

Educational Center PRO DIDACTICA

ACTIVITY REPORT

2 0 1 3



CUPRINS:

- I. GENERAL INFORMATION
- II. MOST IMPORTANT PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED BY PRO DIDACTICA (GRANTS AND CONSULTING SERVICES)
- III. PROJECTS 2012
 - 1. *Straightening vocational training in Moldova / CONSEPT*
 - 2. *Consolidating local NGOs through community partnerships*
 - 3. *Advancing Quality in ICT Vocational Education in Moldova*
 - 4. *The role of education in building confidence and social cohesion of multicultural societies*
- IV. CONSULTING SERVICES. Training of mentors
- V. IN-SERVICE TEACHER TRAINING PROGRAMS
- VI. PAIDEIA - EDUCATION DEBATE CLUB
- VII. DIDACTICA PRO... MAGAZINE
- VIII. PRO DIDACTICA LIBRARY

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

Adress: 13 Armeneasca st., Chisinau, 2012 MD, Republic of Moldova

Telephones:(37322) 542556, 541994

Fax: (37322) 544199

E-mail: prodidactica@prodidactica.md

Web-site:www.prodidactica.md

Rima BEZEDE, president, rbeze@prodidactica.md

Viorica GORAȘ-POSTICĂ, vice-president, vpostica@prodidactica.md

Tatiana MAZILO, chief accountant, tmazilo@prodidactica.md

Sergiu OLENCIUC, general services manager, solenciuc@prodidactica.md

Silvia BARBAROV, program coordinator, sbarbarov@prodidactica.md

Octombrina Moraru, project coordinator, lnicolaescu@prodidactica.md

Vera BUBULICI, accounting / program assistant, vbubulici@prodidactica.md

Rodica CATAREU, assistant, reception@prodidactica.md

Elena MUNTEANU, Nina IAȚCO, maintenance and support staff

Educational Center PRO DIDACTICA is a non–governmental, non-profit organization, founded in August 1998.

The mission of Educational Center PRO DIDACTICA is to promote the principles of an open society through supporting individuals and organizations interested in continuous learning and development aiming at achieving personal and professional growth, and a better integration into the society.

In order to achieve that, PRO DIDACTICA is offering informational, training and consulting programs and services, focusing on development of life-long learning culture and skills, promotion of the values of the knowledge-based society, insurance of inclusion and equal chances for all, and supporting the European integration efforts through education.

Current portfolio of the Centre includes 22 training programs for teachers and educational managers, authorized and licensed by the Ministry of Education and the Chamber of Licensing of Republic of Moldova. The training certificates are recognized officially in the process of teacher in-service evaluation and professional advancement.

Long-term objectives include:

- Ensure continuous professional development center staff members and trainers to maintain and optimize quality of service;
- Diversify training (including promoting and developing distance learning), to respond more effectively to the specific requests of the direct beneficiaries- teachers and educational institutions;
- Providing further training materials and publications to meet the needs of beneficiaries;
- Diversify sources of financing;
- Increasing national and international partnerships;
- Increase the level of transparency in national and international level.

II. THE MOST IMPORTANT PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED BY PRO DIDACTICA

GRANTS:

- Advancing Quality in ICT Vocational Education in Moldova, December 2012 – May 2015, sponsored by Austrian Development Cooperation
- The role of education in building confidence and social cohesion of multicultural societies, Implemented within EAST-EAST Program, Soros Foundation Moldova
- CONSEPT – Consolidating the Vocational Education Sector in Moldova – 2012-2014, sponsored by Liechtenstein Development Service
- Advancing NGOs capacity through community partnership, October 2012 – July 2013, sponsored by USA embassy
- School communities in action: Creating the conditions for persistence in school of students from socially vulnerable families, with financial support “Emergency Fund”, an international program created by George Soros in summer 2009 to mitigate the negative effects of economic crisis in Central, Eastern and South-East and Central Asia– 2010-2012
- Improving State Language Teaching in Gagauzia, financing by High Commissioner on National Minorities of the OSCE (Hague) and Federal Office for Foreign Affairs of Germany- August 15 – December 15,2011
- Advancing Educational Inclusion and Quality In South-East Europe (in partnership with CEPS, Ljubljana), 2008-2010
- CONSEPT – Consolidating the Vocational Education Sector in Moldova – 2008-2010
- Education for European Integration. Teacher training and materials development -2008-2009
- Problems of non-native language teaching in schools in Moldova, with the support of Office of the High Commissioner on National Minorities of the OSCE (Hague)2008-2009
- A Future for our Children with the support of „Liechtenstein Development Service” – 2007-2009
- Summer School “Peace is in our hands”, with financial support by UNESCO Moldova – 2008
- To improve school management and accountability (partnership with the Education Center 2000+ Romania) with support OSI initiative through RE:FINE – 2007-2008
- Partnership for a quality education. Optimizing the quality of education by promoting interactive technologies and by establishing effective partnerships, with financial support by National Development Agency CONTACT/PBF – 2006-2007
- Academic Success for Roma Children (in partnership with Ethno-cultural Diversity Resource Centre , Cluj, Romania) – 2006-2007
- Education for gender equity and equal chances, with financial support by SOROS Foundation- Moldova -2006
- Education for community development. Optional course for secondary schools and teacher training program (partnership with the Educational Program “Step by Step”) with financial support by SOROS Foundation-Moldova -2005-2007
- Promote tolerance and understanding of diversity toolbox for teachers – philologists, with financial support by Council of Europe, Confidence-Building Measures – 2005-2006
- A Future for our Children. Involving communities in social integration of children from disintegrated families, with financial support by Open Society Institute through RE-FINE Program (Budapest)- 2005-2006

