

Newsletter n. 1
26/04/2010

Dear reader,

We want to present to you our running project: EDDILI. This is the first of 4 newsletters that will be delivered in 2010 and 2011.

EDDILI means...

"To **ED**ucate is to make possible the **DI**scovery of **LI**fe".

EDDILI is...

A two years project developed with the support of the Lifelong Learning Programme of the European Union, in which seven organisations from six different EU countries cooperate by developing and exchanging experiences and methods in the field of adult education.

The main approach used in the project is the reciprocal maieutic approach (RMA). The RMA is a "...process of collective exploration that takes as a departure point the experience and the intuition of individuals." (Dolci, 1996). This way RMA promote the group processes and the plurality of experiences and points of view. RMA is a process that aims to bring change in the group and in the social/political/economic/educational spheres. RMA is a dialectic method of inquiry, and "popular self-analysis" for empowerment of communities and individuals.

The RMA is already practiced in single organisations and proved itself as a successful and effective method wherever teacher and learner meet.

EDDILI aims...

- To train trainers who can spread the RMA.
- To share with partners the RMA achieving this way a strong multiplying effect.
- To support adult learning staff to learn transversal knowledge, skills and attitudes through the RMA.
- To increase the quality of learning contexts of adult learners.
- To make possible that adult learners gain new knowledge, skills and attitudes.

Partners in the project are:

Centro per lo Sviluppo Creativo Danilo Dolci, Italy – Project Coordinator

CE.S.I.E – Centro Studi ed Iniziative Europeo, Italy

INTRAS Foundation, Spain

Universität zu Nicosia, Cyprus

Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences / ISO, Netherlands

CJD Frechen im Christlichen Jugenddorfwerk Deutschland e.V., Germany

"SFAL - Swiss Federation for Adult Learning", Swiss

What already happened...

The European Commission confirmed the project in autumn 2009. From there on the preparations started and in January 2010 all partners met for the first time, to work on the project together. In this first meeting trainers of all six countries were instructed to the RMA ensuing this way their capacity to spread the approach in their local contexts.

Brief about Recirpcal Maieutic Approach of Danilo Dolci...

The "reciprocal maieutic methodology" is strongly connected with the concept of "nonviolent communication" (Rosemberg, 2001). First of all, It is needed to explain the difference between the maieutic of Socrates (as outlined in the dialogues of Plato) and the reciprocal maieutic of Dolci (Dolci 1993, 1995). As the name says, reciprocal maieutic is a "reciprocal" process between at least two persons and normally done inside a group. The maieutic of Socrates was unidirectional, with one person that makes questions and another giving answer. Beginning from this and taking contributions from other great thinkers and people in action (Gandhi, 1999; Freire, 2002; Capitini, 1958; Chomsky, 1998; Moren, 2001; Galtung, 1957; etc.) Dolci arrived to create the reciprocal maieutic that he started to use in the villages of Partinico and Trappeto fighting for the rights of poor people and against mafia. RMA can be described as strategy of group communication (Habermas, 1986) that permits all the elements in the group to give their ideas and opinions, contributing through this to the development of a final common idea (Mangano, 1992). The group is guided by a coordinator that can change inside the same group. This methodology is very "democratic", in the sense that everybody has the space to talk. It is also very important to increase the self-esteem of people, as they feel their opinion is important.

Next steps...

In the coming period the trainers are going to put their new competences as maieutic coordinators in practice by delivering a course for adult learning staff (ALS) using the RMA as the main educational approach.

Through this course we expect that ALS gain new competences that can be put in practice with the adult learners they work with.

Got curious?

You can find out more about EDDILI in the project webpage:

<http://reciprocalmaieutic.danilodolci.it/>

Contact person for the newsletter:

Claudia Feth

Mail: claudia.feth@cjd.de

Phone: 02234 – 516 231



Danilo Dolci

The next international meeting of EDDILI partners will be held in Germany, Frechen, between 14 and 16 July 2010.



Kick-meeting - Palermo



CENTRO PER LO SVILUPPO CREATIVO
"DANILO DOLCI"
PARTINICO - PALERMO

cjd
die-Chancengeber.de

SVE
FSE

Schweizerischer Verband für Weiterbildung
Publikation erstellt durch die Kommission für Weiterbildung
Föderation europäischer für die Fortbildung Erwachsener
Swiss Federation for Adult Learning

CeSIE
Centro Studi ed Iniziative Europeo

ROTTERDAM
UNIVERSITY

FUNDACIÓN
INTRAS

UNIVERSITY OF NICOSIA
ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΛΕΥΚΩΣΙΑΣ

EAC
EA
Education, Audiovisual & Culture
Executive Agency

Education
and
Training

Education and Culture DG
Lifelong Learning Programme

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission.

This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.