

National Projects on Languages Education : Progress Update

National Projects Implemented from 2005 School Languages Programme funds

Project	Description	Contractor and Project Team	Timeframe	Progress update (November 2006 – February 2007)
<p>1. Improvement in the national coordination and quality assurance of ethnic schools.</p>	<p>This project aims to strengthen national coordination and quality assurance in after-hours ethnic/ community language schools in Australia, with a focus on 3 key areas:</p> <p>a) national coordination and promotion;</p> <p>b) improving quality assurance, including trialling a nationally agreed Quality Assurance framework, and subsequent development of implementation guidelines. The implementation of this framework in consultation with State / Territory education jurisdictions will assist after-hours ethnic schools in planning for accreditation, planning for external reporting, and providing opportunities for school review and teacher self evaluation; and</p> <p>c) professional development for teachers.</p>	<p>Australian Federation of Ethnic Schools Associations (AFESA), known as <i>Community Languages Australia (CLA)</i>.</p> <p>Project Manager: Mr Stefan Romaniw OAM</p>	<p>July 2005 to Dec 2006</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There has been some delay in finalising the project due to computer problems on the part of CLA. • A comprehensive Final Report on the Project will soon be posted on the Community Languages Australia website:- http://www.communitylanguagesaustralia.org.au/ . • This Report will include statistics collected from all states and territories on student participation in after-hours community languages programmes by language. • A paper on the needs of emerging communities will also be attached. • A major focus of CLAs work has been the refining of the Quality Assurance framework through a workshop approach to develop the elements and pointers within each dimension. Implementation guidelines have also been developed to assist in the further uptake of this framework. All materials can be accessed via the website. • <i>'Community Languages Schools: Contributing to Quality Languages Education in Australia, a Statement prepared by Community Languages Australia</i> is being published in readiness for uploading onto the website. This document describes the role of community languages schools as complementary providers, the function and role of Community Languages Australia and articulates the role of a National Secretariat. The document also outlines CLA's proposed response to the MCEETYA National Statement and Plan. • <i>An Operational and Procedures Manual for Community Language Schools</i> is also being published for uploading on to the CLA website.

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<p>2. Investigation into the current provision of Indigenous languages programmes in Australian schools.</p>	<p>This Project aims to improve the quality and sustainability of Indigenous language programs in Australian schools. It will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> investigate current policy and provision of Indigenous language programmes in schools, including issues related to staffing these programmes; examine existing models of teacher preparation and training for those involved in the delivery of Indigenous languages programmes; and identify and evaluate examples of good practice in Indigenous languages programmes in schools reflecting different settings. 	<p>Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER)</p> <p><u>Project Director:</u> Dr Nola Purdie</p> <p><u>Project Team:</u> Ms Tracey Frigo , ACER Mr Geoff Noblett (Phillips KPA) Dr Nick Thieberger (Uni of Melbourne)</p> <p>Critical friends from Qld Dept of Education and the Arts: Mr Chris Bain Ms Denise Angelo Mr Robert Ah Wing</p>	<p>July 2006 to Aug 2007</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Second Project Advisory Group meeting has been held. Stakeholder consultations have been held – some follow-up required. Mapping of current provision of Indigenous language programmes is underway. 6 good practice case studies have been identified and preparation of case studies is underway.
<p>3. Investigation into the state and nature of languages education in Australian schools</p>	<p>The objective of this project is to build on previous research to generate a comprehensive national picture of languages education, and recommend strategies to increase effectiveness and quality of school-based languages programmes. It will particularly investigate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> current State and Territory languages policies and curriculum frameworks, modes of delivery, and teacher supply and demand; how policies respond to issues of mandatory language study, choice, continuity, and workforce planning; and the roles of and interrelationships between mainstream and complementary language providers in each State and Territory. 	<p>University of South Australia - Research Centre for Languages and Cultures Education</p> <p><u>Project Manager:</u> Assoc. Prof. Tony Liddicoat</p> <p><u>Project Team:</u> Assoc. Prof. Angela Scarino Jim Dellit Dr Timothy Jowan Curnow Ms Michelle Kohler</p>	<p>July 2006 to July 2007</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Second Project Advisory Group meeting has been held. Stakeholder consultations have been held, with more consultations to take place early this year. Quantitative data is being collected. Literature review and document survey are underway.
<p>4. Development of a nationally coordinated promotion of the benefits of</p>	<p>The project aims to develop nationally coordinated promotion of the benefits of languages education targeted at school principals, school leaders, students, parents and the community. The project will include a Communication and Promotion Strategy and the</p>	<p>Asia Education Foundation (AEF) in partnership with AFMLTA.</p> <p><u>Project Director:</u></p>	<p>December 2006 to February 2008</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract signed. Situational analysis being undertaken by UniSA – RCLCE. First Project Advisory Group meeting to be held in March 2007.