- Reading and Writing for Critical Thinking at university level: curriculum development from the RWCT perspective, with financial support by SOROS Foundation-Moldova, OSY New York and International Reading Association - 2004-2005
- Teaching Romanian as a state language in minority schools. Teacher Training Program, with the support of Office of the High Commissioner on National Minorities of the OSCE (Hague) 2004
- Reading and Writing for Critical Thinking at university level: curriculum development from the RWCT perspective, with financial support by SOROS Foundation-Moldova, OSY New York and International Reading Association - 2003-2005
- Learning communities, with financial support by SOROS Foundation-Moldova, 2003-2005
- Tolerance and social integration. Information and training, with financial support by SOROS Foundation-Moldova - 2003-2005
- Education for otherness. Optional course of education for tolerance and ethnic otherness inhabiting through literature (high schools, colleagues, universities) with financial support from the U.S. Embassy – 2003 – 2005
- Internet Education- Computer school discipline, with financial support by SOROS Foundation-Moldova – 2002
- Cooperative Learning, with financial support by SOROS Foundation-Moldova - 2002-2003;
- Teaching Romanian as a state language in minority schools. Teacher Training Program, with the support of Office of the High Commissioner on National Minorities of the OSCE (Hague)- 2001-2003
- Modernization of Pre-University Education, with financial support by SOROS Foundation Moldova, 2001-2002
- Internet PRO EDUCATION, with financial support by SOROS Foundation-Moldova - 1999- 2002 (www.proeducation.md)
- Development of National Curriculum and Teacher Training for lyceum (in partnership with Ministry of Education from Republic of Moldova, with financial support by SOROS Foundation-Moldova – 1999
- Reading and Writing for Critical Thinking at pre-university level, with financial support by SOROS Foundation-Moldova - 1998-2002
- Modernization of Humanities Education program, with financial support by SOROS Foundation-Moldova - 1998-2000

CONSULTING SERVICES:

- Consulting Services Ministry of Education of R. Moldova for mentors training from preschool education within Global Partnership Project – June-August 2013
- Consultant Services Ministry of Education of R. Moldova for training of 8259 teachers, in 33 raions, in aspects related with methodological issues of teaching (grades 10-12) (February – June 2011), services contracted by Ministry of Education of the Republic of Moldova via World Bank loan.
- Consultant Services Ministry of Education of R. Moldova for training of 8106 teachers, in 33 raions, in aspects related to modernized lyceum curricula (grades 10-12) (July – August 2010), in partnership with Education 2000+ Consulting LTD, Romania; services contracted by Ministry of Education of the Republic of Moldova via World Bank loan.
- Consultant Services to Ministry of Education of R. Moldova for the elaboration of a guide of didactic staff in early and preschool education and training for 360 early education teachers (2010), EFA /FTI funds.

