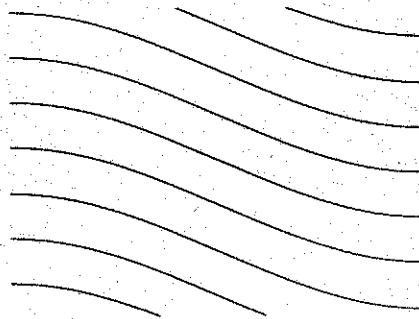


Andragoški center Republike Slovenije
Slovene Adult Education Centre

NOVIČKE



W I N T E R 1 9 9 7

▲ **SLOVENIA FROM NOVIČKE TO NOVIČKE** ▲ **SAEC EVENTS** ● Review of Adult Education in Slovenia 1997/98. Providers and Programmes ● This Year's Awards for Study Circles ● Training for Work in the Systems of OAL. Presentation of the First Certificates ● LEARN - Free Membership Available ▲ **SLOVENE ADULT EDUCATION SCENE** ● Slovene National Programme of Adult Education ● Adult Learning - A Key for the 21st Century. Slovenia's Participation at the Fifth Unesco International Conference on Adult Education ● Slovenia Lifelong Learning Week 1997 (Preliminary Report) ● Presentation of the First Slovene Adult Education Centre awards ● Romaun - In Romany ● Project Youth Learning (PYL) on the March? ● Slovene Companies are not yet Prepared to Adopt "Organised Autonomous Learning" ● Verified Foreign-Language Programmes for Adults under the Microscope of Teachers ● From the Meeting of the Adult Education Professional Council ● Lifelong Education - Lifelong Learning ● Politics, Economics and Lifelong Learning ● The International Meeting "Adult Education in the Period of Transition"

Publisher: Slovene Adult Education Centre, Editor: Zvonka Pangerc-Pahernik

God's blessing on all nations,
Who long and work for a bright day,
When o'er earth's habitations
No war, no strife shall hold its sway;
Who long to see
That all men free
No more shall foes, but neighbours be.

F. Prešeren: THE TOAST

Slovene national anthem



Christmass Greetings

Dear friends, allow us to thank you for being with us in 1997. We wish everyone of you a merry Christmass and a very happy New Year. May the things you have wished for come true, and let's remain united in the joint effort of researching, improving, planning, proposing and promoting adult education.

The very best to you all!

Dr Vida A. Mohorčič Špolar, directress
Zvonka Pangerc Pahernik, head of Information centre and editor of *Novičke*
on behalf of our colleagues and your friends at the Slovene Adult Education Centre.



SLOVENIA FROM NOVIČKE TO NOVIČKE



Milan Kučan Wins Presidential Election

On Sunday, November 23, 3441 polling stations opened at 7.00 o'clock in Slovenia where 1,551,790 registered voters selected the new head of state for the next five-year term in office among eight presidential candidates. Several special forms of balloting were available in the 1997 presidential vote. While early balloting took place over the past week for voters who were away from their permanent place of residence, Slovene citizens temporarily or permanently residing abroad had the possibility to cast their votes in Slovenia's 29 diplomatic and consular missions around the world. Election materials have been sent to about 3200 voters in 38 foreign countries,

primarily in Argentina, Switzerland, the United States, Germany and Croatia. The Constitutional Court has this year extended by five days the term during which postal votes may have reached the electoral commission to be valid. Like in all previous elections, a press centre for domestic and foreign reporters has been set up in the Čankarjev dom cultural centre. About 280 Slovenian and 55 foreign reporters and photographers have been accredited for the election. The first round election have cost the national budget about SIT 414 million (about US\$ 2.5 million) or SIT 267 (US\$ 1.6) per voter.

The election turnout was 60.8 percent - 942,410 of the total 1.5 million eligible voters cast their vote. Slovenia's Constitution as well as Law on Presidential Election do not set a minimum election turnout for the elections to be valid. The Constitution (Article 103) only stipulates that the candidate that receives the majority of valid votes is selected.

According to National Electoral Commission's data Milan Kučan won, collecting 55.6% of the votes.

(Slovenia Weekly, No. 41, November 24, 1997, p. 4)



Slovenia's Candidacy Supported

Janez Drnovšek, the Slovenian Prime Minister, met the President of the European Commission, Jacques Santer, at the introductory reception to the European meeting of the trilateral commissions. Santer assured Drnovšek that no one opposes Slovenia's candidacy for entry into the EU and most countries agree with the 5+1 formula, with only a few supporting any expansion of the group of candidates.

