

# Promoting mutual policy learning between EU Member States by structured co-operation – outcomes of the ELGPN 2007-12 & implications for future work

Dr Raimo Vuorinen, ELGPN Co-ordinator, University of Jyväskylä, Finland

Presentation at the Cyprus EU Presidency Conference:  
Lifelong Guidance 2020 - 4<sup>th</sup> European Conference on Lifelong Guidance Policy

24 October 2012, Larnaca, Cyprus

# Report from the Finnish EU presidency conference on lifelong guidance



November 2006:

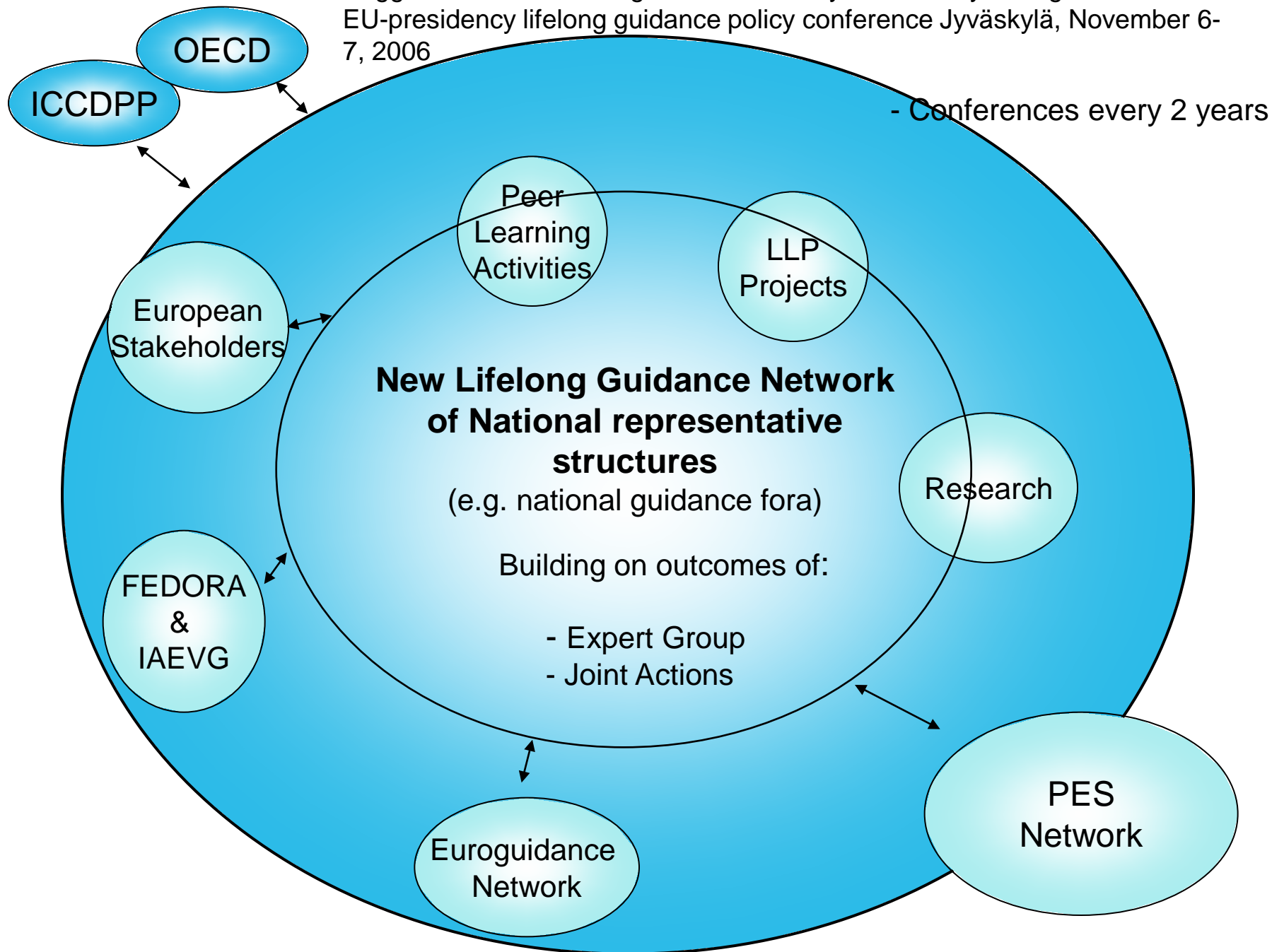
- Since the Communication on Lifelong Learning (2001) and the Resolution on Lifelong Guidance of the EU Council of Education Ministers (2004), much has been achieved in the member-states in improving access to guidance and the quality of guidance systems.
- **But much remains to be done. Many countries still have significant gaps in provision and deficits in quality.**
- It is important that the momentum of development within member-states be sustained. The pace and quality of such development can be significantly enhanced by continued collaboration at EU level.
- **The structures for such collaboration need to be reframed to build upon past experience and to include more active engagement of all member-states.**

