



## **Comenius Regio Conference - creating European networks of regions Bordeaux, 11 – 12 May 2011**

### **Programme**

11th MAY 2011

12:30 – 15:00 Registration

15:00 – 16:00 Plenary Session – General Introduction to the Conference – Room SYLVOS

#### Chair:

- ♦ Adam POKORNY, Head of the Unit for School education policy and the Comenius programme, Directorate General for Education and Culture, European Commission
- Opening and welcome from the European Commission
- ♦ Alain ROUSSET, President of the Regional Council of Aquitaine, President of the Association des Régions de France.
  - ♦ Alin Adrian NICA, Chairman of the Commission for Education, Youth, Culture and Research, Committee of the Regions

16:00 – 16:45 Coffee break and networking: exhibition areas and coffee corners – Room GUYOT

#### Exhibition Areas

The exhibition area will be the home of a variety of displays pertaining to the topics of the thematic workshops (namely: key competences; social inclusion and prevention of early school leaving; teachers and school leaders; school cooperation with local community and business). Conference participants are invited to explore the exhibition areas between sessions: these areas will offer the chance to make European contacts and to build collaborative

#### Coffee Corners

The coffee corners are an opportunity to network informally and to discuss the proceedings of the conference, as well as the experiences of the last two years of partnership projects. More than this, we hope that the coffee corners will be a space where participants can meet new potential partners and build their relationships with existing ones, to lay the foundation for more successful regional cooperation in the future. Panels for sticking post-it messages will be available and allow people to identify partners and opportunities for regions to cooperate.

16:45 – 18:00 Plenary Session – "Schools for the 21st Century – the role of regional cooperation" , Room SYLVOS

- ♦ Jerzy WISNIEWSKI

Topic: Key competences for lifelong learning – how can schools change to respond to the challenges of the 21st Century?



◆ François DUBET

Topic: The role of school education in enhancing social inclusion in an increasingly diverse society.

19:30 Dinner - Jefferson Restaurant, Cité Mondiale, 7th floor

12th MAY 2011

09:00 - 9:15 Plenary Session –"The role of local and regional authorities in building a European area of education and training" - Room SYLVOS

Chair:

- ◆ Antoine GODBERT, Director, Agence Europe France Education
- ◆ Philippe RICHERT, Minister for Local Authorities in the French Ministry of the Interior, Overseas, Local Authorities and Immigration

09:15 - 9:30 Introduction to the thematic workshops - Room SYLVOS

09:30 – 11:00 Thematic workshops - Rooms ROYAT

In order to actively involve participants, there will be 4 thematic workshops which bring together most of the topics covered by the ongoing projects. The aim of each workshop is to provide local/regional authorities with a forum:

- to exchange their experiences of improving school education
- to receive expert information
- to promote visibility to their projects
- to meet other participants and get to know other projects
- to promote further cooperation

Workshop 1 : Key competencies, opening schools to a new way of teaching and learning.

- ◆ Ann LOONEY, Chief Executive, Irish National Council for Curriculum and Assessment
- ◆ Risto JAAKOLA, representative of the Future Learning Environment partnership
- ◆ Anne Kari THORSRUD, representative of the Increasing Literacy Skills partnership

Developing key competences for the 21st Century requires new approaches to teaching and learning. More innovative learning environments, more collaboration with the world outside schools and new partnerships are needed – learning does not only take place in the classroom!

How can regional collaboration contribute to making schools motivating and relevant places for today's children and young people?

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### Workshop 2: Inclusive, supportive and motivating learning environments for all and how to prevent Early School Leaving

- ♦ Paul DOWNES, Director, Educational Disadvantage Centre, St Patrick's College, Dublin
- ♦ Theo VAN DE VEERDONK, representative of the Dropout Prevention in Schools partnership
- ♦ Ana TURIEL PINTADO, representative of the SPICE, a cooperative project involving students, parents, intercultural, community and education partnership

School should benefit all pupils, irrespective of their background or abilities, and enable them to make the most of their potential. How can regional cooperation help school authorities share inclusive approaches to teaching and learning, ways of improving performance and motivation, and effective responses to challenges such as multicultural and multilingual classrooms and early school leaving?

### Workshop 3: Equipping teachers and School Leaders for a changing school environment

- ♦ Ursula UZERLI, Head of Unit EU coordination and international recognition, Board of Teacher Education, Hessen
- ♦ Rimvydas ZAILSKAS, representative of the Performance Management and Self Evaluation for Qualified Education in Europe partnership
- ♦ Bhavani SHARMA, representative of the Career Pathways in the Education Sector partnership

School leaders are crucial in creating effective environments for learning. Teachers are the key to providing pupils with high quality learning experiences. But school staff also need to be life-long learners and reflective practitioners. How can regional cooperation help school authorities promote this? How can we turn all our schools into places of learning for teachers: through classroom practice for student teachers, induction programmes for newly qualified teachers and continuing professional development for all?

### Workshop 4 : School cooperation with Local community and business

- ♦ Kevin SMITH, Chief executive, Young Chamber UK
- ♦ Gisella LANGÉ, representative of the Milan-Paris: the Thread of Fashion partnership
- ♦ John RULLESTAD, representative of the CREATE; Collaboration in Education Aiming Towards Employment partnership

Focuses on one of the central ideas of Regio cooperation and will be an opportunity to exchange ideas on effective collaboration of local/ regional authorities with other stakeholders within their communities in the field of school education.

11:00 – 11:30 **Coffee break and networking:** exhibition areas and coffee corners - Room GUYOT

11:30 – 12:45 **Thematic workshops** continued - Rooms ROYAT

13:00 **Lunch**

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14:30 – 16:00 Plenary session - Room SYLVOS

Panel discussion on future networking including feedback from Workshops

16:00 – 16:45 Coffee break and networking: exhibition areas and coffee corners – Room GUYOT

16:45 – 17:30 Plenary session on administrative and financial reporting issues - Room SYLVOS

♦ Margarita LAGO, Deputy Head of Unit - Comenius coordinator, Directorate-General for Education and Culture, European Commission

♦ Presentation from the Commission on the administrative and financial reporting issues

Questions and Answers

17:30 – 18:15 Closing of Conference

### Chair:

♦ Adam POKORNY, Head of the Unit for School education policy and the Comenius programme, Directorate General for Education and Culture, European Commission

♦ Alain JUPPÉ, French Minister of State in charge of Foreign and European Affairs, Mayor of Bordeaux

♦ Jan TRUSZCZYŃSKI, Director General, Directorate-General for Education and Culture, the European Commission

♦ In the presence of Laurent WAUQUIEZ, French Minister in charge of European Affairs, under the Minister of Foreign and European Affairs

19:00-19:30 Prize-giving ceremony of the Hippocrene Foundation, the City Hall

19:30-20:15 Cocktail dinner, the City Hall - Hotel de Rohan

20:30 Private viewing at the Museum of Modern Art - CAPC