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<p>languages learning in schools.</p>	<p>development of a range of promotional materials and products. The materials will highlight the intercultural, intellectual and vocational benefits of learning languages. The materials will also reinforce positive attitudes to languages education and assist in culture change in schools and school communities where there are negative attitudes.</p>	<p>Kurt Mullane <u>Project Manager:</u> Andrew Ferguson</p>		
<p>5. Review of teacher education for languages teachers.</p>	<p>This project aims to produce a comprehensive national picture of the nature and effectiveness of teacher education and re-training opportunities for languages teachers. Key objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • investigate course entry requirements, course content and structure; • identify structural impediments relating to the development of teachers' linguistic and pedagogical competency; and • explore the potential application of the <i>Professional Standards for Accomplished Teaching of Languages and Cultures</i>, developed by the Australian Federation of Modern Language Teachers (AFMLTA), in teacher education for languages teachers. 	<p>Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) <u>Project Manager:</u> Dr Elizabeth Kleinhenz (ACER) <u>Project Team:</u> Ms Emma Curtin (ACER) Dr Lawrence Ingvarson (ACER) Ms Jenny Wilkinson (ACER) Dr Alison Elliott, (ACER) Ms Sue Fernandez (University of Melbourne) Dr Margaret Gearon (Monash University) Dr Howard Nicholas (La Trobe University)</p>	<p>July 2006 to July 2007</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second Project Advisory Group meeting has been held. • Consultation with stakeholders was held in October 06. • Identification of case studies of innovative practice underway. • Next Project Advisory Group meeting will be held in late March.
<p>6. Development and distribution of a 'Guide to the Teaching, Learning and Assessing of Languages in the 21st Century' for teachers and schools.</p>	<p>This project will develop accessible support materials for languages teachers and school leaders, in Australian primary and secondary schools and after-hours ethnic/community language schools, to assist them in planning, resourcing, implementing and evaluating effective languages programmes based on an intercultural approach.</p> <p>The <i>Guide</i> will be complemented by a short online 'user's handbook' as well as online companion documents consisting of language specific support materials in Chinese, Japanese, Indonesian, French,</p>	<p>University of South Australia - Research Centre for Languages and Cultures Education <u>Project Managers:</u> Assoc. Prof. Angela Scarino Assoc. Prof. Tony Liddicoat <u>Project Team:</u> Mr Jim Dellit Ms Michelle Kohler</p>	<p>December 2006 to October 2008</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract signed. • In the next few months a round-table stakeholder consultation meeting will take place, a project Specification Document will be produced and the first Project Advisory Group meeting will be held.

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	German and Italian, for example unit outlines and assessment tasks.	Dr Leo Papademetre Mr Andrew Scrimgeour Dr Johanna Carr (QUT) Dr Chantal Crozet (ANU) <u>Research Project Officers</u> Ms Kate Loechel Ms Nives Mercurio Dr Anne-Marie Morgan		
7. Leading Languages Education Project.	This is a professional learning project for principals and school leaders that aims to promote greater awareness of action at the national level to support languages, current teaching directions, and benefits of language learning. The Project will comprise an information dissemination strategy to support Principals and school leaders in the crucial role they play in implementing an effective languages programme. Key elements of this strategy include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • face-to-face forums in each State and Territory; • a 'Leading Languages Education' webpage on the APAPDC website • electronic and print communications 	Australian Principal Associations' Professional Development Council (APAPDC) <u>Project Director:</u> Ms Susan Boucher, Chief Executive Officer, APAPDC. <u>Project Manager:</u> Mr Dennis Flannery, Project Officer, APAPDC.	July 2006 to April 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 Project Advisory Group meetings held. • 4 Forums, ACT, VIC, TAS and SA, completed in 2006; remaining 4 in NSW, WA, QLD and NT are planned for March and April 2007. • Webpage will soon be live (see www.apapdc.edu.au/) • An e-Newsletter and "Leadership in Languages Education Update" resource are under development.
8. National Seminar on Languages Education: "Maximising the Opportunity"	Key objectives of the National Seminar were to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide time and opportunities for State and Territory teams to consider what the MCEETYA <i>National Statement and Plan for Languages Education 2005-08</i> means for their local contexts and priorities and to plan strategies that can be taken forward after the Seminar; • provide an update on action being taken at national level to assist the implementation of the MCEETYA <i>National Statement and Plan for Languages Education 2005-08</i>, particularly the national projects funded under the School Languages Programme; • share effective practice in languages education, in particular work being undertaken to enhance intercultural language teaching and learning; • promote the broad benefits of languages education; • raise awareness of the links between languages education and other national and State education priorities. 	Asia Education Foundation (AEF) <u>Project Manager:</u> Mr Kurt Mullane	June 2006 to Jan 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National Seminar was held on 30 & 31 October 2007, and was attended by 140 invited participants. The Seminar was opened by the Hon Julie Bishop, Minister for Education, Science and Training. • The Seminar provided an opportunity for state and territory teams and representatives of national organisations to identify a clear set of priorities for maximising the opportunity presented by the National Statement and Plan, 2005 – 2008. • A Seminar Report, summarising the contributions of the National Seminar speakers/presenters, good practice workshops, panel discussions and deliberations of State and Territory teams, is currently being prepared for publication.