- Consultant Services to Ministry of Education of R. Moldova for the elaboration of curricula for pre-service and in-service training of didactic staff in early and preschool education and associated application guides(2009, EFA/FTI funds).
- Continuous in-class evaluation, trainings, 2008-2009, in partnership with Education 2000+ Consulting LTD, Romania; services contracted by Ministry of Education of the Republic of Moldova via World Bank loan.⁶
- Consultant Services to Ministry of Education of R. Moldova for testing of a set of tools for assessing equity and inclusion in education (2009).
- Professional development of lyceum teachers in lyceum curriculum implementation, trainings, 2007; services contracted by Ministry of Education of the Republic of Moldova via World Bank loan.
- Professional development of managers from preschool institutions, trainings, 2007; services contracted by Ministry of Education of the Republic of Moldova (EFA/FTI funds).
- Consulting Services for training of textbook authors, 2006, Kyrgyzstan; services contracted by Foundation for Education Initiatives Support, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.
- Consulting Services for assisting curriculum and teaching material developers for Georgian as a second Language, February, 2005, Tbilisi, Georgia; services contracted by HCNM of OSCE, the Hague, the Netherlands.
- Consulting Services for training of trainers and training of teachers for Georgian as a second Language, June, 2005, Bakuriani, Georgia; services contracted by HCNM of OSCE, the Hague, the Netherlands.
- Training services for teachers and managers from kindergartens, schools and universities, upon request.

III. PROJECTS 2013

1. STRAIGHTENING VOCATIONAL EDUCATION IN MOLDOVA - CONSEPT

Organizational development

Donor: The International Foundation *Liechtenstein Development Services LED*

Implementation period: January 2012 to December 2014

Annual budget: 455 337 MDL

General objective: to contribute to the organizational development of 9 institutions involved in the project CONSEPT.

Objectives:

- To improve the management skills of administrative staff from the institutions involved in the project
- To organize and monitor the process of elaboration of school development plans
- To provide professional counselling and expertise in the process of elaboration of several functional institutional development projects

Activities and results:

1. *Workshops for preparing the trainings*

Several workshops have been organized with the purpose of successful preparation and implementation of training activities. Throughout these workshops, participants have explored the terms of reference, as well as preparing the agenda and the needed materials for the trainings *Elaboration of school the development plan* and *Monitoring the implementation of School Development Plans*. The trainers engaged in the project have participated in the above mentioned seminars.

2. *Training Elaborating the school development plan.*

During the period from the 19th to the 20th and from the 26th to the 27th of February 2013, it has been organized the third module of the training "Elaborating the school development plan". Fifty-four managers and teachers participated (six persons from each institution involved in the project). The basic subjects of discussions were the strategic management, as well as the components of the development plan, identification and the problems settlement, a project for institutional strategies, etc. The sessions were held in an interactive way, emphasizing the managers' professional experience.

3. *School development plans elaboration*

During the period from March to September 2013, all the 9 institutions involved in the project CONSEPT have elaborated the School development plan.

4. *Counselling in directing the elaboration of school development plans*

During the period from May to September 2013, the trainers made 27 visits in the 9 institutions involved in the project, counselling the administrative staffs in the process of elaboration of school development

plans. The meetings have been organized by the management teams and assisted by the expert trainers from our centre. Furthermore, throughout the three visits, the trainers have handled counselling sessions in each institution, exploring and debating the theoretical aspects and requirements for school developing plans, suggesting useful practical recommendations, thus contributing to the completion of these important strategic documents. At the end of September, all the institutions presented the fulfilled versions of the plans for final editing and printing.

5. *Visits to evaluate the implementation school development plans*

In addition, during the period from November to December, several evaluating visits have been organized. The main objective was to analyze and determine the school development plan's implementation in 5 schools, participating in the 1st and the 2nd project stages: Vocational High School no.1 from Chisinau, Vocational School no.1 from Cupcini, Vocational School from Floresti, Vocational Schools no.1 and 2 from Cahul.

The expert trainers have studied and analyzed the institutional documents, such as school development plans, annual plans and annual activity reports; also, have met and discussed with the management staffs, pupils and teachers, as well as visiting classrooms and workshops. Consequently, it has been determined that school development plans were very useful to the management staff, being functional and contributing to problems identifying and settlement, even if the fixed objectives have been partially accomplished.

6. *Additional annual training for managers*

Resulting from the requests of management staffs of the 14 institutions involved in the project CONCEPT, during the period from the 6th to the 8th of November, it has been held a training seminar at the educational centre PRO DIDACTICA. The basic matter of the discussions was *Monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the School Development Plan*. To point out, the institutions, which have recently elaborated school development plans, as well as experienced ones, participated in the training. On a whole, it was an exchange of experience and knowledge, guidable and practical imparting information, which led to the successful elaboration of a monitoring program of school development plan implementation.

