

# Comenius Meeting - Werther 13-16 November 2008

Minutes taken by Mona Metcalfe

Attendees: Germany, Poland, Hungary, Ireland, Belgium, Austria

## Part 1: Friday 14 November, 2008

We welcome Austria to the project.

**Official languages;** German and English

**Languages to be used in speech at meetings:** Choose the one you are comfortable with and then this can be translated into the other language.

### Issue of participating schools:

It was agreed that we need to look for other countries to join this project since there is too much similarity to the members of the previous project.

Slovenia will join the project next year.

The 2 French schools that were invited to attend decided not to apply for the project since they perceived it as too much work.

The Italian school that was invited was denied entrance to the project since it had already previous participation in a Comenius project and only new schools could apply in Italy.

In an effort to include more schools the following countries have promised to make contact with schools they know in other countries and encourage them to apply to join:

- Germany will contact a school in Rome, Sweden, Riga(Latvia) and Finland.
- Hungary will contact a school in France and Slovakia.
- Ireland will contact a school in Montpellier(France) and Finland.
- Austria will contact a school in Greece, Slovakia, Croatia and Belgium (German speaking)
- Belgium will contact a school in Sweden and France.
- Poland will contact a school in England.

It was decided that each school must get as many students and teachers into the project as possible. More students and teachers should be involved in the project than during the last project.

There is no percentage for how many students you must have but you get more points from your National agency for more year groups used.

### Outline of project:

Frithjof showed a PowerPoint Presentation detailing the new structures of the Comenius projects across Europe. It was highlighted that new projects are now called **School Partnerships**. Projects could now include project work, or management issues or language learning or all of these areas together. Our project is known as a **Multilateral Partnership**. It must include at least 3 schools, take place over 2 years, include one common interest of study and must be cross-curricular

encompassing as many subjects, teachers and students as possible. Different year groups in a school could work on different areas of the project. It will be important to point out in the application which areas of the curriculum are being used in the project.

An important url to look at is: [www.kmk-pad.org](http://www.kmk-pad.org)

### **Project Co-ordination:**

The new co-ordinator makes the application – others copy and do summary in their own language.

Application only has to be done once.

Geert from Belgium was approached. Some countries discussed why it was not suitable for them to run the project.

The possibility of sharing out sections of the whole application was discussed. This could be done as a draft version and then finalised by the Project coordinator.

The Belgian school has accepted the responsibility of Project Coordinator (Geert Aerts and Lonni Allard).

All the partners are obliged to do the work on certain parts of the application and Frithjof volunteered to look over the stylistic elements of the German text and the Irish will look over the English text.

The new application will be available to download in December.

### **How our application will be judged:**

Your own country will judge it first.

Then a European agency will check it and judge it.

The budget each school receives is dependant on the money the state can afford to give.

Extra points are awarded to schools who have not been involved in a Comenius project before.

### **Subject chosen:**

#### **Water – more than just H<sub>2</sub>O**

Geert says that a lot of projects have already been done on water. But multiplicity of water would be good for everyone. There are so many ways we can proceed with the theme of water.

Poland agreed that there would be so much choice in this project just like in the last project on flight. It gives us a great opportunity to discover more about our own locality through work on the project as well as visits from our foreign guests.

A vote was made for the choice of project. A unanimous show of hands approved the title of water. There were no exceptions.

We must have a title, research, field work and project work. Also we must have a final product. Suggestions were: theatre, dance plays exhibition. Using DVDs, documentation, websites etc.

**Mobilities:**

We can take 24 mobilities over two years (students and teachers, assistant teachers). It is up to the project schools to decide how long we travel for.

The minimum number of mobilities is 4.

The amount you receive is not dependant on the countries you will visit but each country will be given different quantities, e.g. Poland 24,000 euro but perhaps Ireland 22,000 euro, if the full amount is granted.

Frithjof showed the group the layout of the current application form.

It was discussed how many mobilities should be applied for: a low number or a high number (12 or 24). How many countries should be visited?

We must take an agreed number of students on each trip. It was agreed that a large number is too difficult.

A vote was taken on what number of mobilities will be applied for. The majority of voters decided on 24 mobilities. This was passed.

Austria has a problem with accommodating visiting students. They suggest that they could be housed in a youth hostel.

It was mentioned that if you go on a teacher exchange this is one mobility. Mobilities can be any length of time.

Suggestions were made about where the mobilities would take place. These were noted and will be sent to each member by Frithjof.

**Lump Sum:**

Each school will receive a fixed sum.

Fixed number of mobilities, either 12 or 24 etc.

Each school must make sure they say they are doing at least the number they applied for.

**Date of deadline for application:**

20/2/2009

**Project duration:**

1/08/09 – 31/7/11

The final report is copied by each nation and then summarised into own language if different. It must be sent to the National Agency by registered post.

Check all this information in your own agency's website.

**Specific goals:**

This project aims to support young people in the development of the necessary abilities for their personal development, future employment opportunities and an active European citizenship.

