Inspiring innovation in language education: changing contexts, evolving competences
Inspirer l'innovation dans l'éducation aux langues : contextes changeants, compétences en évolution
Innovationsimpulse in der Sprachenbildung: Kontexte und Kompetenzen im Wandel

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Participant's report

to the National Nominating Authority and
the National Contact Point

Meeting report

In the three weeks after the event, please complete this report. It contains two sections:

1. **Reporting**: this is intended as a feedback on the event, on what was learnt, on how the event will affect your work and on how it will be disseminated. In addition to the ECML National Nominating Authority and the National Contact Point in your country the ECML will use the report[1] in the "Experts involved in ECML activities" section of each ECML member state website (please see http://contactpoints.ecml.at).

   This section should be written in one of the project's working languages.

2. **Public information**: this is intended as an information on the ECML project and its expected value for your country. The content should be of interest for a larger audience. Thus it should link up to interesting publications, websites, events etc. which were discussed on the occasion of the workshop or which are relevant in your country. The public information should be a short, promotional text of about 200 words.

   This section should be written in (one of) your national language(s).

The completed file should be sent to

- **the ECML National Nominating Authority and the National Contact Point in your country (contact details can be found at http://www.ecml.at/aboutus/members.asp)**

- **and in copy to ECML Secretariat (Erika.komon@ecml.at)**

within the given deadline.

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[1] Only if you authorised the ECML to publish your contact details.

Name of the workshop participant	Silvia Frank Schmid
Institution	Pädagogische Hochschule Luzern (Teacher Education University Lucerne)
E-mail address	silvia.frank@phlu.ch
Title of ECML project	PALINGUI – Making young children's language learning pathways visible
ECML project website	www.ecml.at/younglearnerpathways
Date of the event	15-16 March 2023
Brief summary of the content of the workshop	The PALINGUI team has been working on developing a website which aims to support all educational professionals working with children. This website aims to further enrich their practice and encourage reflection when supporting children's language learning pathways. During the workshop, we reflected on these ideas for the website through discussions and group activities, starting with what it means to be living and growing up in a multilingual society today and how teachers and educators can act as agents of change to support all language learning pathways and make these visible in their classrooms, schools, and educational contexts, through observation, documentation, and assessment. We also explored what this means for pedagogical approaches and what this might look like in terms of 'good practice' in classrooms, schools, and as part of the wider educational context, as well as the role of reflection of the teacher or educator to support these practices. In short: The overall aim of this workshop was to help the PALINGUI team to improve and further develop their website that will go live in December 2023.
What did you find particularly useful?	-I found it very interesting to work in a multilingual community for two days, get insights into how other colleagues work all over Europe on the topic of 'multilingual education', how they implement such practice at school and what challenges they face. -I liked the practical examples that were shown – which will be found later in the section 'toolbox' on the website. I was already familiar with a lot of them, but a few new ones I could collect for my work as teacher trainer. -I found it interesting to discuss approaches or ideas in smaller groups, share our experience and note key findings in a condensed version for everyone else to read.

	-I found the talk by Déridre Kirwan – a former head of school in a multilingual school in Ireland - very inspiring. She talked about useful guidelines and necessary mindsets for implementing multilingual education at a school. -The workshop raised once more my awareness that teaching languages goes beyond teaching the (foreign) languages in the few lessons we have each week but that language education an ongoing process in any subject and should include any linguistic repertoire of any learner in the class. I must admit that I did not learn as much as I hoped I would. I guess it has to do with the fact that Switzerland is a multilingual country with many plurilingual teachers that has been promoting 'multilingual education' for a long time. Therefore, as a teacher trainer I have been dealing with this topic for quite some time. But I am curious to find out more once the website is ready and I would appreciate if I could discover a few new ideas and materials on the website that let me discover this important topic from new angles.
How will you use what you learnt / developed in the event in your professional context?	-Throughout the workshop, I collected some practical ideas or sources of research or literature that I would like to implement in my own teacher training modules. Since the module preparations will be shared in my team, other colleagues at the University of Teacher Education can make use of them too. -I would like to show my colleagues at the University of Teacher Education the website PALINGUI – once it's available - as a resource for our teacher training. I hope that it will contain many useful, new and practical examples from different school contexts. If the resources add new insights and ideas, I would like to spread it in my network of teacher trainers all over Switzerland. -I would like to inform the teachers in my region via newsletter about the PALINGUI website in my role as 'Fachberaterin' and via other colleagues who have the same role.
How will you further contribute to the project?	Besides the ideas and thoughts I have already shared at the workshop, I will certainly pass on other new relevant ideas to the PALINGUI team that I stumble upon in the next few weeks / months.
How do you plan to disseminate the project? - to colleagues - to a professional association - in a professional journal/website	In addition to what I mentioned above, I might find other ideas of how to promote the project once the PALINGUI website is live. As of now everything is a bit vague. But I could well imagine that the website is a great resource to promote on the teaching platform zebis.ch – which is a popular educational server in Switzerland and which makes resources easily visible for teachers.

EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR MODERN LANGUAGES

- in a newspaper - other	

2. Public information

The PALINGUI project team is about to create a website with useful information and practical examples on how to implement multilingual education at schools and thereby making language learning pathways for young learners visible. The website will be go live in December 2023 and will include four sections: (1) A rationale that states the needs for and raises awareness of multilingual education; (2) a section with pedagogical approaches and practical teaching ideas in the form of a toolbox; (3) a section that supports teachers to be reflective practitioners and develop their teaching further; and (4) a section labelled 'multilingual voices' for collaboration and networking in the like-minded community. The project's overall aims of using the linguistic repertoire of young learners actively in class, making their language learning pathways visible and fostering their language learning across the curriculum corresponds very well with current teaching practice in Switzerland (i.e. Lehrplan 21, Bewusstheit für Sprachen, Sprachreflexion, Funktionale Mehrsprachigkeit, sprachsensibler Unterricht, CLIL/EMILE) Therefore the PALINGUI website will hopefully present meaningful examples that inspire teachers and educators in Switzerland to diversify their multilingual education and go new pathways in their own teaching too.