# Suggested actions at EU level:

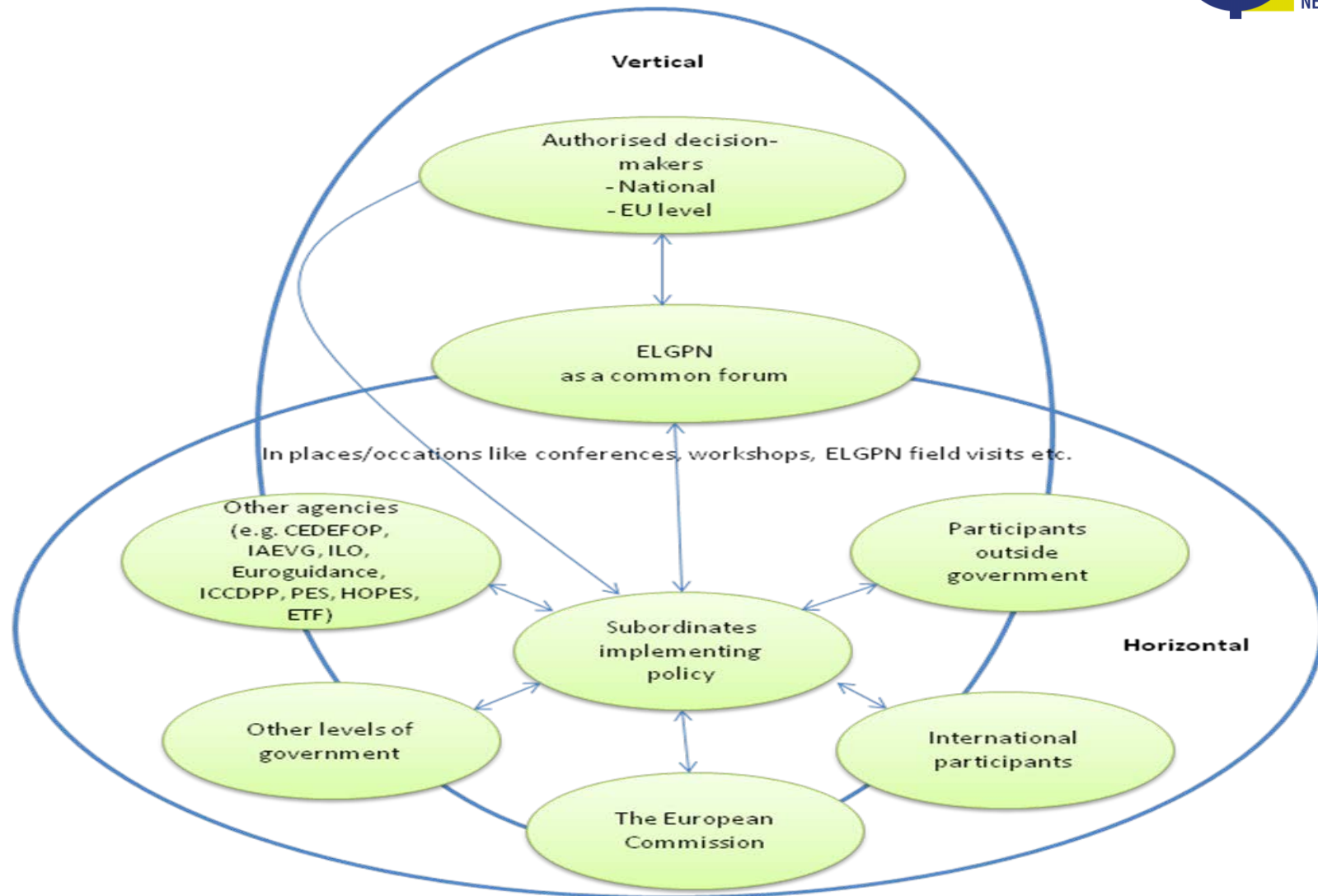


- The work of national guidance fora could be significantly strengthened by the establishment of a European Guidance Network
- The aim of the Network should be to improve guidance provision for all European citizens

Suggested Wider Lifelong Guidance Policy Community during the Finnish EU-presidency lifelong guidance policy conference Jyväskylä, November 6-7, 2006



# Discourse flow in the ELGPN in 2012



# European Lifelong Guidance Policy Network, ELGPN



- A member state-driven network established 2007
- III Phase 2011-12: 29 members, 2 observers
- ELGPN is a conclusion to meet the challenges the policy makers and European citizens meet in implementing the EU 2020 strategies and the tools supporting the strategy (e.g. EQF,EUROPASS, ECVET, ECTS...)
- ELGPN is supported under the LLP (EU Commission grant covers 75% of the budget)

# ELGPN membership

- The national partners
  - represent a lifelong learning perspective, covering education, training and employment for both young people and adults
  - are clearly linked to relevant policy-making processes within their country
  - have the capacity both to contribute to the activities of the Network and to involve the relevant national stakeholders in the education, training and employment sectors, including the social partners and guidance practitioners
- Composition of delegations 2011-12:
  - Educational sector **50** delegates from 27 countries
  - Employment sector **22** delegates from 15 countries
  - Social sector **3** delegates from 3 countries
  - NGOs **38** delegates from 20 countries

