KeyCoNet (2012-14) is an European network focused on identifying and analysing Key Competence Development (KCD) initiatives in primary and secondary education across Europe.

The project’s ultimate aim is to produce recommendations for policy and practice regarding the enablers and obstacles to a holistic implementation of KCD, on the basis of the evidence collected through:

- A regularly updated literature review aimed at grounding policy and practice in the most recent KCD evidence available in Europe
- Case notes describing KCD initiatives across Europe
- Case studies providing detailed analyses of selected KDC initiatives
- Peer learning reports compiled on the basis of visits taking place in countries where interesting KCD reforms have been identified
- Country overviews and a European mapping report monitoring the state of progress of KCD in various countries across Europe
- Videos illustrating KCD practice in schools and through interviews with various educational stakeholders

Among KeyCoNet’s current 18 partners in 10 countries (Austria, Belgium, Estonia, Finland, France, Ireland, Norway, Portugal, Spain and Sweden), are Ministries of Education/related agencies, universities/research institutes, European organizations, and practice related partners. KeyCoNet also has a growing number of associate members from other countries and stakeholder groups, steadily increasing our network’s scope and influence. This rich partnership allows for effective cross-fertilization between policy makers, researchers and practitioners.
Considering that traditional knowledge and basic skills are necessary but not sufficient to meet the complex requirements of today’s social demands in an increasingly competitive global economy, many European countries have already taken actions to accommodate the key competence approach in their student curricula.

However, interconnected approaches whereby teacher training, student assessment, learning resources and school organization are all reformed accordingly are rather rare.

The need for such a holistic approach for effective KCD implementation to take place is clear, and therefore our network will particularly focus on identifying initiatives which target interrelated action between the various dimensions of the education system.

The network will use the European framework on Key Competences for Lifelong Learning* as a reference point, which includes the following 8 key competences:

- Communication in the mother tongue
- Communication in foreign languages
- Mathematical competence and basic competences in science and technology
- Digital competence
- Learning to learn
- Social and civic competences
- Sense of initiative and entrepreneurship
- Cultural awareness and expression

These key competences are all interdependent, and the emphasis in each case is on critical thinking, creativity, initiative, problem solving, risk assessment, decision taking and constructive management of feelings.

Although this project uses the European Framework as a reference and starting point, we are aware that key competences can be expressed and understood in different ways, according to each national context. The network embraces an open and inclusive approach, and high priority issues used as guiding principles for the revision of the student curriculum (for example, a focus on the development of the whole child, health or sustainable environmental issues), will also be considered.

KEEPING UP TO DATE WITH KEYCONET NEWS

On our website (http://keyconet.eun.org) you can keep up to date with the network’s news, activities and outputs on key competence development across Europe, as well as subscribe to the network’s newsletter, KeyCoNet News.

Also, check our website to see if one of KeyCoNet’s networking events is due to take place somewhere near you! The network aims to increase the number of participating countries and expand the diversity of its stakeholders. Attending a networking event gives you the opportunity to learn more about the network’s activities and results and discuss the possibility of your organization being associated to the network.

HOW CAN YOU CONTRIBUTE TO AND BENEFIT FROM KEYCONET?

Check our website, or contact the KeyCoNet partner in your country or the network’s European coordinator at keyconet-info@eun.org to:

- Share your key competence development initiatives with us
- Participate in our networking events across Europe
- Participate to our online webinars
- Participate to our online public consultation on the enablers and obstacles to the implementation of a key competence approach in school education
- Apply for your organization to become associated to the network

We look forward to welcoming you to our community on key competence development in school education in Europe.
KEYCONET PARTNERS

MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION / NATIONAL AGENCIES

bm:uk
Bundesministerium für Unterricht, Kunst und Kultur
http://www.bmukk.gv.at

akov
Agentschap voor Kwaliteitszorg in Onderwijs en Vorming
http://www.ond.vlaanderen.be/wegwijs/AKOV

Tiger Leap Foundation
http://www.tiigrihype.ee/

UNIVERSITIES AND RESEARCH INSTITUTES

Junta de Andalucía
Consejería de Educación
http://www.juntadeandalucia.es/

NCCA
http://www.ncca.ie/

UNED
www.uned.es

IFE
Institut Français de l'Éducation
http://ife.ens-lyon.fr/ife

EIESP
http://www.eiesp.org

UIO
Department of Educational Research
University of Oslo
http://www.uv.uio.no/pfi/english/

CICERO
http://www.cicero.fi

PRACTICE-RELATED PARTNERS

Junior Achievement Young Enterprise
http://www.ja-ye.eu

Rektorsakademien
http://www.rektorsakademien.se
ABOUT EUROPEAN SCHOOLNET

Europen Schoolnet is the coordinator of the KeyCoNet project. European Schoolnet is a network of 30 Ministries of Education from across the European member states, leading educational innovation at European level. As a major international think tank, European Schoolnet operates key European services in education on behalf of the European Commission, member Ministries of Education and industry partners.

European Schoolnet’s activities are divided among three areas of work:

- Policy, research and innovation: information sharing and evidence building.
- Schools services: enhancing cooperation between schools across Europe.
- Advocacy: how ICT and digital media contribute to transforming teaching and learning processes.

Join us on

http://europeanschoolnet.org
http://www.facebook.com/european.schoolnet

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