

ECOSTAR: English as the Cornerstone of Sustainable Technology and Research

Autumn



...And a time of reaping
that which we sow.

In this Issue:

The 2nd ECOSTAR Consortium Meeting – The University of L'Aquila, Italy

- ★ Goals and Preparation
- ★ Information: The Venue L'Aquila, transportation, weather
- ★ The Agenda

WP 4 – Meeting in Leicester

NITE –Reminder and Request - TELC

Personal News

2nd ECOSTAR Consortium Meeting "Next Steps" September 3 – 4 Hosted by UNIVAQ

Dear Partners,

We are looking forward to seeing everyone in L'Aquila very soon! We would like to remind everyone of the following:

The Purpose of the Consortium –

- **Compare** - Progress from the Kickoff to the 2nd Consortium meeting with the Work Plan;
- **Contrast** – Troubleshooting, addressing challenges,
- **Revise** – Revised work plan for next six months

The goal is to make maximum use of our face to face time, not by going over WHAT happened in the past half year, but in reviewing HOW things went, what can be improved, what was learned, what are the challenges, and the plan towards the next six months.

In Preparation:

The WP leaders together with partners are providing a concise review of progress in the WP since the reporting at the Field Monitoring Meeting, to update all of the partners.

Together with this, it is important that *everyone will be familiar with the PPT from the Field Monitoring meeting, together with the summary of the meeting, and of course the feedback we received from ECOSTAR's Field Officer Chiara.*

Please refer to the newly updated information on our website – Temporary URL is : <http://moodle.iucc.ac.il/ecostar/> in the section WP9 :

Safe trip to all and see you soon,

Judy & Linda

Information Kindly Provided by Barbara and Anna:

The Venue

The University of L'Aquila is re-establishing its premises in the center of the town as it was before the earthquake. The Department of Human Sciences is the first block reactivated last year.

It is located close to the Square "Battaglione degli Alpini", in the area of the Castle built by the Spaniards in the 16th century after a long battle to conquer the Town. The Castle is an important example of military architecture.



The Department is in a completely new building within a cluster of ancient and important monuments as the Convent of San Basilio, the church of San Silvestro, and one of the medieval town-gates, all dating back to the foundation of L'Aquila in the period of Emperor Frederic II and later (1245-1290).

Travel to Hotels and to the Department at the University of L'Aquila:

(Please refer to email from Barbara with Travel information options from Rome to L'Aquila)



The city bus number 4, which takes you from S.S. 80/Hotel Amiternum (where the GASPARI bus drops you off) to the Hotel Federico II (Via Strinella), also stops at Piazza Battaglione degli Alpini/Fontana Luminosa.

The Hotel Federico II is located in Via Strinella (indicated in "B" on the map below).

The Hotel Castello is in Piazza Fontana Luminosa, just 100 meters from the Department.

The best way to reach the department from this Hotel is by foot (10 min. walk maximum).

The Department has two entrances: in Viale Nizza (ground floor) and in Viale Duca degli Abruzzi (2nd floor), both very close to Piazza Battaglione degli Alpini, better known as Piazza Fontana Luminosa (due to the name of the Fountain).

The main meeting room is Aula 5A on the 5th floor. The other rooms will be indicated there.





Weather and Contact Information:

The weather in September is generally good. The average temperature is around 24-26 Celsius degrees, or even more (this summer so far has been very unusual in Italy for quantity of rain and cool temperatures). This means that it is still summer but it there may be a difference of 5-8 Celsius degrees between night and day.

For any urgent issue you might face once you are in Italy, these are the mobile phone numbers you can call:

Anna Tozzi 0039 349 5899114

Barbara Hans-Bianchi 0039 339 1822872



DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN STUDIES – OUTSIDE VIEW

ECOSTAR 2nd Consortium Meeting Agenda

Day 1 Wednesday Sept 3

9:30 - 9:45	Greetings and Welcome from UNIVAQ's rector, Prof. Paola Inverardi, and the local partners
9:45 - 11:00	WP 9 - From the Management - Overview and Challenges, WP 6 - Reporting, Communication
11:00 - 11:15	Break
11:15 - 13:15	WP Leaders together with Partners Presenting WP focus on the next 6 months - up to 20 min each (WP 1,2,3,4,5,7,8)
13:15 - 14:15	Lunch
14:15 - 15:15	4 groups of 6 participants to workshops : WP 1, Questions (challenges), discussion, results
15:15 - 16:15	WP 2 - Questions (challenges), discussion, results
16:15 - 17:15	WP 3 - Questions (challenges), discussion, results
17:30 - 18:30	Walking Tour of L'Aquila restoration (suggestion)
18:30 - 19:30	Free Time
19:30 -	Dinner

