

## The development of the ELGPN Glossary

**The Network is currently preparing a Glossary of lifelong guidance terms. The Glossary is edited by Dr Charles Jackson. Here he describes the process.**

One aim of the ELGPN Work Programme 2011-12 is to produce a Tool-Kit for policy makers and to partly update the previous OECD/EU policy handbook from 2004. As well as developing common reference points for LLG systems, ELGPN members identified the need to develop a common glossary of LLG policy development and related guidance terminology to support the toolkit. A critical issue for the Glossary is to define the terms in a guidance context and thus facilitate dialogue on LLG policy development across the EU.

Initial work on the ELGPN Glossary was conducted by members of the four Work Package (WP) teams who identified potential terms to be included in the Glossary and also provided some definitions as well as identifying key reference sources. However, for the Glossary to be successful, it was realised that both further consultation and editorial work was required. Dr Charles Jackson, a Fellow of NICEC in the UK, has been asked to carry out this work for ELGPN.

A first step was to prepare a set of draft definitions for all the terms that have been proposed for inclusion in the Glossary. This working document has now been circulated to members of each WP for review at their next meeting and to other key interested parties (e.g. Cedefop, EU commission). Once comments are received from each WP and the other organisations consulted, an updated version of the Glossary will be prepared and presented to the Plenary Meeting of the ELGPN to be held in Copenhagen at the end of April. This will provide an important opportunity not only to review the content of the Glossary but also to agree how it should be used and promoted.

A final version of the Glossary taking on board comments from the Plenary Meeting will then be prepared. It is expected that the core Glossary will be published as part of the Tool-Kit for policy makers in September 2012. An extended version of the

Glossary will also be made available on the ELGPN website.



Dr Charles Jackson is a Fellow of the National Institute for Career Education and Counseling and a Visiting Professor at Kingston University Business School. Recent work includes research on university graduates' career choices

for the UK Department for Business, Innovation and Skills and leading the NICEC team that conducted a European-wide review of career support available to people in employment for Cedefop

## German Quality Process Begins its Second Phase

**The “Open Process of Coordination for Quality Development” launched its results at the conference “Perspectives of good guidance – developing quality and professionalism in career guidance” on 19 January 2012 in Berlin.**

*By Judith Frübing, National Guidance Forum in Education, Career and Employment (nfb), Germany*

The presentation, implementation and validation of the results of the “Open Process of Coordination for Quality Development in Guidance in Education, Career and Employment” were the focus of attention at the conference which concluded the first phase of the development work.

Funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research and coordinated by the National Guidance Forum (nfb) and the University of Heidelberg, experts and stakeholders from policy, practice and the social partners developed a catalogue of common quality criteria, a competence profile for guidance practitioners and a Quality Development Framework (QDF) for organisations based on a common understanding of career guidance and a definition of the field of guidance in education, career and employment.

The open method of coordination involved many actors and stakeholders in the development process from 2009 to 2012. This was reflected in the conference with the discussion of the results in 4 forums and a panel discussion with high ranking representatives from Federal ministries, regional and municipal policy makers and administration, social partners and practitioners on the progress of quality and professionalism.



*Above:* ELGPN Consultant Tony Watts with representatives of federal ministries and the federal states.

The second project phase “Quality in Career Guidance - Implementation strategies and scientific grounding” from February 2012 to July 2014 now emphasises the further development of the competence profile and of the quality criteria towards quality standards. The QDF and the quality criteria will also be piloted within a broader scope.

Further information is available at:

<http://www.beratungsqualitaet.net/english/index.htm> (in English)

<http://www.beratungsqualitaet.net> (in German)

### Links between ELGPN and the European Association of Regional and Local Authorities for Lifelong Learning (EARLALL)

**European Association of Regional and Local Authorities for Lifelong Learning (EARLALL) was established in 2001. The body currently comprises of 23 Regional and Local Authorities representing over 61 million people in Europe.**

The EARLALL has four thematic working groups: Mobility; Youth Employment; Lifelong Guidance; and e-Learning. The working group on Lifelong Guidance was set up in September 2011 and is chaired by the Bretagne Region in France. Its participants cover Bulgaria (Vidin), France (Bretagne), Germany (Baden-Württemberg), Italy (Lazio; Pied-



*Above:* Karen Schober, president of the National Guidance Forum in Education, Career and Employment (*nfb*) and Vice

mont; Tuscany), Spain (Catalonia), Sweden (Jämtland; West Sweden) and the UK (Wales). EARLALL has conducted a small questionnaire survey of lifelong guidance provision in its member regions.