7. *Summing-up activity and Presentation of School Development Plans*

On December, 24, it was organized the summing-up activity of the project. The most important achievements built up throughout the continuance of the project were reviewed, together with presentation of school development plans. Additionally, the management staffs spoke about all the challenges they passed through, which made them stronger and eager to accomplish their goals, contributing to a change in attitude and perspective.

Project coordinator: Rima BEZEDE

2. CONSOLIDATING LOCAL NGOs THROUGH COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The project was implemented under the program *Small Grants for supporting democratic initiatives* performed by the U.S.A Embassy in Moldova and provided for the period of the 1st of October 2012 to the 31st of July 2013.

Purpose: to contribute to the consolidation of local NGOs (associations of parents) by initiating community partnerships in rural areas.

Objectives :

- To persuade community of the necessity of local partnership development
- To strengthen the teams` capacity of 6 local NGOs (associations of parents) by initiating and maintaining partnerships;
- To solve some community problems in six localities, involving partners identified through educational intervention projects.

Key activities of the project:

- A workshop for introducing the project and selecting the participating teams
- A conference to launch the project and the first meeting of the team
- The seminar-training *Elaborating local projects and partnership development*
- Evaluation activity and certification
- Individual counselling
- Providing the resource centres with needed materials
- Activities of centre launching
- Monitoring the activity of these centres
- Summing-up activity



Six rural NGOs, such as, AO *Veghetorul*, Agronomovca, Ungheni; AOPP Unțești, Ungheni; AO *Paladium*, Volovița, Soroca; APP Ulmu, Ialoveni; AO *Speranța*, Cușmirca, Șoldănești; APP *Generația Nouă* Zîrnești, Cahul, have been trained in elaborating and implementing educational intervention projects, they exchanged experiences and received a grant of U.S 1000 \$, necessary for the accomplishment of a local project in order to issue several specific problems the association of parents or the school deal with. Moreover, at the evaluation seminar, the teams, consisting of school and community managers, as well as teachers, presented and evaluated the developed projects. Furthermore, it has been accomplished the last stage of training some pedagogical aspects concerning NGOs` activity, project evaluation and the role of team activities in the process of implementing the intervention projects.

The training program for local teams was held during the period from October to December 2012; also, the local projects are going to be implemented during the period from January to May 2013. Those 24 participants have been certified, attesting to the completion of the courses of general pedagogy and the management of educational intervention project.

It is important to mention that, the questions related to supporting children from poor families have been prioritized. Of course, among project beneficiaries, were children, parents, school and community as a whole. The association of parents opened in schools a day centre for children and parents, providing it with furniture, literature, equipment and supplies, as well as other didactic materials, so necessary for leisure activities, pedagogical, psychological and social support of the beneficiaries. For sure, the impact of these

project activities is a qualitative parental participation in school life, so, avoiding the traditional financial contributions.

Also, at the end, it has been published the book *Initiatives to consolidating community partnerships*, in an edition of 400 copies, including several successful stories of the project. The book has been donated to school libraries in order to promote qualitative exchanges in initiation and maintenance the community educational partnerships.

Project coordinator: Viorica GORAȘ-POSTICĂ

3. ADVANCING QUALITY IN ICT VOCATIONAL EDUCATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

Donor: Austrian Development Cooperation / ADC.

Implementation period: December 2012 to May 2015

Annual budget: 540 697 EUR

Objective: to support the qualitative improvement of the content and the process of ICT professional education in six pilot institutions (colleges and vocational schools), in this way enhancing the quality of knowledge and practical skills of the young ICT specialists. Furthermore, this will give the beneficiaries new opportunities for professional development, contributing to an increased employment and to poverty reduction.

Partner: Moldovan Association of private ICT companies

Implementation team:

Project manager: Rima BEZEDE

Project coordinator: Octombrina MORARU

ICT Coordinator: Ana CHIRIȚA

Curriculum expert: Viorica GORAȘ-POSTICĂ

IT Expert: Anatol GREMALSCI

Working group: representatives of 6 pilot institutions

Pilot institutions:

1. College of Informatics, Chisinau
2. Polytechnic College, Balti
3. Industrial Pedagogical College, Cahul
4. Vocational School no. 5, Balti
5. Vocational School no. 6, Chisinau
6. Financial Banking College, Chisinau

