

INFO Exchange

Editorial by Joanna Leontaraki



The year 2015 has been set as the target date in which all of the Millennium Development Goals are to be achieved. Quantitative benchmarks have been set so as to decrease the high level of poverty (in all forms) by 50%. It is apparent, however, that the economic crisis that has struck has led to a difficulty in reaching and achieving these objectives.

189 different nations agreed to work in union towards the achievement of these goals, while the Declaration reached led to a total of eight Millennium Development Goals, 18 targets and 48 different indicators.

Even though development seems to be lethargic, remarkable improvements have been made in different countries. Such improvements include: a decrease in the total number of individuals living in extreme poverty from 50% (1990) to 25% (2005), enrolment in primary education has increased to 88% in 2007 from 83% in 2000, the total number of deaths of children under five years of age has decreased from 12.6 million in 1990 to approximately 9 million in 2007, while a visible decrease in the total consumption of materials that harm the earth and the environment has also been achieved (97% decrease).

The aforementioned achievements and objectives have been reached with the assistance and joint work and cooperation of nations, authorities, institutions and individuals throughout the world. As a result, in order to continue these positive advancements and achievements we need to remain united and inform others on the consequences of our actions and the possibilities to make the world a better place for us all!

Source: The Millennium Development Goals Report 2009

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Spain: On April 29th, ASAEEL held the seminar “Youth participation in Europe: fighting together against climate change” in Zaragoza, Spain. With the implementation of the conference and with the overall eCLAU project, ASAEEL aimed to bring youth closer to the European democratic system by promoting their participation in the democratic processes and in particular through the use of ICT and the forums that are materialised each month in the context of the project.

Italy: The decisions and debates of the workshop revolved around issues relating to innovation and creativity as tools for development and European Regulations and investments on energy and waste. It is safe to say, from the discussions that took place that youth are highly concerned with the aforementioned issues, while they also feel as though they can positively contribute to the societies they belong in.

Greece: The Greek national workshop had the title “ACT-IVE European Youth: You can make a difference”. The workshop captured a number of different significant issues that affect youth throughout Europe. The participants included youth in Larissa, representatives of local authorities and representatives and individuals working for NGOs and other such institutions that work in the field of youth.

France: The day was divided into two workshops: the morning was dedicated to the international environmental policies and the afternoon to e-participation, in which 24 youngsters, representatives of local authorities, NGOs and the private sector participated in. Presentations concerning both central themes were made by experts in the field, while open discussions took place following the presentations, where all participants offered their inputs, views and opinions concerning the topics addressed.

Bulgaria: On 4th and 5th June 2009, the Association for development of mountain municipalities in Republic of Bulgaria (ADMMRB) successfully carried out a workshop “Crosspoint” in the town of Bansko. A number of topics were covered and discussed, including the decision-making process in EU, EU policies for Youth and Environment, the green future and the 2009 EU Elections and other such interesting and relevant topics.

EC-ASE 2nd Transnational Meeting

EU Awards 1st Literature Award

The European Commission, the European Booksellers Federation, the European Writers' Council and the Federation of European Publishers announced twelve winners of the European Union Prize for Literature.

The award ceremony will take place on September 28, 2009 in Brussels.

According to Mr. Jan Figel “This prize spotlights the excellence of literary talents in Europe and all they have to offer. It underlies Europe’s strength in the quality and creativity of its literary output. The prize is aimed at getting the works of new authors off the book shelves and into the hands and hearts of people across Europe.”

Source:
www.euprizeliterature.eu



On June 22-23 the second transnational meeting of the European Project EC-ASE: European Certification of Advisors/Educators of Social Economy that is materialised, with the Institute of Entrepreneurship Development as lead partner.



The second meeting was materialised in Cracow, Poland with the hospitality of the University of Economics of Cracow (partner of the project), which constitutes one of the oldest and most significant universities in Europe.

The meeting focused on the process of certification of informal qualifications of advisors/educators of social economy. With regards to the process of certification it was decided that the process be materialised around January of 2010, in all participating countries (Greece, Italy and Poland). The process of certification includes three stages: Evaluation of the Curriculum Vitae, On-line test with 100 questions of multiple choices and a Presentation of a case study to the Advisory Board of each institution.