Later on Drnovšek attended a session of the trilateral commission in the Hague and gave a speech dealing with EU expansion from the point of view of a candidate country. He stressed that Slovenia has achieved stable economic development over the five years of its independence despite difficulties in achieving international recognition. Reforms are also well under way in Slovenia, he said. Slovenia is now waiting for the EU's political decision, understanding the dilemma that the Union is faced with regarding the extent of expansion. In this light, Drnovšek called for a comprehensive approach to deal with candidates for the firstround expansion.

(Slovenia Weekly, No. 38, October 31, 1997, p. 7)



TEMPUS International Conference in Portorož

A two-day international conference sponsored by TEMPUS was held in Portorož under the name of 'TEMPUS - Dynamics of Higher Education'. For the first time this year, the conference was held outside of the European Union. It was attended by 150 academics, education experts, representatives of the EU and country-participants in the TEMPUS, TACIS, SOCRATES AND PHARE programmes.

"Higher education is by its very nature one of the most important factors of the contemporary development of society", said the Minister of Education and Sports, Slavko Gaber, pointing out that the strengthening and promoting of co-operation in the international academic sphere is of special importance for those countries seeking European membership.

Discussions during the conference focused on disseminating project outcomes - how the results and dynamics of former TEMPUS projects can be integrated into the reform process of higher education system; on TEMPUS' role in building a new European citizenship in a changing economic environment; on institution building and staff development for the implementation of EU policies and programmes; on reforming the teaching of Economics in TACIS programme countries. It finished with an open discussion with the European Commission on TEMPUS' developments.

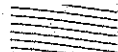
(Slovenia Weekly, No. 41, November 24, 1997, p. 7)



Minister Gaber Attends Structural Dialogue on Education

Slovenian Minister of Education and Sports, Slavko Gaber participated in a structural dialogue gathering EU ministers responsible for education and their counterparts in associate EU-members from Central and Eastern Europe in Brussels. The dialogue focused on bringing the education policies in line with EU standards. After the talks, Minister Gaber said the ministers of education have called for the creation of a harmonised educational policy with a common and distinguishable European element which should be based on quality. Another topic on the agenda was opening EU educational programmes up to associate member-nations, with regard to the TEMPUS programme, which is part of the accession strategy launched by the EU to help associate EU members harmonise with EU standards.

(Slovenia Weekly, No. 41, November 24, 1997, p. 13)



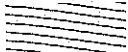


Sixth Anniversary of the Slovenian Tolar

Slovenia introduced its national currency, the tolar, on 8 October 1991. To mark the sixth anniversary of the nation's monetary independence, the Bank of Slovenia's annual awards for the best graduation papers by banking students were presented. An exhibition relating to banking in Slovenia since 1984 was also opened at the central bank's premises on Thursday.

The six years of monetary independence is a relatively short period during which the Government and the Central bank have nevertheless achieved satisfactory results and it is vital to continue the current policy of tolar stability in line with Slovenia's macroeconomic goals and its openness in terms of foreign trade and balance of payments results.

(Slovenia Weekly, No. 35, October 11, 1997, p. 11)



Slovene Academy of Sciences and Arts Becomes Member of International Association of Academies

The Slovene Academy of Sciences and Arts (SAZU) has become a regular member of the International Association of Academies, which is currently holding its 71st annual session in Jerusalem. This international organisation was founded in 1919 upon the initiative of the French Academy. It holds meetings on a yearly basis to review its international links and co-operation. Declaring independence six years ago, Slovenia was only recently admitted into the association. However, the SAZU has been actively participating in the projects of the International Association of Academies in the meantime.

(Slovenia Weekly, No. 24, June 28, 1997, p. 8)

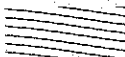


New Information-Documentation Centre

An Information-Documentation Centre of the Council of Europe (COE) has opened in Ljubljana. The opening ceremony was attended by COE Secretary-General Daniel Tarschys and Slovenian Foreign Minister, Boris Frlac. The COE Information-Documentation

Centre is part of Ljubljana's National and University Library. All documents concerning COE activities will be available at the centre. Tarchys expressed his hope that the centre would be useful for all those interested in the COE's activities, whether they be from the government, the parliament, the media, or are researchers or students.

(Slovenia Weekly, No. 36, October 18, 1997, p. 11)



The Internet is Spreading Fast in Slovenia

The project Research on The Internet in Slovenia (RIS) is conducted by the Center for Methodology and Informatics at the Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Ljubljana and is the first serious look at the Internet and related informational technologies in Slovenia. Within two years, the project became widespread and its results and findings internationally comparative. The research has gained the support of the Ministry of Science and Technology, the Ministry of Education and Sport and other contributors in order to help the future development of the project. The basic results and findings are also available on the Internet on the web page at <http://www.ris.org>.

