

European Conference
Closing the empowerment gap through citizenship education
How to address educationally disadvantaged groups

17 - 19 November 2011
 Warsaw, Poland

Fact Sheet

Workshop VII Learning Environment - Vocational Training

	Section	Indications of content
1	Title of project	VOICE. Developing citizens
2	Location	Austria, Estonia, Germany, Slovenia, Turkey
3	Main topics/ key words	Key competences, problem-learning, citizenship education
4	Brief description of project	Comenius multilateral project's consortium is developing an innovative strategy for Education for Democratic Citizenship in secondary and post secondary (vocational) schools, in which both civic engagement and learning-to-learn key competences are improved and enhanced. Additionally, developing a model in-service teacher training course which focuses on necessary EDC/HRE background knowledge and methodological tools for teachers in secondary and vocational schools needed to get familiar with competence-orientated civic education.
5	Objectives of project	Development of students' competencies through use of problem-based learning/ teaching modules and teacher training course. The focus is especially on enhancing social, civic and learning-to-learn skills and this should be done through classes held on citizenship/ civics or related (depending on the country's situation in formal curricula).
6	Effect on the empowerment of educationally disadvantaged groups	According to the preparatory national survey, students in Slovenian vocational schools are 70% rated as "lacking basic social, civic and learning-to-learn skills," which is a huge disadvantage for their future professional life as well as for their future engagement into society as active citizens, able to form and follow democratic procedures.
7	Target Groups	In Slovenia, vocational schools that offer a module on EDC in their open curricula. Their students mainly come from disadvantaged rural and lower working-class families and represent many nationalities (minorities), including Roma, Kosovo Albanians, Bosnians, Serbs and many drop-out students from other schools.

8	Project methods/ Project format	Research, grass-roots development, testing and editing of the teaching and training HRE/EDC materials, cooperation, communication, ICT Format: Comenius multilateral project
9	Project results/ Project Evaluation/ Materials	National Needs Analyses on EDC, Overall Needs Analyses on EDC, PBL learning and teaching modules – The VOICE Manual, international and national TTC modules and materials, VOICE Newsletter and website www.voice-comenius.org
10	Project Duration	January 2011 – December 2013
11	Range and sustainability of the project	International to local. Project outputs are planned to be sustainable – modules are being tested in schools and tailored to national curricular demands, cooperation and interest of the educational authorities in countries participating was established.
12	Contact information	Elena A. Begant Center for Citizenship Education Robiceva 30 SI-2341 Limbus Slovenia E-Mail: info@eip-cdv.si Internet: www.eip-cdv.si Phone: 00386 246 11 585