



Official Newsletter

3rd edition:
May 2014



LiMe

Languages in Media

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Project partners



University of
LODZ



**Lifelong
Learning
Programme**

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Welcome to the 3rd edition of LiMe!

LiMe aims to help migrants in the partner countries develop language and cultural competences by providing them and language trainers with interactive tools to decode language and culture as portrayed in various types of media. To achieve this, it is our objective to create an interactive multimedia environment which hosts learning materials - including language learning activities and exercises - from A2 to B2 (CEFR) to facilitate the use of interactive media for cultural and language learning purposes.

What's inside?

This newsletter will inform you about the project's progress, future actions, main outcomes, partners' agreement, and the Work Package planning as devised at the third meeting, which was held in Empoli (Italy) in May, 2014. The piloting session conducted by language experts, offering the partners valuable feedback to improve their newly created learning materials, and the continuous involvement of associated institutions to support the project are highlighted in this newsletter. The cultural section, 'Did you know that...?' will help you become more familiar with media found in each of the partner countries: in this case, summer festivals. Below, we present an update of the project progress actions reviewing the activities and tasks carried out since the last newsletter:

Latest project happenings!

The main activities programmed for these months were:

- the development of an online learning platform (Moodle) where the learning resources and training materials will be available together with the training package on how to use media to teach language and culture,
- disseminating on the project, enhancing its visibility. In Spain a national event was held which offered its guests an insight into the first stage of the resource development and piloting of the already created resources.

Project progress: 3rd Meeting May 2014

The third meeting, tackling the piloting test for teachers, preparation for the national pilot tests and summary of actions taken and to be taken in past and future months, took place 6-9 May at ASEV institution (Agenzia per lo Sviluppo Empolese Valdelsa) Empoli, Italy.

Piloting sessions

An intensive but rewarding two-day session was necessary to test the already created media resources: movie trailer, soap opera, music video, music, radio news and radio traffic.

Each partner invited two language experts/teachers to test the resources in their national language or another partner language. Exhaustive and detailed questionnaires were provided to the experts in order to give feedback on the contents, activities, format and platform's structure, sections and usability to ensure appropriateness and relevance to the project's aims and objectives.

The piloting session ended with a discussion amongst language experts who expressed their first impressions, as well as their opinion about the platform. The contents' strengths and weaknesses were also addressed in order to assure good quality products. Teachers also incorporated recommendations to support language acquisition and integration among migrants.



Fig. 1. Teachers and partners in the piloting session testing media resources

Partners meeting

After two days of piloting the learning platform and resources and taking into account experts' comments and suggestions, on the 8th and 9th of May the partner leading the Quality Assurance and Evaluation work package, LEAP, presented the first results taken from the questionnaires completed during the testing. In the following months the exercises, tools and online platform created will be improved following the experts' feedback.

Additionally, the area for teachers (training package) including interactive exercises, tips, example activities and other hints and guidance will be shortly available. The partners agreed on deadlines and details for the piloting which will take place in each partner country in the next months (June-October). The piloting will begin with a workshop for language teachers and teacher trainers. Then the platform will be tested within language courses by at least 30 migrant learners in each country. Feedback on resource appropriateness and user-friendliness, layout and helpfulness of the platform will be collected from both migrants and teachers. These results will play a vital role in the finalisation of the learning platform.



Fig. 2. 3rd project meeting, Empoli (Italy).

What's next?

1. Pilot testing organised by each partner institution including at least 10 teachers and 30 learners per country.
2. Workshop for teachers from different institutions and levels: presentation of LiMe project and training package to get information about media and foreign language learning in the partner countries, the latest trends in media and foreign language learning methodology, useful websites which teachers can use in their classes and a guide on how to access the learning platform.

Have you visited our website lately?

Find more information about us at: <http://languages-in-media.eu/>.

If you are willing to get involved as a teacher, student, institution or associate partner to work on the creation, design, dissemination, evaluation, exploitation and even sustainability of the project results, please contact us as soon as you can via email using the contact details below (See Project Partners' section). If you have not yet or not recently visited the LiMe website, stop by and check out its new look. As the learning platform is being created the website has been given a new look customized to the platform.

Are you or your organisation interested in becoming an associated partner?

Click here <http://www.languages-in-media.eu/node/4> to find out which organizations are already an associated partner and how you can benefit from becoming a partner.

Project Partners

• Volkshochschule im Landkreis, Germany

Contact person: Aleksandra Sikorska;

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• Uniwersytet Łódzki, Poland

Contact person: Marcin Gońda ;

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• University of Wolverhampton, UK

Contact: Language Networks for Excellence team;

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• Agenzia per lo Sviluppo Empolese Valdelsa ASEV, Italy

Contact person: Ecaterina Constantinova ;

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• Universidad de Extremadura, Spain

Contact person: Mercedes Rico;

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Did you know that ...?

Germany:

Summer equals time to run

The growing yearning to stay fit and healthy has turned running into a summer trend. All across Germany various organised runs take place for fun, for competitions or for charity. A popular trend is The Color Run, a 5 km run through various color zones, all while being motivated with music. The aim is to begin in white clothing and finish the run colorful and happy. This year you can find The Color Run in 11 cities, it is the perfect social event combining fitness and music. <http://thecolorrun.de>

Poland:

In Poland there is a number of music and culture summer festivals such as the Opener Festival in Gdynia or the Orange Warsaw Festival – one of the biggest music events in Europe. However the largest audience gathers during the ticket-free “Woodstock Festival Poland” that is held annually in August. Each year more than 500,000 people meet in Kostrzyn to listen to rock, pop and symphonic music. It is organized by thousands of volunteers of the biggest Polish charity action: “The Great Orchestra of Christmas Charity” that engages every winter almost all Polish citizens to donate money for hospitals and medical lifesaving. The founder of the “Orchestra” and the “Woodstock Festival”, Jerzy Owsiak, has recently received the award “Hero of 25 years of Poland’s freedom (1989-2014)”.

UK:

Music Festivals – There are many large scale modern music festivals in the UK that cover a wide variety of genres and many of them are world renowned, but the most famous is Glastonbury, which is the largest greenfield festival in the world. The Glastonbury Festival first took place in 1970 and is now attended by around 175,000 people. The majority of staff are volunteers, who help raise millions of pounds for good causes. The festival is inspired by the ethos of the hippie, free festival movements and visitors will camp out in rain-soaked muddy fields and experience a wide and popular range of music artists from across the world.



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Italy:

In summer there are a lot of small festivals in Italy, such as **outdoor music performances**, **medieval festivals** when people dress in medieval costumes or **sagra**, where you can usually sample inexpensive regional food. August 15, **Ferragosto** (Assumption Day), is a national holiday, so you can find celebrations all over Italy not only on this day but also the days before and after. The celebrations often include music, food, and fireworks.

Spain:

Summer festivals: Open-air dance

Spain is a country which has lots of popular traditions and summer festivals. Each town or city has different heritage celebrations that enrich our culture. For example the open-air dance or ‘verbena’. This type of popular dance is livened up by an orchestra and by the citizens who dance and sing popular songs. Open-air dances are very well-known and recognized in Spain and mostly celebrated summer holidays. On August 15th, Saint-Mary -the day of the virgin, as it is commonly called- almost every village and town celebrate its festivals and fairs in honour of the Virgin.