Agenda Day 2 - Thursday Sept 4

9:30 - 10:30	Local Presentation: CEFR and CLIL - Experience and New Projects
10:30 - 11:30	WP 4 - Questions (challenges), discussion, results
11:30 - 11:45	Break
11:45 - 12:45	WP 5 - Questions (challenges), discussion, results
12:45 - 13:45	WP 7 & 8 - Questions (challenges), discussion, results
13:45 - 14:00 -	Lunch
14:00 - 17:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Presenting Results of Workshops for all WP's - WP leader with partners ★ What is going to happen in next 6 months ★ Clarification of Project Goals ★ Clarification of partners roles/ jobs/ tasks ★ Calls for help ★ Consortium General Assembly
17:30 - 20:00	Free Time
20:00	Farewell Dinner

Report from WP 4 Meeting in Leicester, from Clive Lawrence, University of Maastricht

Who, where and when.

WP 4 met together in Leicester on 7/8 July, hosted by Victoria and Leicester University, whose combined efforts provided a great meeting room and suitably prepared refreshment on campus. Travel is always good sport; Linda, Miriam and Ofra were delayed by 12 hours, unexpectedly affording them a view of the delights of Luton and Leicester by night. Clive drove across from The Netherlands and was delayed in traffic and Victoria just walked through the park. The chosen accommodation was great and only a few minutes' walk from the university. Finding a kosher restaurant in Leicester on a



Victoria Robinson, Clive Lawrence, Linda Weinberg, Miriam Symon, Ofra Inbar

Monday evening was a challenge, but Victoria was up to it and managed to find a vegetarian curry house.

Why

The main aim of the meeting was to set EMI into the context of Israeli universities and to develop a general course in English that would have universal appeal and could be justifiably delivered by a variety of faculties in all participating institutes. We wanted to go further and identify the learning goals and the didactic vehicles that might be employed to achieve those goals.

What

It was agreed that we should produce a course on the complexity and far reaching impact of sustainability. Sustainability is a particularly versatile topic as it affects every aspect of modern life and modern-day living, thus giving it wide appeal. The course is to be 14 weeks, divided into 4 modules, each covering a different aspect of sustainability and its relationship with other fields of study and delivered in English. We agreed a general template for the course and made a short-list of the topics the modules might include. We also agreed in principle that the course deliverables would be a poster, a live oral presentation and a short written paper.

What next

Clive and Victoria are looking into producing the on-line materials for at least one of the modules so that it can be piloted next Spring.

We shall look further at the detailed syllabus and materials, the student deliverables and assessment process. We shall also, in conjunction with WP1, look at further language development for teachers to support them in delivering the course.



Thanks to our hosts Victoria Robinson, & David Harper (not in picture)

We try to identify other student bodies whose members might be prepared to actively engage electronically with course participants in Israel in real time.

Further detailed information

We shall present further details at the Consortium in L'Aquila in September, so book now to avoid disappointment!

Ruthy Fortus of NITE - Request for Evaluations

Hello everyone,

A quick reminder regarding the plan to create an initial equivalency table between local English placement scores (from the PET/AMIR/AMIRAM tests) and CEFR levels. NITE is planning to administer TELC tests, which provide scores on the CEFR scale, to Israeli students of English at the beginning of the academic year. In Israel this is towards the end of October. In order to give the students a TELC test which is neither too easy nor too hard, we need the evaluations of local English teachers regarding what level TELC test they think their students can handle. Please send us your evaluations so we can start



to prepare! Sample TELC reading comprehension tests can be found in the Coordinators' Dropbox, and will soon be on the website.

We would also like to administer NITE's tests to students at the partner universities in Europe. Some of you have already expressed willingness to participate. Please let us know when you would like to receive these tests* (a 50-minute test of Reading Comprehension suitable for all levels) and how many. **If it is convenient, they can be brought to Italy next week, or they can be mailed at a later date.** Looking forward to seeing everyone again!

* at L'Aquila the administration will be in February.

Personal News

Congratulations to Ingrid Barth of the Open University on the
Upcoming marriage of her son.

Welcome back to Yshai who has returned home from a month of reserve duty.



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Dear ECOSTAR partners,

Thank you to all who contributed to the newsletter. This is a reminder to please document your meetings with photos, send in summaries, articles and references of interest, etc. Thanks

In best support,

Judy

