



CEDEFOP

European Centre for the Development
of Vocational Training



Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme

Study visit group report

Group No	42
Title of the visit	How to Benefit from ICT in Learning and Teaching
Topic	ICT/Life long learning
City, country	Afyon
Type of visit	Study visit
Dates of visit	10-14 May 2010
Group reporter	Jabbar Rafique

Dear participants,

The purpose of a study visit is to generate an exchange of experience and good practice between the country you visit and the countries you all come from. Thus, participating in a study visit can be an exciting experience and an important learning tool for you.

During the visit you are invited to prepare a group report summarising your discussions and learning. This will help Cedefop disseminate what you have learnt to others, who share your interest but did not participate in this particular study visit.

On the first day of the visit, you are to select a reporter who will be responsible for preparing the final report and submitting it to Cedefop. Everybody should contribute to the report by sharing their views, knowledge, and practices in their respective countries. Please start working on the report from the first day of the visit.

You will, of course, be taking your own notes during presentations and field visits; but the group report should highlight the result of the group's reflections on what was seen and learnt during the entire visit and the different perspectives brought by the different countries and participants. The report should **NOT** read as a travel diary, describing every day and every session or visit.

Cedefop will publish extracts of your reports on its website and make them available to experts in education and vocational training. When writing the report, please keep this readership in mind: make your report clear, interesting, and detailed enough to be useful to colleagues throughout Europe.

By attaching any photos to the report, you agree to Cedefop's right to use them in its publications on study visits and on its website.

Please prepare the report in the working language of the group.
Please do not include the programme or list of participants.

**The reporter should submit the report to Cedefop
(studyvisits@cedefop.europa.eu) within ONE month after the visit.**

I. Findings

This section summarises the findings of the group while visiting host institutions, discussing issues with the hosts and within the group. You will be reflecting on what you learnt every day. But to put them together and give an overall picture, you need to devote a special session to prepare the final report on the last day of the visit.

In this section, it is important that you describe not only things you learnt about the host country but also what you learnt about the countries represented by group members.

1. One of the objectives of the study visits programme is to exchange examples of good practice among hosts and participants. Cedefop will select well-described projects/programmes/initiatives and disseminate them to former participants and a wider public, including potential partners for future projects. Therefore it is important that you identify and describe all aspects that, in your view, make these projects/programmes/initiatives successful and worth exploring.

Describe each of the good practices you learnt about during the visit (both from the hosts and from one another) indicating the following:

title of the project/programme/initiative	country	name of the institution that implements it (if possible, provide a website)	contact person (if possible) who presented the programme to the group	whom the project/programme/initiative addresses	what features of the project/programme/initiative make it an example of good practice
How to Benefit from ICT in Learning and Teaching	Turkey (Afyon)		Tugba Ozaskin	Policy makers, Teacher and Students	We were shown actual demonstrations of software. We shared knowledge and experience.

** You can describe as many good practices as you find necessary. You can add rows to the table.*

2. The study visits programme aims to promote and support policy development and cooperation in lifelong learning. That is why it is important to know what you learnt about such policies and their implementation during your visit. You are invited to describe your findings concerning the following:

- 2.1. Approaches taken by participating countries (both host and participants') regarding the theme of the visit. Are there any similar approaches/measures in participating countries? What aspects are similar and why? What aspects are different and why?

Most of the participants describe how they use the web and email systems for Teachers and Students in their learning environment. Content Management Systems (CMS) were used by most. The software used varied in complexity and quantity of

materials available for access.

The backgrounds of the participants were different. Aims were different too. Nevertheless we learnt from each other. We made pedagogical reflections- we have been inspired to change our own aims and methods.

Similar aspects were that knowledge of the teacher (and to some extent students) and motivation is the limiting factor to how much of learning is done using ICT.

Internet access, funding, support and equipment varied.

- 2.2. Challenges faced by participating countries (including host) in their efforts to implement policies related to the theme of the visit. What are the challenges? Are they common challenges? If so, why? If not, why not?

Teachers lack of enthusiasm to use new technology- their training and funding for it. Retraining as technology has moved so fast and often children are familiar with new equipment and programs and they are not.

Providing safe and open access to internet.

Catering to individual level of the children.

Internet access and its speed. Students do not always have a computer in their home.

- 2.3. Name and describe effective and innovative solutions you have identified that participating countries (both host and participants) apply to address the challenges mentioned in question 2.2. Please mention specific country examples.

ICT coordinators give extra lessons to teachers to improve their knowledge at school. (Belgium, Czech Republic, Germany)

In some countries the government provided funds for children to have computers at home (UK), teacher training (various), infrastructure of networks (various).