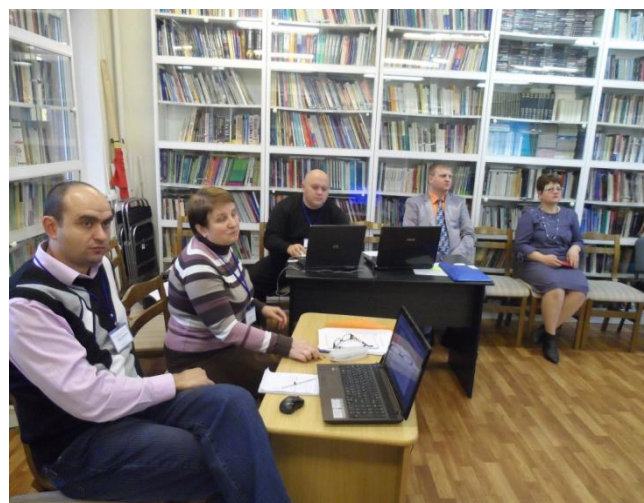
Objectives:

1. The beneficiary institutions are to acquire an improved and updated curriculum for ICT specializations according to market demands, with the involvement of the representatives of ICT companies;
2. Improvement of ICT specialists' practical skills needed for the labour market and enrolling the trained students in private sectors;
3. A greater confidence of the young ICT specialists to continue their studies in IT vocational institutions.

Key activities carried out in 2013

1. *Needs analysis of the beneficiary institutions and IT sector in order to optimize the project objectives and the expected results*

The purpose of needs analysis was to identify the most pressing and important problems of IT education from the beneficiary institutions, as well as curriculum matter, teacher training, pupils' performances, employment rate, IT companies requirements, etc. The main tools / analysis methods included different questionnaires, focus groups and interviews. A group of sociologists, also the project teams were involved in this activity. In fact, 250 students, 25 teachers, 21 companies have participated in sociological polls, examining carefully the needs. As a result of this activity, it has been written a report on needs assessment in TVE institutions and IT field.



2. *The study visit of the working group and TVE representatives to Austria*

This activity was organized in partnership with the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture. Among the participants, there were representatives of different institutions involved in the project, as well as some of the working group. There were visited 7 relevant institutions from vocational education and ICT sector, which represent the Austrian TVE system. Needless to say that the TVE system from Moldova is much too consisting of theory and is not adjusted to the requirements of the labor market. The main objective of the visit was to collect best practices of Austrian institutions from the ICT area in order to apply the gained knowledge and experience in our institutions, to identify the particularities of the Austrian TVE system in the ICT area, especially focused attention on the curriculum development process, suitable to the requirements of the labor market, on the continuous training process of teachers from TVE institutions and on apprenticeship training programs.

3. *Implementing and developing the training program for the curriculum updating team*

Consequently the online announcement and to the sent motivation letter and CV, 18 specialists were selected and have been trained to update the curriculum. They participated in a training which has been facilitated by national experts, who have already developed modular curricula for vocational specialities. Moreover, during the workshops, the objectives have been settled on, as well as the training period, some unique standards of organizing the sessions and the needed materials.

4. *Elaboration of curricular materials*

Afterwards, 4 modules have been proposed to Informatics and Computers specialities and 12 modules for Technical Support Computer Operator from secondary vocational education.

Project coordinator: Octombrina MORARU

4. THE ROLE OF EDUCATION IN BUILDING CONFIDENCE AND SOCIAL COHESION OF MULTICULTURAL SOCIETIES

The project was performed in partnership with the Centre for Educational Initiatives from Latvia and the Estonian Youth Association *Open Republic*.

Purpose: to contribute to a better social integration of ethnic minorities in the Moldovan society and to enhance the role of education in the consolidation of the multicultural society by studying the experience of other former Soviet countries and learning from their achievements and failures.

Objectives:

- To inform of the politics and practices available in Latvia and Estonia concerning the education's role in social consolidation and cohesion inside of multicultural societies.
- To share successful educational practices to a wider public from Moldova based on the Estonian and Latvian experiences.
- To aware our citizens of the existing problems concerning social consolidation and cohesion by integrating multicultural societies.
- To work out concrete recommendations for the authorities and the general public.
- To publish several materials about the meetings and the discussions held during the study visits.

Activities:

1. *Study visits to Estonia and Latvia by an expert group from Moldova (9-19 December 2012)*
2. *Organizing regional workshops for multicultural education from the 4th to the 8th of March 2013.*
The main objects are: informing of Latvian and Estonian experiences in the social integration of ethnic minorities; sharing their successful educational practices which contributed to social cohesion and to consolidating the multicultural society; to aware our citizens of the existing problems concerning integrating multicultural societies, it has been organized a group of workshops in different places of the country.
3. *The study visit to Moldova by foreign experts and organisation of a roundtable in Chisinau (15-20 April 2013).*
The purpose of this study visit by Latvian and Estonian experts was to get on with the exchange of experience between our countries, in order to take advantage of foreign practices. In order to get acquainted with the situation in our country, several meetings have been organized with various

stakeholders, representatives of the parliamentary committee for education, public administration, managers, the bashkan of GăgăuzYeri, university and school teachers.