The representatives of EARLALL took part in the ELGPN Work Package 3 Synthesis Meeting in Denmark on 21-22 February 2012. In addition, Dr Raimo Vuorinen (ELGPN Co-ordinator) and Professor Tony Watts (ELGPN consultant) were invited to give presentations to the EARLALL Lifelong Guidance Working Group meeting held in Brussels on 6 March 2012. They spoke on the evolution, aims, structure and activities of ELGPN and on the international reviews of lifelong guidance systems conducted by OECD, the European Commission and its agencies, and the World Bank.

In the discussions in the Brussels meeting, interest was expressed in the ELGPN Tool-Kit for Policy-Makers. It was suggested that in addition to the two dimensions on which the current draft is based (the four thematic activities covered by the ELGPN Work Packages; and the six policy sectors), two further dimensions might be added: 1) European; National; Regional; Local; Institutional and 2) Public Sector; Private Sector; Voluntary and Community Sector. It was suggested that there might be synergy between the two: attention to the Private and Voluntary/Community Sectors tend to get stronger at Regional and Local levels.

The meeting at Brussels discussed also possibilities for future collaboration between the EARLALL and the ELGPN. EARLALL members were encouraged to make contact with their national ELGPN representatives.

### The second meeting of the Thematic Working Group on "Quality in Adult Learning" 14-15 March 2012 in Brussels

**The Second meeting of the TWG on “Quality in Adult learning agreed on its Work Programme and the Mission Statement 2012-13.**

Based on the EU 2020 objectives and on the results of previous initiatives such as in VET and Higher Education, the Thematic Working Group on Quality in Adult Learning will provide tangible results and policy recommendations aimed at assisting the Member States in improving the quality and efficien-

cy of their national systems for adult education and training.

This group is tasked with developing a quality framework which will inform and guide both member states and individual providers on the provision of high quality adult learning. It will also enable learners to make informed choices relating to quality provision. The group will produce tools that are practical and useful for participating countries and stakeholders. The Thematic Working group is led directly by the European Commission DG EAC.

The Thematic working group will orientate the work on the following priority areas: Indicators, Accreditation and Staff Competences. Validation and Lifelong Guidance will be transversal themes that have to be taken into account in all priority areas. The interface with ELGPN will be informed and supported by the outcomes of WP4's activities on Quality Assurance, and frameworks for practitioner's competencies (CEDEFOP 2009, ERASMUS-NICE's work) and involvement of citizens and competencies of users of adult learning services, for example, focusing on the career management skills (CMS) catalogue, access and employability issues

### **Transition from School to Post-Compulsory Education and/or Work – A National Lifelong Guidance Policy Conference in Malta 26 March 2012**

**The Student Services Department within the Directorate for Educational Services, Euroguidance Malta and the European Union Programmes Agency in Malta organised a national Lifelong Guidance Policy Conference on 26 March 2012 in conjunction with the ELGPN Work Package 1 Synthesis Meeting.**

The Director General for Educational Services, Ms. Micheline Sciberras explained how Malta is responding to the current needs in guidance. In his keynote speech Mr. Helmut Zelloth, Senior Human Capital Development Specialist from the European Training Foundation provided an overview on the key issues on the Transition from School Post-Compulsory Education and/or Work. He emphasized the importance of work-based learning and close contacts of employers with schools. According to Mr. Zelloth the level of young people's Career Management Skills is a key factor of successful and active transi-

tion. He also introduced the recent developments around this theme in the EU Neighbouring countries.