The recent RIS shows that the Internet is increasingly popular among Slovenians. In June 1997, almost 140,000 of those aged between 15 and 70 have already used the Internet and 43% of them access it at least twice a week. This is a relatively high number, considering the size of the population in Slovenia (2 million), and due to extremely Internet favourable politics in the education system. Most users have at least high school or higher education. In comparison to last year's survey, the percentage of female users increased to one third, last year it was one quarter. More than 3% of those aged between 15 and 70 in the population have access to the Internet from home. However, the results refer to the RiS telephone survey which relates to those households accessible by telephone (80% of the Slovenian population). The figures in the total population are about 15% lower. The most widespread Internet application in Slovenia is electronic mail and the WWW. The majority of Internet users have access from the public Internet service provider ARNES (Academic and Research Network of Slovenia) followed by Telecom Slovenia.

The most often used software (browsers) for the Internet are Netscape Navigator (65%) followed by Microsoft Explorer (32%), only a few use Lynx and others.

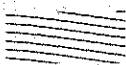
As far as other informational technologies are concerned, one quarter of respondents have already heard of ISDN, but only 22% of them can identify the ISDN provider in Slovenia (Telecom). One third of respondents had heard of GSM, but almost everybody (97%) knew of the national GSM operator, Mobitel. Knowledge of the Internet is much higher, more than 90% of respondents had already heard about it

(last year, only two thirds). Regular PC users represent one third of respondents, one quarter said they have a Pentium and 40% have a 486. One fifth of respondents said they intended to buy a PC within the next six months.

(Slovenia Weekly, No. 29, August 2, 1997, p. 12)



SAEC EVENTS



Review of Adult Education in Slovenia 1997/98 Providers and Programmes

We can only make the right decision if we have quality information at the right time. In order to make the decision easier for everybody eager for knowledge, once again this year, the Slovene Adult Education Centre gathered data on the provision of adult education in 1997/98 through questionnaires, one of which concerns providers, while the other covers their educational programmes. The review has been available since October to the wider public in all general libraries in Slovenia, and it can also be bought from the Slovene Adult Education Centre.

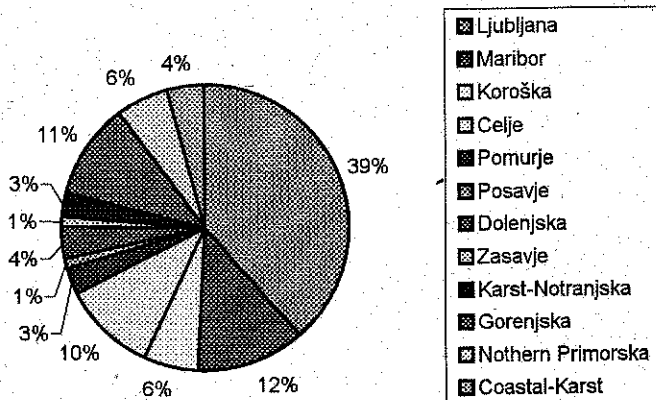
The catalogue covers most organisations and the adult education programmes they develop and provide in Slovenia. Some failed to announce themselves for different reasons - commercial secrecy, incomplete programmes or the internal nature of programmes. In addition, an increasing number of organisations and associations, such as the Ministry of Education and Sport, the Association of Folk Universities and some larger educational and other institutes, publish their programmes in their publications. Users will thus obtain a comprehensive review of educational and learning opportunities by studying all those published.

The review of adult education in Slovenia covers 191 providers and 2942 programmes. To simplify the review, the programmes were "standardised" into 1144 types, almost 39% of all programmes. This year, 7.5% more new programmes were published than last year.

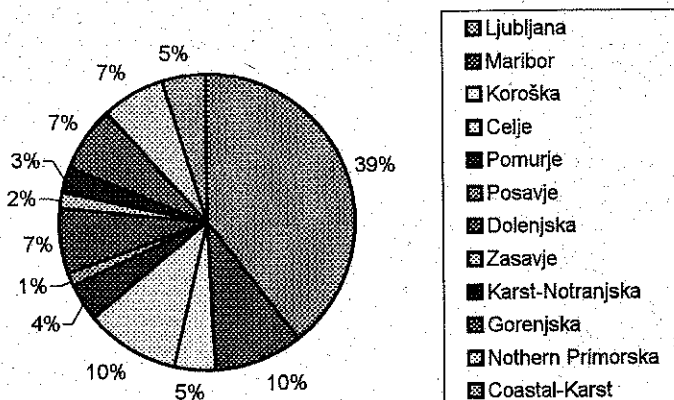
The largest number of adult education providers is in the Ljubljana region (39% of the total), followed by Maribor, Gorenjska and Celje. Likewise, the richest selection of educational programmes is in the Ljubljana region - 1,161 (39% of all educational

programmes), followed a long way behind by Maribor and Celje with 10% each, and by Dolenjska, Gorenjska, northern Primorska, coastal-Karst, Koroška, Pomurje, Karst-Notranjska, Zasavje and Posavje regions.

