies and practices outside Europe*.



The second issue of the [InfoNet Newsletter \(Issue 2/2013\)](#) appeared in April and included an article entitled *Youth Unemployment – Cooperation between the Lifelong Learning in Europe journal (LLinE) and InfoNet*. The background to the first issue of the online journal *LLinE*, delivered in cooperation with InfoNet, is the idea that more attention should be paid to the voice of adult educators in public discussions on how to limit youth unemployment. The main article in this issue of the journal is a unique overview of youth unemployment in 18 European countries. The article also incorporates a description of [the state of youth unemployment in Slovenia by Peter Beltram of SIAE](#). The first issue of *LLinE* looks at the changes that are necessary in education and policy in order to halt the growth of youth unemployment. Parallel to

their collaboration on this issue of *LLinE*, InfoNet correspondents have posted 20 new articles on the InfoNet website since the publication of the first issue of the InfoNet Newsletter.

Interesting articles can also be found in the third issue of the [InfoNet Newsletter \(3/2013\)](#), published in May. Two of the highlighted articles in this issue focus on the interrelationship between children's learning and parents' learning. Eva Tanczos from Hungary reported on the Real Pearl Foundation, whose leaders believe that the education of parents should be an integral part of children's education in vulnerable families (*Real Pearl: Not only children need to be taught*). In the second article, Christina Gerlach explains the purpose of the European FEAST project in developing scientific literacy (*Exploring the world of science through adult learning*).



An article on the annual conference of the European InfoNet Adult Education III project, which took place in Tallinn in April ([Tallinn Annual Conference: Cooperation between InfoNet and LLinE](#)), presents the cooperation agreement between the Lifelong Learning in Europe journal and InfoNet. Mateja Pečar attended the conference on behalf of SIAE. The *European news* section contains a number of articles on projects and conferences. Particularly worth highlighting is the article on current negotiations between the institutions of the European Union on the future of the Lifelong Learning Programme, including the Grundtvig sub-programme. Aura Vuorenrinne, the author of the article *Erasmus for All is Taking Shape*, interviewed the Finnish representative at these negotiations.



The fourth issue of [InfoNet Newsletter \(4/2013\)](#), published in July, is dedicated to the recently published issue of the LLinE web magazine. The theme of the issue is Active Citizenship. The thematic issue is produced as a part of the ongoing collaboration between InfoNet and LLinE. A wide range of articles covering different aspects of the theme, including a number of research articles, are published. Natalija Vrečer, PhD, of SIAE has written the article entitled *Building Inclusive Societies through Active Citizenship*. This article introduces the *Step In!* project, where integration is presented as a two-way process in which migrants and the majority population of the host country must adapt to one another.

You are invited to read the articles by the SIAE correspondents and other articles on adult education in other European countries offered by InfoNet on the European InfoNet Adult Education website (<http://www.infonet-ae.eu>).

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