

Further Education of Pedagogical Staff and Enhancing Instruction in Information Literacy

Projects were effectively used for the purpose of wider utilisation of ICT in secondary schools. Apart from cooperation with their founders contacts resulting from professional orientation of the school were important, for example contacts with professional institutions, occupational organisations and unions, companies and employers from relevant industries. These enabled schools to organise special excursions, provided workplaces for practical teaching and experts for drawing up contrary opinions on the final thesis of students, for giving lectures, teaching vocational subjects and participating in final examinations.

Enhancing and Extending Foreign Language Teaching

Partnership with schools abroad proved to be beneficial, in particular as regards cooperation (language, the environment) in projects, organising pupil exchanges and practice abroad. Projects implemented by SSs which used regional or European resources contributed mainly to the motivation of students to extend their professional knowledge and skills.

F.3.7 Liberec Region

Curricular Reform

The structure of SEPs in secondary general schools always complied with FEP. One technical school developed SEPs for two study branches (hotel management and tourism, and business academy) and piloted them within the *Pilot S* project. A healthy life style and primary prevention is applied in the whole spectrum of the visited schools. Head teachers meet their obligation to ensure further education for teachers dealing with prevention issues. Schools used creative forms when addressing prevention. Projects of environmental education range from activities concerning waste sorting and collecting secondary waste and care for green areas in the neighbourhood of schools to drawing up projects aimed at getting money from the ESF – the Operational Programme Human Resources Development regarding environmental issues focused on public green areas and sports facilities in the Liberec Region. Secondary schools participated in the republic-wide project of environmental education - *M.R.K.E.V.*

Enhancing and Extending Foreign Language Teaching

CSI registered a persistent lack of qualified teachers of foreign languages, in particular teachers of English, although it is English which is more and more demanded. Teaching methods, organisational forms and teaching activities which teach pupils more about a language and less to use it as a tool of communication in model authentic situations still prevail.

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As regards the availability of information and communication technologies the gaps between schools are getting wider. The differences are in the number of PCs and classrooms as well as in the quality of hardware and software. This situation is a result of financial constraints on founders. Schools' own initiatives play a very important role in this area. Some schools had problems paying fees for internet connections. Schools were seeking other financial resources, for example by means of their involvement in the ESF projects or in the network of local centres of further education (predominantly secondary technical schools and secondary general schools) through the Centre of Education Attainment in the Liberec