

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 (Nov 2006 – Oct 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 and refining a nationally agreed Quality Assurance framework in 3 jurisdictions, and subsequent development of implementation guidelines; 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><u>Project Manager:</u> Mr Stefan Romaniw OAM</p>	<p>July 2005 to Dec 2006</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This project has concluded. The Final Report of the project, together with Community Languages Education in Australia, a statement prepared by Community Languages Australia, and An Operational and Procedures Manual for Community Languages Schools, are available on the Community Languages Australia website at: www.communitylanguagesaustralia.org.au/
<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 October 2007</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The final report of the project is being drafted.
<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 August 2007</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The report is being finalised.

<p>4. Development of a nationally coordinated promotion of the benefits of languages learning in schools.</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 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>Asia Education Foundation (AEF) in partnership with AFMLTA.</p> <p><u>Project Director:</u> Kurt Mullane</p> <p><u>Project Manager:</u> Andrew Ferguson</p>	<p>December 2006 to February 2008</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft text has been developed. • Draft design concept has been developed. • 2nd PAG meeting will be held on 25 October.
<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)</p> <p><u>Project Manager:</u> Dr Elizabeth Kleinhenz (ACER)</p> <p><u>Project Team:</u> Ms Emma Curtin (ACER) Dr Lawrence Ingvarson (ACER) Ms Jenny Wilkinson (ACER) Dr Alison Elliott, (ACER)</p> <p>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"> • The report is being finalised.
<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, German and Italian, for example unit outlines and assessment tasks.</p>	<p>University of South Australia - Research Centre for Languages and Cultures Education</p> <p><u>Project Managers:</u> Assoc. Prof. Angela Scarino Assoc. Prof. Tony Liddicoat</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</u></p>	<p>December 2006 to October 2008</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first PAG teleconference meeting was held on 27 June to consider the feedback from the stakeholder roundtable and finalise the specifications for the resource. • During September, October and November, a revised content outline, together with drafts of pages of the Guide, will become available for PAG members to read and review, prior to the next PAG meeting which needs to occur before 15 December.

		<u>Officers</u> Ms Kate Loechel Ms Nives Mercurio Dr Anne-Marie Morgan		
7. Leading Languages Education Project.	<p>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.</p> <p>Key elements of this strategy include:</p> <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 	<p>Australian Principal Associations' Professional Development Council (APAPDC)</p> <p><u>Project Director:</u> Ms Susan Boucher, Chief Executive Officer, APAPDC.</p> <p><u>Project Manager:</u> Mr Dennis Flannery, Project Officer, APAPDC.</p>	July 2006 to April 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This Project has been completed. • The project's webpage is now live, hosted on the APAPDC website, www.apapdc.edu.au/leadinglanguages/ • Two e-Newsletters are available on the project's webpage • 8 forums were conducted around Australia, one per State/Territory, with a total of 392 participants. An 8-page hard-copy publication, Leadership in Languages Education, will be available for distribution to all schools in May. • An 8-page hardcopy publication, Leadership in Languages Education has been distributed to all school principals in Australia and key stakeholders..
8. 2006 National Seminar on Languages Education: "Maximising the Opportunity"	<p>Key objectives of the National Seminar were to:</p> <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. 	<p>Asia Education Foundation (AEF)</p> <p><u>Project Manager:</u> Mr Kurt Mullane</p>	June 2006 to Jan 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National Seminar was held on 30 & 31 October 2006 and was attended by 140 invited participants. • 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 available on the Asia Education Foundation website at: www.asiaeducation.edu.au/public_html/reports.htm

NATIONAL PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED FROM 2006 SCHOOL LANGUAGES PROGRAMME FUNDS

Project	Description	Contractor and Project Team	Timeframe	Progress update (November 2006 – October 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>	March 2007 – December 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Project Advisory Group has been held. • A communication strategy has been finalised • Guidelines and protocols for the selection and administration of participants are currently being refined • A brochure has been developed to promote the project. It is available from the project website at www.pspl.unisa.edu.au/