Number of providers by region



Number of programmes by region



The number of providers and programmes in most regions is proportionate to the number of inhabitants over 15. On average, there are 558 inhabitants per programme.

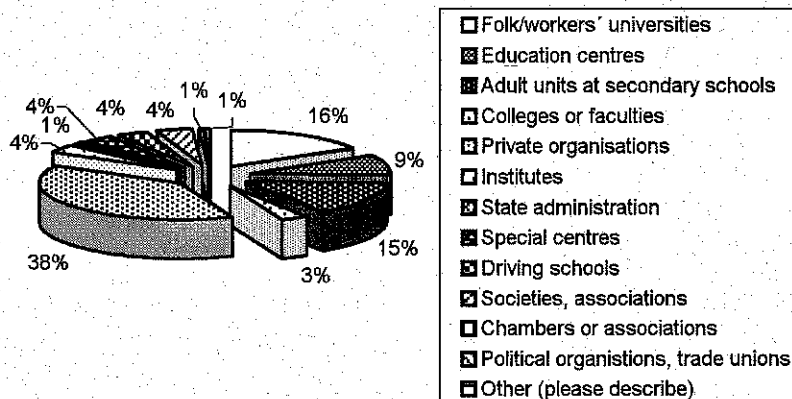
The widest choice is available in the Ljubljana and Dolenjska regions, and the narrowest choice is in the Posavje region.

By dividing the programmes into four categories - primary school, other programmes for obtaining formal education, professional/vocational training, and general non-formal adult education programmes - we can see that most programmes are for professional and vocational education (46% of the total), 38% are intended to provide general education, 15% provide other education and 1% provide primary school education. Provision of primary school programmes is evenly distributed across all the regions; Ljubljana leads in the implementation of programmes for education with 21%, followed by Maribor, Dolenjska, Gorenjska, Celje, Koroška and other regions. Ljubljana also leads in the provision of training and work-related programmes and of general education programmes, with 40 and 46% respectively.

The largest number of provider organisations are private companies - 74 (38% of all providers); followed by folk/workers' universities - 32 - and adult units at secondary schools - 29. Political organisations, trade unions and the state administration account for the fewest provider organisations (1%). No organisation defined itself as a chamber or association. In comparison with last year, the largest increase (10%) is among private companies.

Private organisations are the most heavily represented in the Ljubljana region, with 48% of the total. Other types of organisation are distributed evenly. In the Maribor region, private organisations account for 36% of the total, followed by adult units at secondary schools with 22% and folk/workers' universities with 17%. Again in Koroška, private organisations are most heavily represented, with 41%, followed by adult units at secondary schools, folk/workers' universities and special centres, all with an even distribution. 30% of organisations in the Celje region are folk/workers' universities, followed by private organisations and adult units at secondary schools. In Pomurje, almost half are folk/workers' universities, followed by adult units at secondary schools, societies and associations and private organisations. Only two groups are represented in Posavje and Zasavje - private organisations and folk universities, each accounting for half of the total. In Dolenjska, folk/workers' universities dominate with 43%, followed by education centres with 30% and adult units at secondary schools and private organisations. In the Karst-Notranjska region, private organisations dominate with 60%, with the remainder accounted for by adult units at secondary schools and folk/workers' universities. Private organisations have the largest share with 42%, followed by adult units at secondary schools, folk/workers' universities, education centres and driving schools. Northern Primorska is dominated by private organisations (37%), followed by adult education units at secondary schools, folk/workers' universities, education centres and driving schools. Private organisations account for a quarter in the coastal-Karst region, as do folk/workers' organisations, adult units at secondary schools, and colleges or faculties.

