Leonardo da Vinci

Quality Award Latvia

Spārni 2004

Assessment of the Awarded Mobility Projects
Quality Award SPĀRNI 2004
LATVIA Assessment of the Awarded Mobility Projects
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This year the Agency for the Development of Professional Education in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Science organized for the first time a quality awards contest “Wings 2004” for the Leonardo da Vinci mobility or practical experience exchange program. Wings and flight comprise one of the themes studied, drawn and modeled by the Italian artist, researcher and craftsman Leonardo da Vinci. It is from his name that the European Union's professional education program receives its title.

For attendees and teachers at professional educational establishments, students in professional study programs, new employees and personnel specialists at undertakings, participation in the mobility projects of the Leonardo da Vinci program means an opportunity to exchange practical experience through travel to professional educational establishments and companies in other European states.

Participants from mobility projects during the years 2000-2002 were part of the “Wings” contest this year. Nominated projects encompassed various fields education, agriculture, food processing, communications sciences, printing technology, tourism and hospitality services, carpentry and entrepreneurship.

8 projects under the following nomination categories received the Leonardo da Vinci quality award:

- Results;
- Innovation;
- Project management;
- Benefits;
- Dissemination.

During the time period from 2000-2002 altogether 173 mobility projects were approved as part of the Leonardo da Vinci program in Latvia, with 964 participants from among Latvia's professional educational establishments, companies and organizations taking part. We hope that the examples of exchange of practical experience mentioned here will stimulate your institution to apply to participate in a mobility project for the Leonardo da Vinci program.

Dzintra Džonsa
Head of the Leonardo da Vinci National Agency, Latvia
Development of Entrepreneurship, Non-traditional Agriculture and Craft in Latgale - Integration of Unemployed in Labour Market

Promoter: Employment State agency, Rezekne centre
Address: Raina iela 5s, Rezekne, LV - 4600
Tel/Fax: +371 4622664
Contact person: Marina Klimanova
E-mail address: marinakli@inbox.lv

Target group: Young workers
Project content: Seventeen unemployed people from Rezekne district were sent on a three month international traineeship programme where they worked in the fields of entrepreneurship, information technologies, non-traditional agriculture, rural tourism organization, craft and social care.

Award in the Category: Results

Quality aspects:
The project was of great value as it offered the beneficiaries varied forms of work practice. The participation within Leonardo da Vinci programme has significantly improved the project management at NVA Rezekne. It gave the project coordinator experience to evaluate critical situations and to find corresponding solutions.
The experts have highly appreciated the participation of a psychologist at the selection of beneficiaries which was based on their motivation, experience and age group.
The beneficiaries have approved their skills in acquiring foreign languages, customs and traditions. They have improved their knowledge in organisation of rural tourism, information technologies, gardening and horticulture, pottery, textiles and cooking.
At the end of the project each beneficiary received a certificate confirming their qualifications gained during the project. A certificate will be an advantage in their future.
The results have been widely disseminated in the local media and TV as well as in German newspapers.
The most important achievement of this project is that today 88 percent of the beneficiaries have found regular jobs. Several ex-participants have started studies at colleges and other schools.
Exchange of experience

The Latest Technologies and Job Organization in Printing Companies in Sweden

Promoter: SIA „LAPA” Valmieras printing house
A.Upisa iela 7, Valmiera, LV - 4201
Tel/Fax +371 4223307
Contact person: Linda Petersone
E-Mail: tipografiija@delfi.lv
Year of application: 2001 (LV/01/301)
Target Group: Young workers
Partnership: “Forlagshuset Nordens Grafiska Ab”, Sweden
Project content: Two employees gained experience in the new tendencies of publishing industry and technology.

Awarded in the Category: Results

Quality aspects:
The greatest benefit of the placement was the increased self confidence of the staff in their skills and ability to cope with different situations. The exchange of ideas and experience, both professional and general, was one of the greatest things that this kind of projects can offer.

During the preparation period, the employees received an English language course covered by the company.
The certificates obtained in Sweden at the end of the course confirm that the participants have improved their professional skills according to the aims set in the Leonardo da Vinci programme.
Experts assessed the project management and monitoring on a high level. The project demonstrated the significance of an international labour market and the exchange of know-how and expertise in view of the enlargement of the European Union.
Promoter: Ltd. „Komunikacijas Akademija”
Lacplesa iela 36-1, Riga, LV 3300
Tel/Fax: +371 7284606
Contact person: Dzintra Riekstina
E-Mail: info@kom.akademija.lv
Year of application: 2002 (LV/02/332)
Target Group: Trainers
Partnership: Akademie Führung und Kommunikation, Germany
Project Content: Two beneficiaries responsible for curricula practiced in create and adapt the training programmes in communications and Public Relations appropriate to the free market.
Quality award for: Project management

