

SLS report: Perspectives gained, lessons learned - Estonia

	Meeting	What new perspectives did the meeting give us? What did we learn? What will we use in our work?
1.	Reims, France , October 2010 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • project planning 	During the meeting we formed the core group of coordinators, created mutual trust and secured the continuity of the rest of the project. Getting acquainted with the activities of the French partner, Foyer Jean Thibierge that organises the work of the day care centre for the disabled, provided ideas worth implementing aimed at similar target group in Estonia. The latter is still modestly represented in the involvement of the ALW campaign in Estonia.
2.	Dublin, Ireland , February 2011 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • workshop on 'Volunteer involvement in learning campaigns' • attending the Adult Learners' Festival 	The scope of voluntary work in Ireland was worth looking at. In Estonia it is still in its early days. In spite of the fact that in Estonia the ALW is coordinated at regional and local level by volunteers, people do not acknowledge their voluntary contribution very often. At the preparatory meetings of the 2012 ALW with the regional ALW coordinators the issues of motivating volunteers more have been discussed. The event for the elderly we participated at the Croi na Gallimhe Resource Centre was very inspiring. In Estonia three counties took over the idea and involved similar centres in the ALW events in 2011.
3.	Ljubljana, Žalec, Prebold, Slovenia , May 2011 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • workshop on 'Media engagement in ALW/LLWs and how to use new media' • attending the Lifelong Learning Week 	Before the opening of LLW, the press conference was held and the representatives of the SLS project took part. Participation in the press conference provided ideas and food for thought about how to attract similar media attention to the adult education in Estonia. Meeting the officials from the Ministry of Education proved that SIAE as a recognised organisation will receive further public funding and the LLL campaigns will continue to be held. Continuity is the key issue in media involvement. If it is done only during the campaign, the message may be lost. Ideas of the workshop: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order to attract attention it is necessary to find learners' stories people can relate to. They should come from their own community and have a similar background. • Celebrity involvement in order to promote the ideas of lifelong learning would be beneficial. • The new media should not be underestimated as the means of involving young people. The Estonian ALW TV advert (with the break dancer) and also examples of the cooperation with the local newspapers were highly appreciated by the participants.
4.	Tallinn, Estonia , October 2011 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • workshop on 'Involving outstanding learners in learning promotion' • attending the Adult Learners' Week 	It was stated together with the partners that in order to make the network of the recognised learners work, constant communication and leadership is needed. Motivation and training of the leaders should be the task of an interested stakeholder. As a result of participation in the workshop, members of Estonian learners' movement, the Adult Learners' Forum (ALF), gained inspiration and motivation. The participation of the project partners in the opening ceremony of the ALW added an international dimension to the event – Estonian learners, the voluntary members of the network, cooperation partners and representatives of different organisations became aware of the international meaning of lifelong learning and the similarity of problems encountered in the field.

5.	<p>Kahramanmaras, Turkey, March 2012</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • workshop on ‘Engaging target groups in adult education’ 	<p>Getting to know the adult education system of Turkey, including local training and education organisations and rehabilitation centre for adults with special needs, was very interesting. The attitude of the partner organisation towards disseminating the idea of lifelong learning was positive. They have also showed great interest in similar activities in other countries.</p> <p>Ideas of the workshop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Go to groups who have identified/established themselves. Go to the event where there are a lot of people. <p>Turkish partner has been disseminating the information about lifelong learning campaigns efficiently. As a result of that they intend to hold the ALW in the partner’s region in Turkey.</p>
6.	<p>Haarlem, The Netherlands, May/June 2012</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • seminar on ‘Networks and partnerships promoting adult education’ • concluding activities 	<p>As the seminar and the final activities took place in the libraries, the role of the latter in the promotion of lifelong learning was clearly recognised. Librarians are the key people in their communities and adult educators in true sense of the word.</p> <p>Despite the fact that there is no state support to ALW “Learn for life” does excellent job promoting lifelong learning through different campaigns at local level. Their work is continuous and they have experience in involving volunteers.</p> <p>At the coordinators’ meeting the project outcomes were analysed and plans towards the completion of the final report were made.</p>
7.	<p>General conclusions for ANDRAS – new perspectives and ideas, what can we use in our work</p>	<p>Participation in the SLS activities was very motivating for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the learners / regional coordinators of ALW. Besides the new knowledge and experience gained, their reciprocal cooperation within the national ALW network enhanced. • the members of the county support groups who were introduced the experience of the learning cooperation by the regional coordinators. Due to the efficient dissemination process some ideas were already implemented during the ALW of 2011. • the staff of Andras who had a chance to get to know the adult education and promotion activities of different countries. Direct contact, discussions and analyse with partners broadened the horizon and created new possibilities for development of the network. <p>The partners will continue to communicate and cooperate on the regular and reliable basis.</p> <p>At the recognition ceremony in Slovenia different layers (different social groups) of the society were represented. This approach would be useful to adopt in Estonia.</p> <p>The regional ALW coordinators appreciated the direct contact and meeting with the leaders of the adult education institutions in Slovenia who are at the same time the regional coordinators of the Adult Learning Festival. As the means of rotation of the regional coordinators, the leaders of the training centres should be involved more than before in Estonia.</p>
8.	<p>Contribution to the general conclusions for all partners</p>	<p>Many positive aspects were pointed out, but besides that the situation of the ALW is rather unstable in all the countries; financing depends largely on external money (ESF). There is no permanent structural</p>

		funding. Every year people have to work really hard to organize the ALW in the countries. Lack of security and stability is tiring for the volunteer initiators and organisers.
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