

# S-TEAM News No.10

## Science-Teacher Education Advanced Methods

### A phase change in European Science Education

December 10th 2008



### Another week...

No firm news yet but I think we will hear before Christmas...Sorry...but all is going well with the new backup proposal.

### Oslo meeting

After discussion of the new proposal (INQUEST):

1. We will be asking for new Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) from existing and new partners who want to participate in the new proposal.
2. At this stage unfortunately we have to act in advance of a definite decision, so we have structured INQUEST so that it can easily be combined with S-TEAM or replace it if necessary.
3. All the existing sub-packages and any new ideas will reappear in INQUEST but (in most cases) with less time allocated to each, reflecting the stress on dissemination.
4. We will redistribute the PMs in a better way across the partnership, including more contributions to WP2, WP3 and WP5.

The new proposal, version 5 will be circulated before the weekend and this will be the last version for comments.

### New WP structure

As you will have seen from the previous version the WPs have been reorganised into a more sequential structure.

WP1 will deal with management as before, but slimmed down to reflect more emphasis on the national working group (NWG) activities

WP2 will focus on elaborating a shared purpose for the whole project, which includes defining terms such as “inquiry” and gaining a common understanding of what we are trying to achieve. This is a more difficult task than it appears and we know from research that it has been a problem in other projects and organisations. It is not about a mission statement but there will be a document summing up what we think we are doing and how we are going to do it.

WP3 will be describing and analysing the pedagogical fields of the partner countries. This means taking account of the institutions and conditions which set the conditions for pedagogy in the national level. All partners will be involved in National working groups (NWGs) and these groups will produce reports identifying ways in which INQUEST can make an impact at that specific national level.

WP4 will be designing the individual deliverables, mostly as per the PoDs or sub-packages of S-TEAM but also including recent suggestions and additions. These will be modified as a result of teachers' contributions and will need to be based on

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existing ideas as per the call, although of course anything can be improved.

WP5 will be concerned with teacher engagement, i.e. taking the products of WP4 and getting them into the school or classroom, and also collecting and acting on teacher feedback

WP6 will focus on designing a new network structure that will facilitate teachers in talking to each other, talking to researchers and others, and in changing their practice, without introducing a new web portal.

WP7 is about indicators as before.

WP8 is about media and dissemination, including especially an element of European dissemination with the intention of strengthening the European pedagogical field.

## **Budget**

We expect the project to last for 42 months and the total requested budget will be in the region of €4.5-5m.

## **Next Steps**

We are aware that this is a tight timescale and a difficult process but it is a necessary one. We will repeat the procedure for generating Memoranda of Understanding (the famous MoUs) in relation to the new call, as the previous MoUs only apply to S-TEAM, and in any case are only valid for 6 months after the closing date (24/07/08).

Hilde is sending these today and she should receive these and have the process completed by 22nd December at the latest.

Finally, we thank you for your patience and would like to say that we hope to go forward with two fantastic proposals, one in the machine and one almost ready to go !

regards

Peter

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