# EU Council: Invitations to Member States 21.11.2008

- Encourage the lifelong acquisition of ***career management skills***;
- Facilitate ***access*** by all citizens to guidance services;
- Develop the ***quality assurance*** of guidance provision;
- Encourage ***coordination and cooperation*** among the various national, regional and local stakeholders.
  
- Use the opportunities provided under the Lifelong Learning Programme and the European Structural Funds, in accordance with Member States' priorities



# ELGPN 2007-14

- I Phase 2007-08
  - Establishment of the infrastructure
- II Phase 2009-10
  - Development of the working methodology and identification of the targets
- III Phase 2011-12
  - Development of tools
- IV Phase 2013-14
  - Impact on national level

# ELGPN as a member state-driven network



- A mechanism to promote structured co-operation between member countries
- A forerunner of the EU 2020 working methodology – lifelong guidance as a cross-cutting issue
- A valuable arena for mutual learning
- Strong ownership and commitment among the Network Members

# ELGPN impact on national level

- Increased interaction with national practice and policy development
- **Increased interaction between different ministries**
- A catalyst for national policy development
- **Inspiration for mutual policy learning**
- Stimulus for the development of national quality assurance systems

# ELGPN 2011-12 Products



EUROPEAN LIFELONG  
GUIDANCE POLICY  
NETWORK

- LLG Policy Development, European Resource Kit for Policy Makers
- ELGPN Progress Report 2011-12 & Short Report
- Concept Notes (Flexicurity, Youth Unemployment, Career Management Skills)



