



## Meeting report on linguistic modules needs

### ACTIVITIES TO DATE

In Work Package 6 – Languages and linguistic diversity -, emphasis was laid on two aspects:

- a) collection of data and production of a report compiling the data;
- b) preparation of basic language modules by means of examination of previous work done (specifically the LDV ORION project), identification of course material that could be suitable for CLIL (Content and Language Learning) methodology.

### A. Collection of data

1. A questionnaire concerning language provision in European academic courses covering the marine sciences, directed towards both undergraduate and postgraduate courses, was drafted, modified after consultation with AQUA-TNET partners, and put online by AquaTT. Data from this online questionnaire is still being collected and when this has been completed, will be analysed and circulated to all partners.

A variation of this questionnaire was put to student participants at the AQUATT student Workshop in Galway in November 2006, and this is currently being worked up.

2. Concurrently, ECOSERVE, (Partner 40) has been engaged in producing a review of European schools/ science and language policies, making use of data provided by EURYDICE, has been taking place, and is almost completed.

### B. Identification of courses and materials suitable for producing basic language learning modules

This is a difficult and time-consuming task, which has been the focus of the efforts of both AMC Ltd and Bergen Høgh Skole, Norway).

#### Language modules

The basic language modules produced in the LDV ORION project have been evaluated by the core group and, as part of another LDV project, PESCALEX, of which the Norwegian partner is also a participant, has been carried out. The language learning materials have been adapted and updated, have been translated into 3 more languages (are ready in English, French, Spanish, Polish, Swedish, Norwegian, Portuguese and Greek) and are currently being programmed so that they will be available online in all of these languages. However, due to the severe cut in the AQUATNET budget, this will probably be done, initially at least, in [www.pescalex.org](http://www.pescalex.org).

#### Specific course materials

This work package has also been investigating the CLIL methodology as a suitable method for delivering language learning, and has identified several existing courses which are suitable (Basic Techniques for Fish Haematology, Health Management for Fish Farms and a new course in Aquatic



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Pathology. These courses are being adapted for CLIL delivery in English, French, Spanish, Norwegian, Greek and Polish.

### Dissemination

The WP leader, AMC Ltd, presented some of the work that has been done at the WAS/EAS Workshop in Firenze, Italy, in May 2006.

The proposed network of language teachers will be set up once the data collection part of the project has been completed, as this is a logical outcome of the data collection.

### **FUTURE PLANS**

Future plans concentrate on finishing the work that has been described above, which is fairly substantial.

Review of European academic and school language and marine science course/provision

Basic language modules online in 8 languages (English, French, Spanish, Polish, Swedish, Norwegian, Portuguese and Greek)

Review of European developments in language teaching and learning, including CLIL methodology. This is an area where many changes are taking place and the WP Leader has been disseminating information about these changes both to the core group and to interested partners in AQUA-TNET meetings. Consultation with WP5 must also take place soon in order to work out how best to make the Work Package results available to all AQUA-TNET partners.

### **DIFFICULTIES, PROBLEMS, CONSTRAINTS**

A major difficulty concerns the budget cut, which in this Work Package has meant that activities have had to take place within the structure of other EU projects. However, despite this, the main aims and objectives have been able to be carried out, albeit with a certain amount of delay.

Another problem concerned the health of the WP leader who had to withdraw from one meeting, and from the work of the project, for about 3 months in the summer of 2006. In addition, the Norwegian partner most concerned with the work has left Norway. However, it is anticipated that he will be replaced by another active partner from the same institution.

Lack of consultation (for a variety of reasons) has also led to inadequacies and omissions. This has to be addressed at the present meeting.