

Inclusive education – a road to social inclusion

I, Natalija Zemcugova, attended the seminar 'Inclusive education - a road to social inclusion' in Bratislava. On the basis of the main theme ('Inclusive education - a road to social inclusion') I was able to introduce and share how our school provides inclusive education for all our students. I shared some good ideas we have at our school and learned much more about inclusive education. The seminar provided an opportunity to discuss and share the understanding of social inclusion and related challenges, establish networks and develop project ideas in this area.

The seminar **Inclusive education - a road to social inclusion** was hosted by the Slovak NA and its main aim was to give the possibility of building networks among organizations which plan to prepare a KA2/ School Exchange partnership projects on the seminar topic. The contact seminar was mainly targeted at school leaders and teachers (pupils' age range 10 - 14) interested in the theme of the seminar and committed to develop Erasmus+ School exchange partnerships.

On Day 1 the representative from the Slovak NA introduced basic features of Erasmus+ (KA2 Strategic partnerships) and examples of inclusive education in practice. The teachers from two different schools shared their experience of leading School Exchange partnership projects, the importance of their projects and the impact they had.

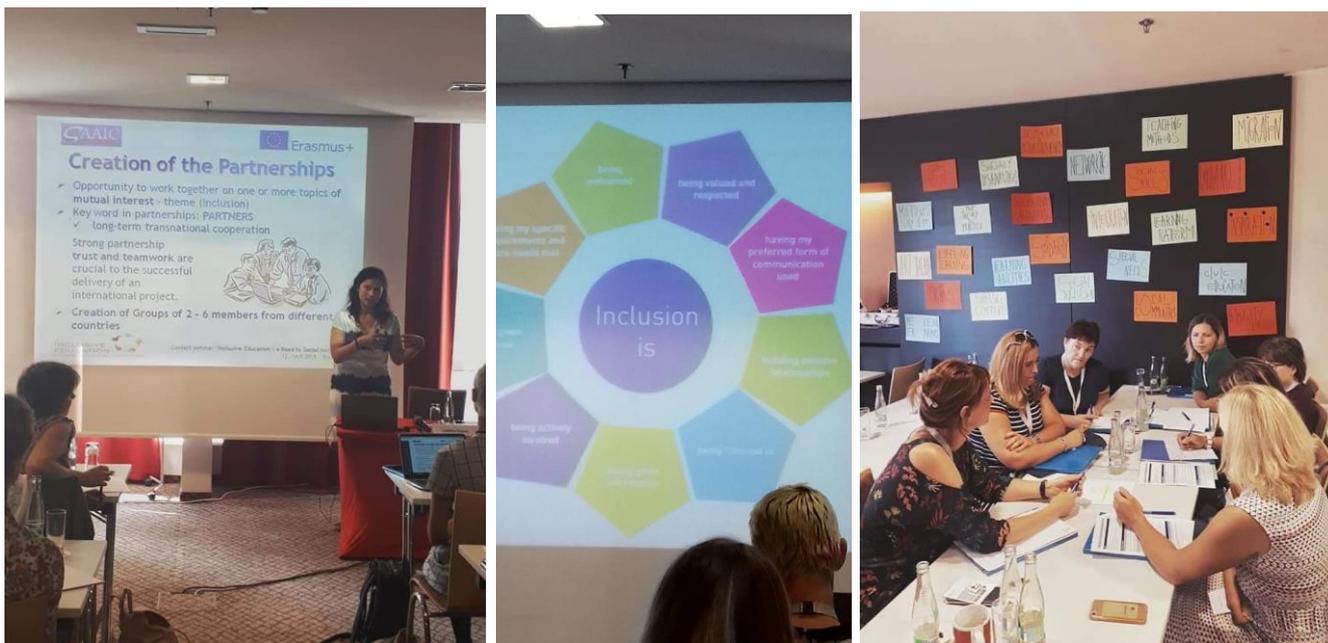


On Day 2 there was a How to Prepare a Good Project presentation of project templates. We discussed what inclusive education is and why it is so important nowadays. We learned about the difference in equality and equity; what inclusion is about. We familiarised ourselves with different ways of working with groups of people - exclusion, segregation, integration, inclusion and assimilation. We discussed all forms of inclusion, e.g. being valued and respected, having preferred way of communication, being actively involved, being listened to.

We also had Erasmus+ overview, where we found out about three main Key Actions and which is more relevant for us. We discussed the horizontal priorities and what changes have been made in this area. We were given a lot of information about setting up the projects and where to find information.

The main part of Day 2 was grouping by interests. Some people have already had a lot of experience in partnership projects and they wanted to continue. They had their ideas of new projects, which they shared with everybody else. All participants then had an opportunity to join one of the groups. There were eight groups made and people introduced themselves explaining why they have chosen that idea and how their school might benefit from the

project. Each group needed to establish the Needs for that project, then the Objectives, what activities we are planning to have and the Results of the project. We were given several hours to prepare a presentation of our project including all these key elements.



On Day 3 each group presented their project. The representatives from NA gave their feedback, explaining the good points and the points which need to be thought through. Each group was satisfied with the outcomes and the feedback. I was in a group with 5 other teachers. We exchanged our contact details because we feel confident that our project can go ahead.



At the end of Day 3 there was another presentation from NA - on how to use Impact+ exercise tool. This tool is new and is very useful. We should use it before submitting the application.

We can find this tool on www.erasmusplus.org.uk/impact-and-evaluation

All the presentations regarding this seminar could be found here - <http://www.erasmusplus.sk/TCA/index.php?sw=11>

I found the seminar very useful and informative.

The impact of the seminar could be described:

- We will create a new project
- The project will make change for our students (the project is about inclusive education)

It is important to ask questions and evaluate the project - how do we make the difference)