

Aims

Aims: Turkish INSTEM National Workshop on the impact and dissemination of projects

Venue/Date: Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey

Date: October 22, 2013.

Participants: 17 teachers, FP7 project coordinators/partners, LLP project partners, researchers, policy makers from the Ministry of Education, science curriculum developers and participants from SMEs.



Suggestions

- Continuous professional development (CPD) programs are needed.
- Exploiting (mobile) technologies in STEM education. High quality of software and educational programs are needed.
- Creating an educational environment that offers equal opportunities to learners in all part of the country.
- More WoW (World of Work) like activities can be used in science and maths teaching and assessment tools should be aligned with these activities.
- Improving the quality of assessment: Open ended context-based questions can be used for assessment.
- Using formative assessment approaches.
- Explicit relationships among pedagogy, curriculum and assessment.
- Companies that develop and support teachers how to use IBL materials should be supported with the coordination of Ministry of Education and Higher Education Council.

Challenges

- Weak, inconsistent and unconvincing policies.
- The science and mathematics curricula were changed very recently in 2013; however, teachers had not been trained enough how to implement it.
- Political instability: Not having long-term cycle policies. Over little more than a decade, the minister of education changed five times and each person in that role had different priorities and agendas.
- There is not a strong coordination and collaboration between Ministry of Education and Higher Education Council of Turkey.
- Ineffective teacher professional development (TPD) programs. The quality of in-service and pre-service teacher training is alarming. TPD programs are too short to make an impact.
- Nationwide exams and assessment policies
- Parents' expectations on teaching are related to exams.
- Fatih Project: lack of software and educational programs

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