4. *The publication of materials informing of EU countries` study visits*

The participants in study visits have made a number of materials, promoting and highlighting the gained experiences. Moreover, the authors proposed several practical steps to be followed to introduce the improvements to our country.

5. *Organization of a roundtable to promulgate the project results by the target groups (June 26, 2013)*

The subject of the roundtable was *Experiences of national minorities` integration through education*. The participants were representatives of the Ministry of Education, Bureau of Interethnic relations, District Department of Education from Comrat, school managers of about 30 Russian-language schools from different parts of the country. As it was the last meeting for the project, it has been promoted the Latvian and Estonian experiences in our country. Moreover, it has been identified the target group of participants – principals of some educational institutions, where are studying different ethnic groups, as Ukrainians, Russians, Bulgarians, Gagauz, etc.

Results:

- During the study visits to EU countries, the participants have improved their abilities on building viable multicultural communities through increasing the role of educational methods and instruments.
- Moldovan experts have acquired the necessary information to promote the most advanced experiences from Latvia and Estonia, in order to improve some specific aspects in our country.
- The decision makers of our country have been informed about advanced experiences of these countries, becoming more motivated to encourage the improvement of current multicultural policies and practices.
- The civil society became more informed of Latvian and Estonian experience in the field of multicultural education.
- International experts got acquainted with actual problems concerning the multicultural space and multicultural education of our country.
- The knowledge and the abilities of various stakeholders in building viable multicultural communities have been improved, thus enhancing the role of educational measures and instruments.
- It has been set a concrete initiative of collaboration between the Educational Centre PRODIDACTICA and The youth Association Open Republic of Estonia by launching a common project to form local trainers having the job to promote language integrated learning in our schools: "Capacity Development for Content and Language Integrated Learning in Moldovan Schools via European successful models / experiences".

Project coordinator: Silvia BARBAROV

IV. CONSULTING SERVICES

THE PROGRAM OF MENTOR TRAINING IN EARLY EDUCATION IN THE PROJECT *GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR EDUCATION*

Donor: Ministry of Education of Moldova in the international project *Global Partnership for Education*.

Budget: 61 214 \$

Implementation period: June 19 to September 18, 2013

Purpose: Providing consultancy services for training mentors in early education

Partners:

- Ministry of Education
- District Departments
- Kindergartens

Beneficiaries: 260 mentors 40 inspectors

Implementation team:

Project manager: Rima BEZEDE

Project coordinator: Viorica GORAȘ-POSTICĂ

National trainers: 20 experts in early and adult education

Project assistant: Rodica CATAREU

Accountant: Tatiana MAZILO

Objectives:

- to use the two modules in mentor training (methodological and practical support), offered by the international consultant for instructing 260 mentors and 40 inspectors;
- To train 260 mentors (selected from each district, based on the criteria proposed by the consultant) and 40 inspectors;
- To promote relevant instruments for the kindergartens of Moldova for monitoring and evaluating the process of teaching and learning;
- To assess the participants' acquired knowledge at district level, using the evaluation method pre-assessment and post-assessment;

Activities and results:

Activity 1. Meeting the project team. Tasks distribution.

Results:

- A revision of the work plan and the tasks
- A general and detailed operating plan elaboration

Activity 2. The 1st Workshop for national trainers

Results:

- Elaboration of criteria for selecting mentors.
- Developing the training design
- Tasks distribution for revising the course materials

Activity 3. Logistical arrangements with the general direction of education and the service providers

Results:

- Application form for mentors ;
- Identification and selection of potential mentors ;
- The presentation of a list of 300 participants and 24 national trainers from the Ministry of Education to facilitate the participation in the program ;
- The establishment of the training program for 300 participants
- Identification of the training location and providers ;

Activity 4. The 2nd Workshop for national trainers

Results:

- Presentation and analysis of materials. Accomplishment of materials;
- Preparation for training;
- The program of the training and the necessary materials;
- Professional skills to be developed;

Activity 5. Training program mentors

Results:

- 20 national trainers involved in the implementation of the training program (292 trained mentors – 15 groups)
- 20 sessions held in each period (a total of 60 sessions)

