

EuroEd Primary School

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Type of organisation:

SME School University Public Authority
 Training No Profit NGO

Other (Specify)

Fields of action :

SMEs Youth Universities Public Authorities
 Equal opportunities Schools Unemployed

Other (Specify)

Description of the organization – Background and Experience

EUROED Kindergarten and Primary School is an organization legally constituted in 1995 and 1997 respectively, and accredited by the Ministry of Education from 2008.

It promotes the European dimension of education which has become part of the ethos and culture of the school. Therefore, it mainly encourages multiculturalism and multilingualism by providing education to children of different nationalities or belonging to different ethnic groups. Thus, even since the preschool age, by getting acquainted with cultural and linguistic diversity, the children acquire new skills which will help

them to adapt to different contexts and situations.

Without being a big school in terms of size, the institution boasts a very innovative methodological approach and is appreciated for its school ethos.

The innovation management at the level of the school is being facilitated by the participation of the school staff in many EU projects. As a result of this activity the organization has been awarded three times the *European School* distinction given by the Romanian Ministry of Education in a very competitive national competition which takes place every 3 years.

It is also very innovative in introducing CLIL elements in the teaching process. One of the particularities of this institution is the intensive study of foreign languages: English, French, German and Chinese. The linguistic skills children acquire are important for both their own development and their participation in language contests/ exams etc. They take part in the Cambridge exams for young learners which our institution organizes. It is also worth mentioning that our school was the first to have introduced these exams in Romania 11 years ago.

The modern approach of learning a foreign language using the CLIL methodology has been used in the institution for the last 5 years and it has been approved by the regional School Inspectorate. Henceforth besides having courses of FL during their weekly programme the pupils learn handicraft, PE and sciences taught in English. Regular programmes of educational internship from UK, USA, and France are being invited to assist with the educational activities. Many extracurricular subjects (ICT, photography, basketball, intergenerational learning activities including learning of foreign languages in the family by both children and parents/grandparents under the monitoring of school experts), are being offered to the pupils. The extracurricular electives are being selected in an open dialogue with the pupils' families. The families are very active in most of the strategic decisions including concrete instructional, educational or pastoral components of the school activities.

The school managers aim to identify the needs of community, innovative trends in education, to access European funds in order to finance innovation and excellence in education, social inclusion and to support the tradition of national and international partnerships.

EUROED School's main objective is to develop an appropriate environment, by giving the children the chance to develop according to their own skills and personalities. We strive to build each child's success in the direction he/she can perform best. We provide continuous monitoring of children's school progress and encourage parents' involvement. In this way, we offer the children a good starting point in their educational process by not only developing a sense of self-awareness but also helping them to learn to appreciate those who are different from them. Developing a positive and self-confident attitude is one of the main objectives of our education to help the child be open-minded and able to communicate naturally in various situations and linguistic codes and in different cultural contexts.

Experience of the organization in previous European projects

One of EUROED school missions is to support the continuous development of the teachers to be able to respond at a high level to the needs of the students and by introducing interactive and attractive teaching methodologies at class.

Over the years EUROED Primary School has been involved as associated partner in over 30 EU projects, some of them addressed or related to the objectives of developing pre-school pupils basic and transversal competences. Through the projects and activities in which the school teachers and students have been involved, as associated partners or end-beneficiaries, the following expertise has been created:

- experience in the use of innovative model for teaching, called "the narrative format approach", within the Adventure of Hocus and Lotus project (<http://www.hocus-lotus.edu/>)
- experience in using story telling as a method to learn foreign languages and interaction, communication and cultural aspects for early age students, within the Chain Stories project (229633-CP-1-2006-1-ES-Lingua-L1, www.chainstories.eu)
- experience in using Drama & Theatre techniques in teaching and learning process, within the projects GLOTTODRAMA (2012-1-IT1-LEO05-02861), ESEDI - Escenario Europeo De Idiomas (511451-LLP-1-

2010-1-ES-KA2-KA2MP), CHAIN STORIES (229633-CP-1-2006-1-ES-Lingua-L1)