Type of education organisations



By dividing the programmes into areas, we find that the most widespread is general education (1,038 programmes, 35.3%), technical (899 programmes, 30.6%), economic-commercial-organisational (342 programmes, 11.7%), trading-catering (198 programmes, 6.7%), arts (127 programmes, 4.3%), social sciences (92 programmes, 3.1%), teacher-training (75 programmes, 2.5%), biotechnology (47 programmes, 1.6%), law-administration (42 programmes, 1.4%), personal services (35 programmes, 1.2%), health (23 programmes, 0.8%), research-innovation (8 programmes, 0.3%) and sport and environment (7 programmes, 0.2%).

This year, we processed the data using a new programme using a relational database.

The information is available in two forms, in writing and on diskette. The written form covers the same types of data as last year, while the disk version, in a user-friendly form, provides greater searchability using different search criteria. The application runs under the Windows environment, with a user interface and simple, speedy access to data.

At the Adult Education Centre, we hope that information on educational options for adults will reach the right people, making the right decision easier for all those who know that it's never too late to learn.

Sonja Rems, SAEC



This Year's Awards for Study Circles

This year we are a little late in presenting awards to the most successful study circles, which have already finished their work and submitted the SAEC application form. Using the established criteria:

- response to the circle in the local and wider environment
- achievement of demanding educational and action goals of the circle
- length of duration of the circle
- we selected some circles which we felt satisfied all three criteria and deserve an award for their success. Although all circles worked well and deserve recognition, there are some which were exceptional, so we must specially thank them and write a little about their work.

Knitting with bast, mentor Silva Lutar, Lendava Association of Cultural Organisations

Over the course of 30 hours, the circle studied the history of knitting with bast, which was a special feature of this region. They also studied the reasons for the abandonment of the craft, and gained a practical knowledge of all the stages of knitting with bast. They exhibited their products and also informed the public of their work in the media.

How to be better parents, mentor Natalija Planinc, Mornarček Kindergarten, Piran

Raising a child is a responsible and demanding task for parents, so some of them joined together in a circle and together with a mentor, they swapped experiences and studied professional literature to play their role in raising their children as well as possible and to recognise both their children's and their own needs.

Ljubljana - my town, mentor Irena Reberšak, Zarja Institute Ljubljana

The circle has been working now for two years with the intention of allowing the circle members a more independent and safer route around Ljubljana. They looked at Ljubljana from various perspectives, learned about Ljubljana's traffic arrangements and visited some tourist attractions. The circle ran for 34 hours and informed the public of the results of their work.

Flower arranging, mentor Majda Zanoškar, Stik Mežica

The members of the circle were exceptionally independent in studying and preparing flower arrangements for different occasions; they had endless ideas and creativity in seeking out different materials to produce wonderful arrangements. In 42 hours they collected enough products to prepare an exhibition.

Old varieties of fruit trees on farms, mentor Marija Vaukan, Society of Rural Youth, Slovenj Gradec

Members of the circle studied old varieties of fruit trees on farms, describing and photographing them, and attempting to find out more about these varieties from professional literature. They gathered a comprehensive collection of materials, which they published, simultaneously preparing several professional articles for different newspapers. The principle aim was to preserve the old fruit varieties in the area of the Mislinje valley, which have delighted generations with their fruits. They needed 120 hours and much independent work for such an extensive task.

Creative arts workshop - clay modelling, mentor Zdenka Lulik Žigon, Institute of culture, education and sport, Ajdovščina Folk University

Clay takes many forms, all it needs is a little spirit breathed into it by a skilful and creative hand and a look to your neighbour to see how they are modelling theirs, and you get wonderful products which can be exhibited. What is needed is much work and patience; in this circle they worked for 67 hours.

Ajdovščina and its surroundings - the heart of the Vipava valley, mentor Pavle Bogataj, Institute of culture, education and sport, Ajdovščina Folk University

Ajdovščina is a small town with a long history; and that is what the members of the circle studied, discovering that some customs from the past have remained until the present day, while others have changed. They will publish the material gathered and their findings when their work, which has so far taken forty hours, is done.

About clay and ceramics, mentor Nevenka Burger, Postojna Folk University

Last year, the members of the circle founded a ceramics society; the society has been active again this year and is preparing an exhibition. The circle worked for 60 hours, producing wonderful products. They informed the public of their work through newspapers.

Let's make our place nicer, mentor Marjana Urbančič, Postojna Folk University

The circle members have for a number of years tirelessly prepared clean-up campaigns in smaller places, which have generated a great response and have been very well attended. Through the campaigns, they draw attention to the carelessness of those who pollute the environment. They spent 52 hours working and informed the public of their work.

Healthy food, yesterday and today, mentor Angela Svenšek, Murska Sobota Folk University

People in the past ate very differently from today, and the pace and way of life affect dietary habits. In 38 hours, the circle members studied food in the past and wrote some handbooks on nutrition best suited to today.