As a result, we appreciate a lot that all the activities held under the mentor training program in kindergartens were directed in accordance with the plans of the Educational Centre PRODIDACTICA and with the terms of reference formulated by the Ministry of Education. In fact, the main objective has been achieved, by offering a useful and a qualified mentor training program in early education. Under those circumstances, the didactic support needed for the training of kindergarten mentors has been updated. Moreover, it was assured the logistics for training activities and the training programs of 40 hours in 3 stages have been completed:

- I. July 15 to July 19, 2013 (5 groups)
- II. July 22 to July 26, 2013 (5 groups)
- III. July 29 to August 2, 2013 (5 groups)

The training program was organized in a professional manner; important to mention the effort and the support of international experts, national trainers and local mentors, as well as the project team. The implementation of the training program for localexperts can be considered a success; that is proved by the presence of 98% of participants, as well as the summary of reports and the evaluation questionnaires of the program.



According to the final evaluations, the activity was a very actual and useful one for the newly trained mentors. In fact, most of the participants expressed the desire to be involved in providing mentoring services. Both participants and stakeholders have mentioned the quality of the presented course, the professionalism of national trainers and teachers' interest in the treated subjects, which were quite extensive. Moreover, all the participants have been certified, as they had asked to.

In this way, the participants acknowledged the new role they are going to play, realized the differences between the traditional help offered to teachers (giving advice and recommendations) and the mentors' role (helping the teacher in finding solutions); discovered new ways of professional and personal development; proved sufficient confidence in providing mentoring services; have developed active listening abilities; created professional developing plans. Needless to say that children are the basic value which motivates to accept and to encourage the development.

Project coordinator: VIORICA GORAȘ-POSTICĂ

V. TRAINING SERVICES 2013

The Educational Centre PRO DIDACTICA has offered programs in adult training, different courses for continuous professional development, as well as methodological instruction in collaboration and approved by the Ministry of Education through the order no 780 of July 18, 2013. At the end of the courses, the participants have been certified; to point out, those documents attest the completion of courses and can be used in the process of attestation.

The Educational Center team consists of collaborators, expert consultants, trainers from different educational institutions of the Republic of Moldova, who have improved their knowledge and abilities in different countries, as Romania, the USA, France, Canada, UK, Belgium, Hungary, Russia, Germany, Austria, etc.

PRO DIDACTICA has an area of about 300 m², situated in the center of the town and it is equipped with:

- A conference room, alias library, where can be found more than 3,000 titles in general and educational management, pedagogy, didactic of different subjects, psychology, etc.
- Five smaller rooms for trainings and group activities ;
- The latest equipment for training activities, such as: projectors, multimedia, flipchart tables, copying machines, video and audio devices, computers, printers, etc.

In 2013, from the amount of trainings, several modules that corresponded to the teachers' training needs have been chosen. Also, requests from school groups have been accepted (12-16 persons), as well as further individual registrations until the completion of the whole group (16 persons). The trainings have been held at our center, equally inside of educational institutions.

The price of the whole training has been established depending on the requests and covered, first of all, the cost of providing and preparing the training programs, then the needed materials and, finally, the coffee breaks. Each group of participants has been trained by 1-2 experts. Both the contents and the duration of courses have been established together with the participants, based on their needs and demands.

Information concerning any other activities of the Center, free of charge sponsored projects, has been posted on the website www.prodidactica.md.

Throughout the year 2013, the training team of the Educational Center PRO DIDACTICA responded to the teachers and managers' development needs, offering a great amount of services, such as

- High school *Elimul Nou* from Chisinau – Follow-up activity of the complex training program for teachers;
- General direction of education Soroca- Follow-up activity of the complex training program for teachers from primary schools;
- General direction of education Ungheni- Follow-up activity of the complex training program for teachers from primary schools;
- Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie – Didactic in higher education : interactive teaching-learning strategies ;
- Gymnasium Floreni – Pedagogy and didactic of different subjects ;
- General direction of education Ungheni- Pedagogy and specific didactics;
- Gymnasium Bahmut, Calarasi – The change management ;
- High school *Vasile Alecsandri* from Chisinau – The seminar *Evaluation indicators of school results*;
- High school *Petru Rares* from Orhei – The seminar *Communication skills development based on language systems*;
- The College of Medicine from Chisinau – The seminar *Interactive technologies for professional skills training*;

- National Youth Council of Moldova – Training of trainers in quality assurance non formal educational activities;
- World Health Organization- Training of trainers;
- Home Association – Training for promoting tolerance towards people with disabilities and project management;
- High school *Emil Nicula* from Merenii Noi- Skills assessments based on educational standards;
- Agence universitaire de la Francophonie – Interactive strategies of projecting, teaching-learning-evaluation and research for university teachers ;
- Thematic seminars have been organized in different institutions from Chisinau, such as Medical College, High School *Vasile Alecsandri*, High School *Ginta Latina*.