Further, so as to ensure equal access of all participants, it was decided that the process be materialised in each national language of each participating country

(Greek, Polish, Italian and English).

It must be mentioned that the certificate “Advisor/Educator of Social Economy” will receive high European recognition and credibility since it will be referenced to a corresponding level of the European Qualifications Framework.

The European Qualifications Framework constitutes the first international framework for professional qualifications; it constitutes a system that will evaluate the qualifications of employees in the EU, not based on who issued the diplomas and educational certificates, but on what they really know, what they really understand and how competent they are to succeed professionally.

The member-states are called forth to correlate their national frameworks with the EQF by 2010 and to institutionalize measure so that, by 2012, all new certificates relating to professional qualifications, diplomas and documents issued, will consist of explicit reference to the corresponding level of the EQF.

The participation in the process of certification is free.

All interested individuals can communicate with the Institute of Entrepreneurship Development so as to declare an interest or to the respective partners of each of the participating countries (+30 2410 626 943, info@entre.gr, www.entre.gr, www.socialconsultant.eu).

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Calendar of Events

July 27, 2009: *The Power of Positive Leadership*, Brisbane Australia

July 27, 2009: *Creativity Workshop in Carmel*, California, Carmel California

August 06, 2009: *Creativity Workshop in Oaxaca*, Mexico, Oaxaca Mexico

August 12, 2009: *19th Nordic Workshop on Interorganizational Research*, Jonkoping Sweden

August 12, 2009: *Global Business & Economics Research Conference*, Istanbul, Istanbul Turkey

August 13, 2009: *Second Annual International Business Conference*, Detroit Metropolitan Michigan

August 28, 2009: *Women’s Executive Leadership Summit/African Women in Public Life Excellence Awards*, London United Kingdom

September 03, 2009: *Exchanging Ideas on Europe 2009: Views from France, Views from Beyond the Mainstream*, Angers France

September 08, 2009: *Metropolitan Desires*, Manchester United Kingdom

eCLAU Online Forums

In the context of the Youth In Action Programme: eCLAU, online forums take place each month with a different theme that directly affects us all. The forums take place in English, Spanish, Italian, Greek, Bulgarian and French and we welcome you all to register and participate, providing us with your ideas, suggestions, concerns, problems or comments.

Two forums have already taken place – May: EU 2009 Elections & June: Results of the 2009 EU Elections.

The forthcoming monthly themes are as follows:

- July 2009 – Forest Fires
- September 2009 – Mountains
- October 2009 – Air Pollution
- November 2009 – Climate Change – what you can do individually
- December 2009 – Water Management

The Online Forums are open for approximately one month so you can visit the forum and participate at your convenience.

We look forward to having constructive debates and



dialogues on line!!

Visit the site: www.e-clau.net

The informative electronic newsletter is published by the Institute of Entrepreneurship Development and constitutes voluntary effort of its members, the opinions and comments of which do not necessarily express the institute's views.

We would like your suggestions for upcoming issues. You can send information, inquiries, proposals and general comments that could be published to the following address: newsletter@entre.gr

The newsletter is published periodically to communicate activities and plans.

Publisher:
The Institute of Entrepreneurship Development

Newsletter Editor:
Ioanna Leontarakis

The electronic newsletter is sent free of charge.

If you do not wish to receive the newsletter please send us an e-mail at the following address: newsletter@entre.gr

Useful Websites

- European Commission: Library: ECLAS: <http://ec.europa.eu/eclas/>
- European Sources Online: <http://www.europeansources.info>
- Easy Reading Corner: <http://ec.europa.eu/prelex/apcnet.cfm?CL=en>
- Your Voice in Europe: <http://ec.europa.eu/yourvoice/>

Cooperating Institutions



CENTER FOR WOMEN'S STUDIES
EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN UNIVERSITY
KADIN ARAŞTIRMALARI VE EĞİTİM MERKEZİ
DOĞU AKDENİZ ÜNİVERSİTESİ



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