"Ray" Photography study circle, mentor Vilma Colja, Sežana Folk University

The circle has gathered so much material in the few years it has been operating that the member's exhibited photographs are a match for professional photographers; it has also organised "ex tempore", which generated a large response. If we could, we would give the circle a double award.

Pohorska and Haloška needlework - the beauty of the past and present, mentor Vida Lipoglav, Slovenska Bistrica Folk University

Circle members attempted the difficult task of looking for native needlework in order to preserve it as an important part of the cultural heritage of these places. In so doing, they discovered that Pohorje has its own native form of needlework. The circle has so far needed 40 hours for its work, and it will continue in the autumn.

Linking wickerwork and spatial perception - mentor Jiří Kočica, Vocational secondary school, Ljubljana

Wickerwork is slowly being forgotten, and for precisely this reason, the circle members gathered to study ways of preserving this knowledge and to contemporary spatial perception. They also prepared an interesting campaign on earth day. The circle operated for 32 hours and will continue in the autumn.

Textile painting and production, mentor Marija Kralj, Doba Maribor

Circle members studied techniques for painting on textiles and looked for ways they could make things for daily use themselves. In 61 hours, members produced some wonderful products.

I create, therefore I am, mentor Jelka Bratec, Sonce Ljubljana

Creativity is a condition of our existence, as the circle members discovered. They studied all possibilities and forms in which creativity can express itself. The circle ran for 40 hours.

Independent living for the disabled, mentor Alenka Danko, Sonce Ljubljana

When an accident happens and life changes totally in a matter of moments, a great deal of time and patience is required, both from the disabled and from those around them, to allow them to rejoin society and live full and creative lives.

How to present yourself on the labour market, mentor Jasna Habjan, Made Maribor

To gain work and employment - that was the main goal of the circle members. They studied how they must present themselves to employers and then how to achieve their goal. They met for 45 hours.

Separate collection of domestic waste at source, mentor Jožica Šnuderl

We can do a lot to preserve nature in our very own homes by starting to separate

waste and prepare it for processing or removal. Circle members issued a brochure on ways of collecting waste in the home.

Successful communication, mentor Marija Sitar, Association of Free Trade Unions of Slovenia, Ljubljana

Successful communication is the basis for good interpersonal relations. It is also a form of transmitting messages to multiple recipients, while at the same time reflecting our relations towards other people and events. They also presented their work on local radio and in newspapers.

Conflict resolution in companies, mentor Marija Erakovič, Association of Free Trade Unions of Slovenia, Ljubljana

It is best to prevent conflict, but if it does arise, it must also be resolved. Methods and techniques for resolving disagreements in companies were discussed by circle members. They published their findings in a handbook. Their work took them 36 hours.

Guide to my legal rights and responsibilities, mentor Ivanka Filipančič, Invel Velenje

Circle members studied the rights and responsibilities they have for example in buying or selling, borrowing money, employment and the like. They compile a handbook with sample forms for all these procedures.

Abandoned mine as a tourist attraction, mentor Marijan Račnik, Society of Rural Youth, Slovenj Gradec

Even abandoned and often derelict mines can be a regional attraction. Understandably, the mine has to be prepared to allow safe access and viewing.

Komen - such an old new village, mentor Alenka Kariž, Dornberk primary school

Through persistent study of the history of their village, the circle members gathered enough material first to publish a book and now to produce a leaflet on the interesting features of Komen. They took 41 hours to prepare the leaflet.

Budanje yesterday and today, mentor Irena Kodele Krašna, Association of Friends of Youth Ajdovščina

Circle members studied the history and role of their village and produced a newspaper which links their past with the present, describing the former and the present Budanje and its proud inhabitants. The circle operated for 48 hours and will continue in the autumn.

Glimpses of the countryside, mentor Kristina Valič, Association of Friends of Youth Ajdovščina

Even small and apparently uninteresting villages conceal a great deal of interest to the public. Circle members worked for 70 hours and gathered materials for a tourist guide.

**For the happiness of parents and children, mentor Ida Bačar,
Association of Friends of Youth Ajdovščina**

Parents showed and demonstrated that they can do a great deal for their children and for themselves, including by preparing puppet shows and performing them for all, children and parents. They worked for 62 hours for this, and their presentation generated a lot of praise in newspapers.

**Wind rattles as a symbol of Haloze, mentor Marija Pulko, Halo
Cirkulane**

The circle brought together producers of wind rattles in this area with the intention of studying and producing wind rattles, which are characteristic of Haloze. In 40 hours, they gathered together materials which they will publish in the autumn, when they will also prepare a large promotional presentation.

