



ELPiPL Experiences

Liisa Wallenius

liisa.wallenius@haaga-helia.fi

University of Applied Sciences (Finland)

Abstract

The ELPiPL (European Language Portfolio on Students' Journey to Professional Life) is a lifelong learning languages project developing and promoting the use of the European Language Portfolio (ELP). The target group are language learners, teachers and work life. The aim is to develop teaching methods and materials, transform teacher identities, enhance learner autonomy and promote learning of several foreign languages, plurilingualism and lifelong learning. The project started in January 2009 with preparation, exchange of best practices and ideas, and material bank development. An enterprise survey on work life language requirements and usability of the ELP and Europass was conducted at ca. 70 organisations and followed by interviews in six European countries. From August 2010 until April 2011 pilot courses were given in Russian, French, Polish, Czech, Finnish, Swedish, Spanish and German. Pilot 1 involved 650 youth and adult students and Pilot 2 1,300 students in secondary level general and vocationally oriented higher education in the Czech Republic, Finland, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland and Sweden. Pilot courses with ELP integration were also given in multinational groups with immigrant backgrounds. During the pilot the teachers kept diary blogs on NING, contributed to material development and met in face-to-face and online workshops. Throughout the project Moodle was used as discussions and filing. The ELP and CEF were promoted in work life and at the partner institutions and teacher and student surveys on language learning and teaching were conducted. Students used a NING with blogs and work on display. Also, work life representatives and other interested parties were invited to the NING. This paper will focus on presenting the teacher, student and enterprise experiences with the survey results. Also, the practical tools for ELP integration produced, ELPiPL online and teacher and student handbooks, will be presented.