National Projects Implemented from 2006 School Languages Programme funds

Project	Description	Contractor and Project Team	Timeframe	Progress update (November 2006 – February 2007)
Professional Standards Project	<p>The Project will develop and implement a nationally coordinated professional learning programme for languages teachers, using the <i>Professional standards for accomplished teaching of languages and cultures</i> ('the Standards') as a framework, in order to address issues related to quality languages teaching.</p> <p>The professional learning programme will be a train-the-trainer model, where trainers from each State and Territory will be trained to deliver the professional learning programme in their jurisdiction.</p>	<p>AFMLTA</p> <p><u>Project Directors:</u> Lia Tedesco, AFMLTA Angela Scarino, UniSA RCLCE</p>	<p>March 2007 – December 2008</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract is under development.

Australian Government Quality Teacher Programme

Intercultural Language Teaching and Learning in Practice (ILTLP) project	<p>A national professional learning programme on intercultural language teaching and learning, which will build on the outcomes of the Asian Languages Professional Learning Project (ALPLP). The ILTLP will be conducted in 4 Phases:</p> <p><i>Phase 1:</i> Commissioned, supported school-based research and development to generate exemplars in long-term programming, assessment processes and describing outcomes of intercultural language learning.</p> <p><i>Phase 2:</i> Development of ILTLP professional learning materials and accompanying processes to support the delivery of the ILTLP in each State and Territory. This Phase must run concurrently with Phase 1.</p> <p><i>Phase 3:</i> Delivery of the ILTLP in each State and Territory throughout 2007. The ILTLP will consist of an initial 2.5 day conference, followed by 2 x 1 day recall sessions and a final reporting day for participants to share the outcomes of their classroom investigations.</p> <p><i>Phase 4:</i> Revision of the ILTLP Resources and preparation of final Report, including collation of collected ILTLP data.</p>	<p>University of South Australia - Research Centre for Languages and Cultures Education</p> <p><u>Project Managers:</u> Assoc. Prof. Tony Liddicoat Assoc. Prof. Angela Scarino</p> <p><u>Project Team:</u> Mr Jim Dellit Ms Michelle Kohler Dr Leo Papademetre Mr Andrew Scrimgeour Dr Johanna Carr (QUT) Dr Chantal Crozet (ANU)</p> <p><u>Research Project Officers</u> Ms Kate Loechel Ms Nives Mercurio DR Anne-Marie Morgan</p>	<p>June 2006 to Jan 2008</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 Project Advisory Group meetings have been held to date. In addition, PAG members have provided feedback via email on the draft materials for Phase 2. A communication strategy has been developed. Key elements of the strategy include an ILTLP brochure, the ILTLP website (www.iltlp@unisa.edu.au) and regular e-updates to key stakeholders Phases 1 & 2 have been successfully completed. 22 teachers of French, German, Japanese, participated in Phase 1 and have completed units of work and/or programs and materials which will be uploaded on to project website. The professional learning materials to support the initial 2.5 day conferences in all states and territories have been developed and a national train-the-trainer seminar is being held on 20-22 February 2007 in Adelaide in preparation for the roll-out of the ILTLP nationally. Phase 3 will begin in all states and territories in March – April in all states and territories and continue until October – November. The website is expected to be live by 20 February. It will house Phase 1 & 2 materials, discussion papers, an on-line discussion board and a number of self-access modules.
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