The involved trainer team consisted of:

Ludmila Afteni, Rima Bezede, Nina Bîrnaz, Tatiana Cartaleanu, Olga Cosovan, Raisa Gavriliță, Viorica Goraș-Postică, Angela Grama-Tomița, Galina Filip, Sergiu Lîsenko, Mariana Marin, Nina Mîndru, Lia Sclifos, Daniela State, Livia State, etc.

Consequently, 800 persons have been certified.

VI. EDUCATIONAL DEBATE CLUB *PAIDEIA*

Throughout the year 2013, sessions of the Educational Debate Club *Paideia* have been organized inside the Educational Center PRO DIDACTICA. During these activities, different and useful topics have been proposed to improve teaching practices, which have elicited constructed discussions and debates, an exchange of views and experience. Moreover, the enjoyable and relaxed ambiance, the trainers' professionalism, the participants' interest in the treated subjects contributed to a successful and an efficacious organization of those activities.

Among the topics, could be mentioned several, as:

- Assessment of competences
- Psychological and pedagogical portrait of a leader
- Non continuous text reading. Contents and competences.
- Methods, techniques, strategies (situational learning)
- The reader interaction with the literary work through the reading calendar and the on-line attitude
- Peculiarities of didactic communication ; new critical thinking developing opportunities through class hours ;
- Homeworks – a beneficial matter;
- Excellent teachers – inspired pupils;
- Evocation – a learning and thinking frame at Romanian language and literature;
- Modern biology;
- Technical project
- The recipe and the instruction as a functional and a polyvalent text;
- Intervention projects – a chance for institutional and professional development;
- Cultural competence training through language study;
- Oral evaluation methods and techniques;
- Strategies of school/teacher – family interaction

Participants: more than 100 teachers from different institutions from Chisinau, as well as from other villages and towns.

VII. THE JOURNAL *DIDACTICA PRO*

Editorial team: Mariana VATAMANU-CIOCANU, editor-in-chief; Danil BOGDEA, editor; Nicolae SUSANU, graphic design, desktop publishing.

Throughout the year 2013, six issues of the educational magazine have appeared.

DIDACTICA PRO..., in an edition of 1000 copies.

This publication has been delivered through various agencies, such as: POȘTA MOLDOVEI, MOLDPRESA, USP-PRESA, PRESS INFORM-CURIER, having about 900 subscribers.

No. 1 (77) – **MULTILINGUAL EDUCATION**

- Sociolinguistic policies and social integration of allophones from the Republic of Moldova
- Experiences worth following. Language immersion
- Multilingualism: personal and social benefits
- Learner-centered methods and techniques at maths lessons

No. 2 (78) – **Education *For and through* reading**

- Pedagogical construction of reading;
- Important accents on non continuous text reading approach;
- Problem solving – a highly formative method

No. 3 (79) – **FAMILY – SCHOOL AND QUALITATIVE EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP**

- Family-school partnership: the only plausible scenario for a qualitative education
- Developing partnership intelligence through educational projects
- Project based on competences: a qualitative educational achievement in chemistry

No. 4 (80) – **INNOVATION IN EDUCATION**

- The ICT training project for higher education
- Romanian language on stick and screen
- Cross curricular topics: an innovative approach for nature subjects
- Developing solving problems competences at chemistry through algorithm method

No. 5-6 (81) – **TEACHERS ATTESTATION**

- Assessment of human resources in higher education
- The influence of social environment and individual characteristics on professional choice and career evolution
- Professional development: a comfort or a risk zone?
- Reasons for using dual items in the current evaluations for Geography and General Physics.



VIII. PRO DIDACTICALIBRARY

SERVICIES

The library offers a collection of sources of information, made accessible to the beneficiaries for reference or borrowing. It provides access to various books, encyclopedias, dictionaries, monographs in Romanian, Russian, English, French, as well as the whole collection of the educational magazine DIDACTICA PRO (2000-2013). Moreover, the collection of the journal *Tribuna învățământului*, the weekly journal *Făclia*, the magazines *Управление школой* and *Школьный психолог* are also available.