It was noted that, if a school has an opportunity to work with a company, then, they

should avail of this and list it in their application (e.g. water works etc., Bragan Water Ireland. One could visit their factories...).

### **Discussion of possible topics for project:**

All countries put forward many ideas for the contents of the new project. Poland showed a presentation of the uses of water in their country. Frithjof recorded all of the topics discussed for the new project and typed them and gave each member a copy of these.

## **Part 2: Saturday 15 November, 2008**

Discussion was opened about possible content. The title itself was discussed with the final result as follows:

**Wasser – mehr als nur H<sub>2</sub>O**  
Kulturelle und technische Zugänge

**Water – more than just H<sub>2</sub>O**  
Cultural and Technological Approaches

**Wasser – mehr als nur H<sub>2</sub>O. Kulturelle und technische Zugänge**

**Water – more than just H<sub>2</sub>O. Cultural and Technological Approaches**

### **End product:**

- The DVD (text, sound, pictures) that is produced must not have the title "meditation" in it. Poland found this unacceptable. A booklet could be produced to accompany the DVD.
- A website will be produced. Our e-mail addresses will be recorded in the website but neither hyperlinks nor the @ sign will be used as to avoid spam.
- There will be an exhibition at the final meeting made by the students.
- Perhaps a calendar 2011, drama, technical model (water mill) will be made.
- The calendar would list all the teachers and students who took part in the project. Each school would have 2 pictures in the calendar if 6 schools are in the project.

### **Mögliche Themen für das Projekt (possible subjects of the project):**

#### **Wasser als Energieträger (water as a source of energy):**

Wassermühlen (water mills)

Wasserkraft (water power)

Geothermie / Geysire (geothermal energy / geysers)

Wasserkraftwerke und Talsperren (hydroelectric power plants and reservoirs)

### **Technologien (technologies):**

Schiffe fahren bergauf: Oberländischer Kanal (ships going uphill: O.K.)  
 Aquädukte: Wiener Hochquellwasserleitung (Aqueducts: Vienna Alpine  
 spring aqueduct)

Künstlicher Regen (artificial rain)

Bewässerung (irrigation)

Dampfmaschinen (steam engines)

Brennstoffzellen (hydrogen fuel cells)

Feuerwehrwesen (firefighting), Wasserwerfer (water cannons)

### **Wasserversorgung (water supply):**

Wasseraufbereitung (water treatment)

Wasserverteilung / Netze (water distribution / networks)

Wasserverbrauch in den Mitgliedsländern (water rates [household supply] in  
 the diff. countries)

### **Freizeit (Leisure):**

Gesundheit (health)

Wasser als Heilmittel (water as remedy), e.g. Kneippkuren (Kneipp  
 treatments)

Wasser in der Medizin (water in medicine)

Wasser in der Kosmetik (water in cosmetics)

Wasser als Krankheitsauslöser (waterborne diseases)

Wassergeburt (water birth)

Das Bäderwesen (the culture of bathing)

Wassersport (water sports)

Schwimmen (swimming)

Tauchen (diving)

Surfen (surfing)

Wasserski (water skiing)

Segeln (sailing)

Bootsport (boat sports), e.g. Rudern (rowing)

Tourismus (tourism)

Städte und Siedlungen am und auf dem Wasser (cities and settlements  
 at and on the water), e.g. Wien (Vienna), Budapest (Budapest), Brügge  
 (Bruges), Venedig (Venice), Dublin (Dublin), Pfahlbauten (crannógs),  
 Halligen (holms)...

Wasserfälle (water falls)

### **Kultur (civilization):**

Literatur (literature)

Sprichwörter und Redewendungen mit "Wasser" (proverbs and  
 idiomatic expressions with „water“)

Nymphen (nymphs)

Lyrik / Kreatives Schreiben (lyrics /creative writing)

Kunst (art)

Eisskulpturen (ice sculptures)

**Musik (music)**

Klassische Aspekte (classical aspects): Wassermusik (water music),  
“Klangbilder”, e.g. “Die Moldau” by Smetana  
Moderne Aspekte (modern aspects): “Wasserlieder” (water in songs)

**Architektur (architecture)**

e.g. Wasserburgen und -schlösser (water castles), Brunnen (wells) und  
Springbrunnen (fountains), Aquädukte (aqueducts), Thermen  
(Thermal springs), Badekultur (Culture of bathing), “Wasserspiele”  
(water organ), Wasser als Stilmittel des Barock (water as a device  
of design in Baroque times)

**Religion (religion):**

Wasser als religiöses Symbol (water as a religious symbol)  
Inselklöster (monasteries on isles)  
Wasser und Wein (water and wine)

**NB: Geographical aspects of water were excluded from the themes since it was decided that there were already enough geography topics covered by Comenius projects.**

It was noted that Jörg from Germany is going to manage the area of technology (water mills etc.).

Meeting finished at 18.30.

Mona Metcalfe will send the minutes to Frithjof and to Geert in English. Geert will translate them into German.

Frithjof will send all documents to everyone.