Quality Aspects:
The project management has been impeccable as it has been based on close cooperation of both the partners. The project contents were well-tailored to the needs and professional interests of the participants. It must be noted that the beneficiaries themselves took an active part in the preparation of the project. The receiving partner corresponded to the needs of the promoter. The profile of the cooperating German partner being the same as the promoter made the experienced project successful. Ltd. „Komunaciju akadēmija” gained most because a new syllabus in PR and communication has been worked out based on the knowledge in Germany. The participation in this project has stimulated the career and personal development. The expert evaluation of project documentation states that the project was successfully staged thanks to constant project monitoring plus extensive and substantive onsite support of top quality. The co-operation between the partners indicates that the project will have a long-term effect.
To Provide Qualitative Life-Long Learning in Local Communities

Promoter: Malpils Rural Municipality
Nakotnes iela 1, Malpils
LV 2152
Tel / Fax +371 797889/ +371 7910642
Contact person: Livija Mukane
E-Mail: kartel@apollo.lv
Year of application: 2002 (LV/02/317)
Target Group: Vocational guidance specialists
Partnership: France.
Project Content: Two vocational guidance specialists trained in methodical principles, objectives and guidelines for lifelong education at Practical Training Centre in France.
Award in the Category: Innovation

Quality Aspects:
The participants of the project were members of an educational work group created by the local municipality. The results of the project have stimulated the work of the local municipality and the development of an information centre. The jury was particularly impressed by the municipality's creative and innovative idea of choosing people responsible for the promotion of education in their rural district to the mobility project. Since Malpils Rural municipality had not had any experience in international collaboration, the project has positively affected the further development of the rural district relationships and has improved the policy of the local education system. The deputies of the local municipality, the people involved in lifelong learning group and the school board have been informed about the results of the project. A successful participation in Leonardo da Vinci programme has been an inspiration to submit projects within European Social Fund and programme Equal.
### To Master Skills and Abilities Appropriate to EU Demands

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Promoter:</th>
<th>Malpils Vocational School</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Nakotnes iela 1, Malpils</td>
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<td>Tel/Fax</td>
<td>+371 7925267/+371 7970907</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contact person:</td>
<td>Livija Mukane</td>
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<tr>
<td>E-Mail:</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kartel@apollo.lv">kartel@apollo.lv</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Year of application</td>
<td>2000 (LV/00/405)</td>
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<td>Target Group:</td>
<td>Language teachers</td>
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<td>Partnership:</td>
<td>Zeppelin-Gewerbeschule Konstanz, Germany.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Content:</td>
<td>In the process of the project two teachers of German and English language worked at developing new study aids in professional foreign language for occupations taught at Malpils Vocational school.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Award in the Category:</td>
<td>Dissemination</td>
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**Quality Aspects:**

Through the participation in the programme, the employees greatly expanded their professional qualifications. During the project the foreign language teachers worked on creating the specific terminology and new teaching materials for the needs of building engineering. The created materials are still being used in daily work at school. Both beneficiaries received certificates confirming their participation in the project. The project results were publicized in presentations at the school open house days and in its annual reports. The experience obtained in Germany was disseminated in the local newspaper.
### Kuldiga's Vocational Trainers in Osnabrick

**Promoter:** Kuldigas Vocational School No.78  
Liepajas iela 31, Kudīga  
LV 3300  
Tel/Fax: +371 322570 / +371 3324082  
Contact person: Dace Cine  
E-Mail: dace_c@kuldiga.parks.lv  
Year of application: 2000 (LV/00/316)  
Target Group: Teachers  
Partnership: Akademie Uberlingen, Germany  
**Project Content:** Eleven teachers had experience exchange with German colleagues in new teaching methods in joinery and cooking.  
**Award in the Category:** Benefits  

**Quality Aspects:**  
This project of trainers was a follow-up of a previous students' mobility project. The aim of the project was the exchange of teaching experience, giving an opportunity of practising the trade skills at a school abroad working with students from another country. The teachers worked at corresponding workshops alongside with German teachers as well as worked independently. Computer and joining specialists learned to work on the computer within Auto CAD programme, seeing the effect of a machine equipped this way. At the moment German textbooks and manuals are being used at Maths classes. The participation in the project has increased the teachers' professionalism and career chances. The German partner's positive assistance was of great help in the preparation of the project, enabling to carry it out at lower costs accordingly enlarging the number of beneficiaries. The obtained practice is being used not only at the involved school but has been disseminated to the Kurzeme region.