The Panel discussions and workshops examined the transition as a rich play of interactions between the citizen and the key stakeholders. The panel introduces perspectives from national lifelong guidance policy, research and training of professionals, students, parents, employment services and human resource development in enterprises. There was a consensus of the importance of preventive approach with the development of the basic social skills in addition to the necessary safety net for vulnerable groups. The conference made a proposal for the national curricula development with the emphasis on activities contributing to social skills development. More information on the seminar outcomes can be found at: <http://www.euroguidance.org/mt/>

### **“One Step Up!” Opening Conference of the 2012-2014 Adult Learning Action Plan, Brussels, 27-28 February 2012**

Tibor Bors Borbély-Pecze presented the ELGPN at the “One Step Up!” opening conference in Brussels on 27-28 February 2012. After the evaluation of the 2008-2010 Action Plan for Adult Learning, the new initiative was passed on 17 November 2011. The new Adult Learning initiative for 2012-14 and on to 2020 has five key priority areas: making lifelong learning and mobility a reality; improving the quality and efficiency of education and training; promoting equity, social cohesion and active citizenship through adult learning; enhancing the creativity and innovation of adults and their learning environments; and improving the knowledge base on adult learning and monitoring the adult-learning sector.



The ELGPN has strong links with the suggested content of the Action Plan. These include second chance schools (targeting the NEETs, Romas, low-skilled etc.); developing the PIAAC and other survey jointly with the OECD; developing continuous vocational training; helping to increase involvement in lifelong learning; and developing a quality framework and a profile of the adult educators.

At the conference Tibor Borbély introduced possible links between the new initiative and the ELGPN current and future Work Programmes. These include career management skills (WP1); adult education quality assurance framework and the on-going work within WP4; the Common Reference Tools as a tool for delivering policy goals under the EU 2020 key strategy; and the ELGPN as a model for cross-sectoral cooperation.

### The Synthesis Meetings of the ELGPN Work Packages

The ELGPN 2011-12 Work Packages have had their Synthesis Meetings as follows: WP1 in Malta on 27-28 March, WP3 in Hundested, Denmark on 21-12 February and WP4 in Dublin, Ireland on 21-13 March. The meetings have finalised the Work Package contributions to the ELGPN 2011-12 Tool-Kit and examined the transversal elements between all the Work Packages. Additionally, the meetings have reflected on their proposals for the fourth phase of the ELGPN 2013-14. The materials and outputs of the Synthesis meetings are available on the ELGPN website.

### Developing ELGPN Communication - LinkedIn Group

In an effort to develop ELGPN communications, the Co-ordination unit carried out a survey on the topic in January 2012. The aim of the survey was to get the members' views on which fora should be used for fast Network communication, in addition to emails and the quarterly newsletter. The choice was between Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn or another forum. In the final result, LinkedIn emerged as the most popular choice with 19 votes, followed by Facebook with 9 votes and Twitter with one vote. Based on the result, LinkedIn was selected as the new fast communication channel.

The ELGPN LinkedIn group has therefore been resurrected and all the Network Members and Partners are welcome to join (please see the link at the end of the text). The rationale behind the ELGPN LinkedIn Group is to provide the Network with additional means which members can use to communicate with each other and the Co-ordination Unit while at the same time raising the profile of the Network and allowing us to disseminate our outputs to the wider lifelong guidance community. We en-

courage the members to share news, reports, interesting websites and other such materials through the Group wall. If you have any questions on using LinkedIn, please do not hesitate to contact the Co-ordination unit.

Join the ELGPN LinkedIn Group using this link <http://www.linkedin.com/groups?about=&gid=2304578> or by following the link on the ELGPN front page, <http://ktl.jyu.fi/ktl/elgpn>

### Upcoming events

- 11-12 April 2012, WP2 Synthesis meeting, Warsaw, Poland
- 23-25 April 2012 10<sup>th</sup> ELGPN Plenary Meeting, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 24-26 October 2012, 11<sup>th</sup> ELGPN Plenary Meeting, Larnaca, Cyprus

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