From Turkey we learned of their use of NETTOP, Joomla, Moodle and Wikis and other CMS.

- 2.4. Assessment of the transferability of policies and practices. Could any examples of good practice presented in this report be applied and transferred to other countries? If so, why? If not, why not?

The extra lessons being compulsory was identified as a very good policy that should be implemented. It effectively removed teachers from the post who did not move with the times.

There should be some testing of the skills of the schools teachers.

3. Creating networks of experts, building partnerships for future projects is another important objective of the study visit programme.

Please state whether and which ideas for future cooperation have evolved during meetings and discussions.

Video conferencing and study visits between the schools to learn elements of best practice.

We suggested that the web should be open. That software that we use is available to all- perhaps open source and free. Aswell it should be of a commonly agreed standard.

We should expect more efforts towards the development of ICT uses and training.

We should work together in 'Comenius' projects.

TO SUM UP:

4. What is the most interesting/useful information that the group believes should be communicated to others? To whom, do you think, this information will be of most interest?

We shall be disseminating information to teachers in our countries and we think that it would be most beneficial to them.

We learned that mixing with other practitioners from other countries benefited us and we would recommend others to do in future projects.

Policy makers really need to understand that teacher who do not embrace new technology are holding their students back. Funding should be made available – continuously- for training of staff.

II. Organisation of the visit

This part of the report will not be published but it will be made available to the organiser and will be used by national agencies and Cedefop to monitor and improve implementation of the study visits programme.

We recognise the value of ongoing feedback as a way of ensuring that the programme is at all times a responsive and dynamic initiative, meeting the needs of its various participants and target audiences. In this section you are invited to give us your feedback on several factors that, in our opinion, contribute to an effective visit.

1. Discuss within the group and check if you agree or disagree with the following statements. Please mark only **one** box () that expresses most closely the opinion of the entire group. Please use Question 2 of this section to elaborate on your responses, if needed.

		All agree	Most agree	Most disagree	All disagree	Not applicable
e.g.	The size of the group was good.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.1.	The programme of the visit followed the description in the catalogue.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2.	There was a balance between theoretical and practical sessions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.3.	Presentations and field visits were linked in a coherent and complementary manner.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.4.	The topic was presented from the perspectives of the following actors of the education and training system in the host country:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.4.1.	- government and policy-makers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.4.2.	- social partners	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.4.3.	- heads of institutions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.4.4.	- teachers and trainers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.4.5.	- students/trainees	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.4.6.	- users of services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.5.	There was enough time allocated to participants' presentations.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.6.	The background documentation on the theme provided before the visit helped to prepare for the visit.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.7.	Most of the group received a programme well in advance.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.8.	The information provided before the visit about transportation and	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

		All agree	Most agree	Most disagree	All disagree	Not applicable
	accommodation was useful.					
1.9.	The organiser accompanied the group during the entire programme.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.10.	The size of the group was appropriate.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.11.	The group comprised a good mixture of participants with diverse professional backgrounds.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.12.	There were enough opportunities for interaction with representatives of the host organisations.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.13.	There was enough time allocated for discussion within the group.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.14.	The Cedefop study visits website provided information that helped to prepare for the visit.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. If you have any comments on the items 1.1. – 1.14 above, please write them in the box below.

The hosts should be commended for their organisation of the visit- Tugba Oz had the program planned in detail before we came. She kept us well informed of the details and asked many times if she could help with arrangements.

They had arranged visits to related local partners. Who helped us understand how they relate to the topic. They were all very warm in showing background to their institution and the general culture and history of Turkey.

They have demonstrated many methods of the topic that we came for. We feel we have benefitted.

III. Summary

1. Having summarised all your reflections and impressions, please indicate how satisfied you are with your participation in the study visit. **Indicate the number of participants for each category, e.g.**

	Very satisfied	<input type="text" value="10"/>							
Very satisfied	<input type="text" value="9"/>	Satisfied	<input type="text" value="2"/>	Somewhat satisfied	<input type="text"/>	Not satisfied	<input type="text"/>	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	<input type="text"/>

2. What elements and aspects of the study visits do you think could be changed or improved?

Internet connection was patchy.

3. If there is anything else you would like to write about that is not included in the above questions, please feel free to write below or attach a separate sheet.

We discovered that Turkey is a great country that is quite well developed. Particularly for a small town like Afyon to be involved in a topic that is near cutting edge and looking to the future.
There were contacts made- we networked for further European co-operation on projects.
Everyone got on well together. Everyone was friendly and knowledgeable. Everyone was committed. Everyone was punctual and attended each session.

Thank you!

Please submit the report to Cedefop (studyvisits@cedefop.europa.eu) **within one month** after the visit.