# Ευχαριστώ

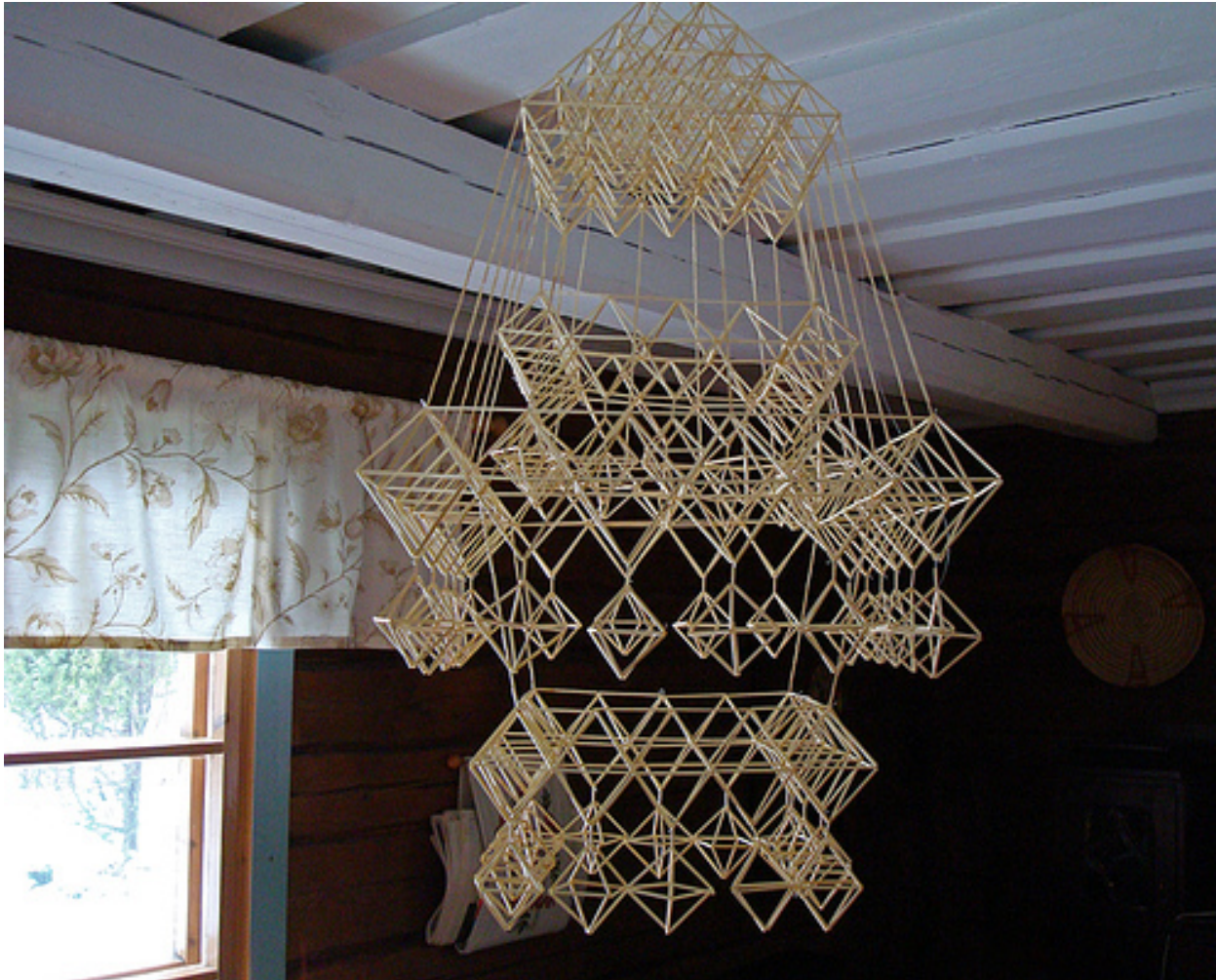
# Thanks to all contributors!

# Future vision

- Modification of the working structure in the light of Europe 2020 and flagship initiatives
- Support for national development
  - Adaptation, implementation and sharing activities related to the Resource Kit.
  - Production of targeted concept papers and briefings
- Enhancing the active collaboration between relevant governmental and non-governmental bodies across ELGPN member countries and other relevant networks, as well as with the relevant units of DG EAC and DG EMPL
- Exploring the possibility of developing a European Framework for Lifelong Guidance Policies and System Development



# Elements of a national lifelong guidance system?



Picture: <http://www.kaspaikka.fi>

Thank you!

For further information, please contact:

Raimo Vuorinen, Senior researcher, Ph.D.  
Co-ordinator of the ELGPN  
Finnish Institute for Educational Research  
P.O. Box 35  
FI-40014 University of Jyväskylä  
tel. +358-50-3611909  
Fax +358-14-2603201  
email: [raimo.vuorinen@jyu.fi](mailto:raimo.vuorinen@jyu.fi)  
www: <http://elgpn.eu/>  
Skype: vuorai