- trained teachers in the CLIL method and delivery of lessons to develop transversal competences for students, within the project CCN-CLIL Cascade Network- Content and Integrated Learning (135377-2007-FI-KA2-KA2NY, www.ccn-clil.eu)
 - experience in developing the ICT skills to pupils through intergenerational computer classes, through the Grandparents and grandchildren keep in touch project (538637-LLP-1-2013-1-CY-GRUNDTVIG-GMP; <http://grankit.eu>)
 - experience in developing digital and languages competences to early age children and family learning through online games and cartoon scenarios, within the Let's Become a Bilingual Family project (511515-LLP-1-2010-1-IT-KA2-KA2MP; www.bilfam.eu)
 - experience in developing interactive ICT classes and intergenerational learning, within the My Story - creating an ICT-based inter-generational learning environment project (511641-LLP-1-2010-1-RO-KA3-KA3MP; www.mystories.eu)
 - trained teachers in innovative approaches for teaching and experience in developing interactive educational scenarios for online games and language learning for students, within the project ISPY - Online Networking Platform for Language learning (511558-LLP-1-2010-1-UK-KA2-KA2MP; www.ispy-project.com)
- EUROED by itself aims contribute to the development of local community and playing a catalytic role for the formation of partnerships between different partners social, economic, administrative and educational local, regional and national. Objectives as lifelong learning, social cohesion, participatory democracy, management of innovation in education and identify shapes that can be operationalized, have contributed to an active dialogue between school and community partners.

Experience and Expertise of the organization in the project's subject area

For the efficient implementation of the project EUROED will bring he following competences:

- experience in European projects
- experience in developing non-formal learning methodologies, instruments and activities
- experience in researching processes
- experience in fostering multidisciplinary and inter-disciplinary approaches
- experience in developing trainings through innovative and interactive methods
- establishment of strong partnerships with schools, teachers, students
- experience in promoting the use of the ICT in educational process
- experience in using *Drama & Theatre techniques* in teaching and learning process

Objectives: raise awareness that any kind of the manifestation of active citizenship can lead towards improvement of the life of the society; show that volunteering either on a global or community level contributes to personal development and to learning skills and competencies, that people involved in civic actions benefit themselves; motivate students to develop attitudes towards true dialogue and transversal skills.

Contributions that can be provided to the project

EUROED's contribution to the project is multi-layered.

Firstly, the expertise of the staff is of great value when it comes to different approaches to the same project from multiple facets of the different work-packages and deliverables to be developed within the project. Our staff can offer 360° support and input, coherent and cohesive to the focus of the project activities.

Secondly, EUROED team brings along a wide network of social partners from varied professional fields, which ensures strong communication and dissemination channels throughout the entire national and international community.

Thirdly, we are ready to contribute our knowledge, experience, resources and also ready to engage in a flexible, reflective and innovative process involving transfer of abilities among the partnership.

EUROED will be involved in:

- creating of a network of schools from Romania (Iasi county) – students, teachers, principals and

organizations in the field of education

- engaging both students and teachers will directly take part in the project activities – the schools will be selected according to their previous involvement in case studies in multiculturalism
- helping students acquire anti-discrimination behaviours and competences towards democratic citizenship.

Skills / expertise of key persons involved in this project

Anca Colibaba, executive president, has over 30 years of experience in language education, especially English. She is the President of EuroEd, having a wide experience in managing and co-ordinating transnational projects in the field of linguistic education and training, adult education and LLL. She was / is project coordinator of over 20 (EU) projects implemented locally, nationally or trans-nationally by EuroEd Foundation.

Andreea Ionel is project manager at EuroEd Foundation. She holds a bachelor and an MA degree in social work. She is presently an international project coordinator having managed several projects implemented by EuroEd Foundation (Grundtvig, Lingua, Leonardo da Vinci, Phare, Erasmus+ and other tenders). She has an extensive experience in writing, managing and implementing EU projects in various fields and a wide experience in preparing and delivering public presentations and trainings at national and international level.

Dragos Zamosteanu is EU project technical assistant and eLearning developer at EuroEd Foundation. Relevant skills and experience: advanced IT and technology skills. Currently, Dragos Zamosteanu is the person in charge of the implementation of the technical tasks related to the projects EuroEd implements.

Elza Gheorghiu, trainer and teacher of English and Romanian as a foreign language at EuroEd Foundation, British Council and Vasile Alecsandri High School Iasi, Romania. She coordinates international educational projects. Her field of interest covers work with innovative educational web 2.0 methodologies in training/teaching and non-formal education. Target group for her teaching/training: young learners and adults. A special area of intervention is training special needs children and their teachers for foreign language communication.

Carmen Antonita, teacher and mentor at EUROED school. She coordinates the foreign language department at EUROED school and in charge of the school's European cooperation activity – European projects.