



# NEWSLETTER

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INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF PRODUCTIVE SCHOOLS ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

## FIRST EUROPLE SEMINAR TAKES PLACE IN BERLIN



Did you know, that in Malta boys and girls learn separately? Did you know, that pupils in Turkey finish primary school after the 6th class with an examination, that decides about the rest of their school career? I could learn a lot from our guests, who participated in the second EUROPLE seminar, which took place in Berlin from 15 to 19 January 2007. The seminar group consisted of 14 participants from six different countries: teachers from Greece, Turkey, Romania, Italy, Germany and two school counselors from Malta.

During this week, we discussed the theory and methodology of Productive Learning and the differences between the educational systems in different European countries. We presented INEPS and the exemplary Oma Ura school projects in Finland and Protasi out of school project in Greece. We visited City-As-School and three projects of Productive Learning in Berlin.

In my view it was a successful week: we got a deeper insight into the conditions of other European countries and we learned a lot from each other. Most of the participants are "infected" by our "philosophy", some of the participants plan to implement Productive Learning in their projects, some plan a seminar in their countries, informing about PL and some plan to come to the next INEPS Congress in Hungary.

Last but not least I am thankful for the support from Petri (thanks for the DVD), Kathrin, Bernd, Holger, Christine and my former colleagues from City-As-School (for presenting their projects), Holger, Christine, Angela (for running parts of the seminar), Viola (for supporting me by organizing the program around the seminar) and last but not least Angela (for being with me and supporting me in the whole process)

Do you remember EUROPLE? There were some members of INEPS from Finland, Germany, Greece, Madeira, France, Cyprus, Hungary, who took the initiative to apply to EU for a SOCRATES - COMENIUS 2.1 project with the title EUROPLE (European Productive Learning Educators). The EU accepted the application.

During the last 1 1/2 years the 12 "partners" met three times to prepare three seminars with the following topics, addressed to educators, teachers, facilitators, youth and social workers and all those who are interested in Productive Learning and interactive educational methods, all over Europe:

- Productive Learning in non-formal education
- Productive Learning in general education
- Productive Learning in vocational education

Many people were interested in our seminars. But unfortunately the seminar in Patras couldn't be realized, because most of the applicants were not accepted by their National Agencies. After this seminar I am convinced that our engagement makes sense... in spite of the fact, that this EUROPLE project means much work and unclear financing,

Heke Borkenhagen, IPLE

