



Welcome to the 4th newsletter of INSPIRE

This 4th newsletter reflects the two years project INSPIRE and presents all results especially in the three partner countries Germany, Latvia and Poland. Read more about the project below.

Final Project Meeting in Leverkusen, Germany

On 27 October, the project partners met at NaturGut Ophoven in Leverkusen for the final meeting in order to recapitulate/ review the project work that had been done over the past two years and to learn more about the work of out-of-school places in Germany.

For this purpose, Hans-Martin Kochanek, the head/manager of NaturGut, guided the group across the grounds of NaturGut, a special place and one of only a few of its kind in Germany, he explained. Everything is to be found on one single site (ponds, creek, forest, meadow, ...). In target-group specific programmes the visitors, especially children, are »re-introduced« to nature. Beside nature, history also plays a role. A historical moated castle on the grounds is the place for getting familiar with life in late medieval times.

In the afternoon Susanne Ben Hicham, a teacher who gives pedagogical lessons on NaturGut, guided the project partners through »EnergyTown«, NaturGut Ophoven's museum for children and youths. Mrs Ben Hicham showed that the museum provides interactive exhibitions and programmes on two floors, where visitors explore how much fun it can be to save energy. She didn't need much persuasion to animate the international participants of the meeting to try out the manifold interactive exhibitions, e.g. to climb through a socket, experiment in a solar laboratory or to phone with trees, create an animal voice karaoke, cuddle with an ant, or fly like a bird. The participants were excited.

Herbert Reul visited the final INSPIRE meeting as a guest speaker. He is responsible for energy issues in the European Parliament. He underlined the important role of teachers and the need to accept their responsibility and to live out the values they teach. And in this process, non-formal learning is very important and encourages the participation of young people with relevance to the labour

market. »The best investment is in people«, he pointed out.»INSPIRE is a great way to do so«, and »I support this project very much«. In the project review, Veronika Schulte recapitulated the management and results of the work packages, and the participants described the project from their individual country perspective.



Dear Reader,

this is the final newsletter of the project INSPIRE. We thank all partners for their inputs and the successful cooperation. Also we would like to express our gratitude for the support provided to the EU, the Lifelong Learning Programme CO-MENIUS.

Yours faithfully,
Prof. Dr. Walter Leal



The INSPIRE Project Handbook is ready!

The INSPIRE handbook is ready and summarises all the main results of the Comenius project INSPIRE. The three countries that took part in INSPIRE (Germany, Latvia and Poland) present examples as to how they teach the issue of energy at extracurricular venues in their countries, with an approach that will also be useful to other countries that were not involved in the project.

First, the project partners identified the present situation in each of the three countries. The following questions were answered: Do teachers at school and in extracurricular venues deal with the topic of energy? How often do teachers visit extracurricular venues with their classes and which topics do they prefer? In PART 2, readers are given some basic information on the INSPIRE project and the partnership. PART 3 presents a summary of the »Review and analysis of non-formal learning«. An overview of the 15 designed lesson units is shown in PART 4 and the manual for teacher training is presented in PART 5 of this handbook. A summary of the handbook and what the INSPIRE team has learned about all these activities during the project is finalised in PART 6.