Tourism on the wine routes, mentor Miran Reberc, Halo Cirkulane

Haloze is known for its good wines, which are at their best in the very cellars of the wine producers themselves. For this reason, the circle members gathered information on cellars ready to receive and play host to guests in their home. They published the results of their work in a leaflet over 34 hours.

**Museum study circle, mentor Vanda Volk, Ilirska Bistrica Folk
University**

Circle members have been occupied for a number of years with gathering material for a museum; at the same time, they have been looking for options for establishing the museum. They take care of the preservation of old habits and customs and they attempt to promote their town in a variety of ways. The circle worked for 60 hours and will continue working.

Forget-me-not, mentor Irena Pražnikar, Žalec Centre for Social Work


People's memories preserve a real treasure trove of events and people from our past which could promote interest in our ancestors. For this reason, the circle members will write down their recollections and thereby report them to us.

**Enriching your home with needlework, mentor Marija Sever,
Črenšovci Cultural Society**

Rich needlework patterns on tablecloths, napkins and other linen goods still invoke enthusiasm and amazed looks in people.

Once again, heartfelt congratulations to all those circles receiving awards.

Slavica Černoša, SAEC



Training for Work in the Systems of OAL Presentation of the First Certificates

On October 23rd, we arranged a small celebration at the Adult Education Centre. The first 45 participants of the first module of training for work in the systems of organised autonomous learning (Models of organised autonomous learning) who had also successfully completed the assignment were presented with certificates.

Also attending the presentation of certificates was a representative of the Ministry of Education and Sport, Jože Miklavc and both lecturers, Professor Roger Lewis and Mr Quentin Whitlock. Helping to produce a convivial atmosphere was Urška Bevcer, who with the help of our other project - The Learning Exchange - has learned to play the zither excellently.

Irena Benedik, SAEC



LEARN - Free Membership Available

We would like to thank Mr. William Draves, the president of LERN, for a free membership in their organization. We have been their complimentary members for two years now and we are ver pleased to continue our collaboration.

LERN is one of the leading organizations in United States, dealing with marketing in education. They constantly provide new information and knowledge on marketing in adult education. They have published several books on how to manage an educational setting and how to advertise the courses. Their newsletters bring fresh "how to" ideas every month and they offer thousands of ideas on the Internet. Their seminars (now also online) are very pragmatic and useful for everybody who wants to sell successfully his educational "products".

Now they are offering free membership to up to ten educational institutions in each country for the next year. The so called Professional Membership includes free access to their database on the Internet, one newsletter and other benefits.

Those interested should address:

Mr William Draves
LERN
1550 Hayes Drive
Manhattan

Kansas 66502
USA

Phone: 785 539-5376
Fax: 785 539-7766
E-mail: hq@lern.org

More information on LERN is available on: www.lern.org

Irena Benedik, SAEC
Dr Vida A. Mohorčič Špolar, SAEC



SLOVENE ADULT EDUCATION SCENE



Slovene National Programme of Adult Education

At the beginning of 1996, the Slovene Parliament adopted the Law on Adult Education, which was an important achievement for everybody involved in adult education. It stipulates that long-term adult education development will be outlined in the National Programme (master plan) of Adult Education (NPAE). Under the law, the NPAE determines goals, priority areas, activities required and a framework budget for its implementation. It also states that the NPAE is implemented on the basis of annual plans of AE. The expert basis for the NPAE was prepared by the Slovene Adult Education Centre. The document itself must first be debated by the National Council for Adult Education. The National Council's opinion is considered by the Slovene government, which then passes the document to the parliament. The procedure itself shows that public interest in AE will be reflected in the NPAE.

The structure and implementation of the National programme of adult education

The NPAE consists of 4 elements determined by the law and 1 determined by the expert basis prepared in the Slovene Adult Education Centre. These are:

- goals
- priority areas
- activities required to achieve the goals



- framework budget for its implementation
- expert basis supporting the coordination between government bodies and social partners during the preparation of the Annual Adult Education Plan. The NPAE will be implemented according to the Annual Adult Education Plan (AP) adopted by the government.