NATIONAL PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED FROM 2007 SCHOOL LANGUAGES PROGRAMME FUNDS

Project	Description	Contractor and Project Team	Timeframe	Progress update (November 2006 – October 2007)
1. 2007 National Seminar on Languages Education	<p>This will be the second National Seminar funded under the national projects element of the School Languages Programme.</p> <p>Key objectives will be to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide an opportunity for all jurisdictions to meet and report on local action that has supported the National Statement and Plan in the 12 months since the 2006 National Seminar and develop a 'Workplan' that will take the National Statement and Plan forward to 2008 and onwards • reinforce the benefits of languages education and its relevance and importance in school education • monitor developments in the field of languages education and provide opportunities to explore how the outcomes and findings from completed projects funded nationally under the SLP can inform and influence local programmes • showcase new initiatives being undertaken at national level to support the implementation of the National Statement and Plan and provide opportunities for key stakeholders to explore implications at the local level • provide opportunities for formal and informal networking to encourage cross-sector collaboration • a digital resource will be produced that will showcase segments of the National Seminar to assist the promotion and advocacy of languages education 	<p>Asia Education Foundation (AEF)</p> <p><u>Project Manager:</u> Mr Kurt Mullane</p>	May 2007 – March 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seminar will be held in Melbourne on 29 & 30 November 2007.
2. Improvement in the national coordination and quality assurance of ethnic schools.	<p>This project will support Community Languages Australia (CLA) in consolidating the progress it has made thus far in enhancing national coordination and quality assurance in after-hours ethnic schools:</p> <p>Key components of this project will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing national coordination of ethnic languages and ethnic schools in consultation with State and Territory education jurisdictions and ethnic schools authorities. • Strengthening and promoting the quality of teaching and learning practices in ethnic schools across Australia. This will involve piloting the implementation of the Quality Assurance Framework developed by CLA in selected ethnic schools in three States. • Strengthening professional learning opportunities for personnel involved in the delivery of languages taught through ethnic schools. • Improving data collection to enable annual national reporting on community languages in Australia. 	<p>Australian Federation of Ethnic Schools Associations (AFESA), known as <i>Community Languages Australia (CLA)</i>.</p> <p><u>Project Manager:</u> Mr Stefan Romaniw OAM</p>	June 2007 - 30 November 2008.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first PAG meeting was held on 9 August. • A roundtable with MCEETYA Languages Education representatives was also held on 9 August. The purposes of this meeting was a) to provide Community Languages Australia the opportunity to highlight progress achieved to date and discuss issues that are impacting on effective national coordination and quality assurance of after-hours ethnic schools and b) for WP members to raise issues and the challenges that impact on them with regard to after-hours ethnic language programmes.
3. Student participation data collection	<p>This project is a first step in working towards comprehensive nation-wide data collection on student participation in languages education for strategic planning purposes and to enable current provision to be measured. The project will analyse student participation data supplied by State and Territory education authorities for 2005-2006 on student participation, language studied, and year level.</p>	<p>Research Unit for Multilingualism and Cross-Cultural Communication (RUMACCC)</p> <p><u>Project Manager:</u> Yvette Slaughther</p>	May 2007 to August 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports have been finalised and provided to Working Party members.

COMPLEMENTARY NATIONAL INITIATIVES

<p>Intercultural Language Teaching and Learning in Practice (ILTLP) project</p> <p>(funded under the Australian Government Quality Teacher Programme)</p>	<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"> • The ILTLP website is now live at www.iltlp@unisa.edu.au It provides a rich resource base to support and complement the ILTLP materials developed to support the national professional learning programme. • Phase 3 is currently underway. Initial 2.5 day conferences have been conducted in the Northern Territory, Victoria, Tasmania, Australian Capital Territory, Western Australia and in Queensland. Conferences will held in NSW and SA by end of May. • Classroom-based investigations are being conducted by participants during April – November. • 2 x 1 day recall sessions and 1 full day reporting session will be held during this period as determined by individual states and territories.
<p>Endeavour Language Teacher Fellowships (ELTF)</p>	<p>The Endeavour Language Teacher Fellowships (ELTF) is part of the Australian Government's Endeavour Programme of international scholarships and exchanges. The ELTF Programme provides opportunities for practising languages teachers in Australian schools and trainee (pre-service) languages teachers in Australian tertiary institutions to improve their language and cultural skills through an intensive short-term study programme. The Fellowships take place over a three-week period in January each year.</p>	<p>Asia Education Foundation</p> <p><u>Project Director</u> Kurt Mullane</p>	<p>Fellowships take place in January each year.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately 200 practicing and trainee teachers will be participating in 8 study programmes, with two new destinations for 2008 – Spain and Jordan.
<p>Collaborative Structural Reform Project: Innovative approaches to the provision of languages other than English in Australian Higher Education.</p>	<p>The aim of the project is to identify a range of innovative, cost efficient and pedagogically appropriate models for languages other than English (LOTE) delivery and collaboration across higher education. This will be achieved through identifying successful, (components of), existing models, nationally and internationally; and new and innovative modes of LOTE delivery. The project will trial selected models in individual universities and consortia of universities and evaluate the feasibility of transferability across the sector in Australia.</p>	<p>Australasian Council of Deans of Arts, Social Sciences & Humanities (DASSH)</p> <p><u>Project Director</u> Dr Jo Winter University of Western Australia</p>	<p>2005-2008</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further information on the project can be found at: www.dassh.edu.au/casr/casr_home.html