Goals were prepared in the SAEC. They cover strategic-qualitative and operational-quantitative goals for the next ten (fifteen) years. Strategic goals cover three areas of AE: education for individual development ("learning to be"), raising the educational level of the whole population, and education and training of the labour force. The goals are defined as follows:

Strategic goals

1. The state guarantees that all citizens/people will have access to general, non-formal and extramural education to acquire sufficient knowledge and skills to improve the quality of life, to preserve and further develop their traditions and identity, to improve information and co-operation, and to understand the differences among people,
2. The State guarantees that the active population will be able to choose from different kinds of educational programmes in order to acquire a higher level of education: the general 4 year secondary school or its vocational equivalent is to become the basic educational standard in the country.
3. The state and social partners are obliged to introduce different measures to encourage the labour force to participate in education and training. Different ways and new options to retain, improve, and modernise labour force knowledge and skills will be introduced.

Operational goals

Cover priority groups of population (population without basic education and skills, and population with educational mismatch (regardless of the educational level) aged between 15 and 25, and those between 26 and 49), and priority areas. Areas are classified into 4 groups: "liberal" education, basic education, secondary and post-secondary level qualifications, education and training of the labour force. Priority groups in terms of age, educational level and social status are proposed for each area, except for the first one. On the basis of current participation in adult education, the existing network of educational institutions and programmes and educational needs (assessed on the national level through the study of development strategies of our country in different areas e.g. the economy, culture, agriculture, science and technology, etc.), a number of priority groups to join education and training over the next 10 (15) years, and their percentages, are proposed, e.g.

- 30% of the population aged 20 or more will have the opportunity to join liberal education programmes by the year 2008;

- all employees without basic education or skills (employees with no qualifications, or who have attained only the 2nd level of vocational education) will have access to basic education programmes for at least 60 hours a year, of which at least 40% will continue in programmes leading to higher levels of education, etc). Population groups in the highest priority area are those with lower education levels or with no qualifications.

Activities required to achieve the goals

In the SAEC expert basis, the activities are divided into education and other areas (economy, finance).

Activities in the field of education are geared towards developing the strategy of lifelong learning for all and comprise:

- The network of personnel in AE. They can be classified as teachers in AE, counsellors in AE, and experts in research and development, information systems and promotion in the field of AE.
- The network of educational programmes.
- Counselling services network (counselling for participants, for AE institutions, for enterprises, ...)
- Research and development in AE.
- Information systems (for monitoring the NPAE and AP).
- The network of institutions in AE (institutions providing AE programmes, national specialised institutions for research, information, counselling, open learning) and AE associations.
- Promotion and publication in AE (e.g. Adult Learners Week, Annual National Award in AE, international co-operation).

Activities in other fields mostly refer to positive and negative governmental measures for individuals, enterprises and local communities, and they haven't been prepared yet (there are some partial proposals).

Framework budget for its implementation

So far, the SAEC has analysed the amount of money allocated to AE from the national budget over the last ten years. Though Slovenia's proportion of GDP spent on education is among the highest in Europe (nearly 6%), only 0.09% of GNP is spent on AE. A budget proposal for the NPAE depends on the decision of the National Council of AE regarding the quantitative goals and the role of social partners in conducting the NPAE and AP.

Annual Adult Education PLAN

AP provides the basis for implementing the NPAE. It defines educational programmes, the scope and type of activities needed (so called AE infrastructure), the national budget for AE, ministries responsible for implementation of the Annual Adult Educational Plan.

The Law on AE defines a variety of educational programmes (primary school for adults, programmes for acquiring first vocation after compulsory schooling, programmes raising the general educational level, literacy programmes, work-related training, education and training of the unemployed, democracy programmes, foreign languages, Slovene language for immigrants, education for people with special needs, education to raise the quality of life, and other general education programmes).

The AE infrastructure encompasses, in addition to the activities listed in the NPEA, standards in AE and public service (public AE institutions).

National budget for AE: it is expected that funds from the national budget will increase, and improved co-ordination among different ministries will enhance the allocation of money to priority groups and activities.

Ministries responsible for the implementation of the Annual Adult Educational Plan will be obliged to:

- allocate educational programmes,
- publish public tenders for educational programmes,
- follow up the implementation,
- finance educational programmes,
- finance AE infrastructure,
- other tasks, determined by the AP.

Olga Drogenik, SAEC



Adult Learning - A Key for the 21st Century

Slovenia's Participation at the Fifth UNESCO International Conference on Adult Education, Hamburg, July 14th-18th 1997

UNESCO's international conferences on adult education have a tradition dating back almost fifty years. They are genuine global milestones in the development of adult education, and they take place on average every twelve years. The number of participating countries and delegates increases every time. In addition to the official delegations from 132 countries, a large number of UN and other intergovernmental organisations and 440 different non-governmental and professional organisations attended; there were around 1400 delegates. Official delegations varied in size, from those consisting of only person to the largest - Germany, the host country - with

