



**Asia-Europe Meeting**  
ASEM Education and Research Hub  
for Lifelong Learning

## e-Newsletter No.3 • June 2009

The ASEM LLL Hub Secretariat, International Research Policy Office, Danish School of Education, Aarhus University • Tuborgvej 164, DK- 2400 Copenhagen NV, Denmark.  
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### ASEM LLL Hub Research Network4 Seminar:

**"National strategies of lifelong learning with regard to citizens' motivation and barriers against continuing education and training", 16-19 June 2009, Riga, Latvia.**

Sponsored by the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Latvian Ministry of Education and Science, Soros Foundation Latvia and the University of Latvia.

University of Latvia hosted the seminar and meeting of Research Network 4 (RN4) "National strategies of lifelong learning with regard to citizens' motivation and barriers against continuing education and training" on 16-19 June 2009, in Riga. The seminar was opened by the Director of Policy Coordination Department on behalf of the Latvian Minister of Education and Science. 21 representatives from China, Denmark, Hungary, Korea, Latvia and Thailand participated in the meeting and exchanged perspectives on how lifelong learning strategies have been developed and implemented in respective countries.

Photo (right): Network Coordinator, Dr. Xianjin Dou (centre, front row, in black suit) and network member researchers.

Photo (below): The Meeting created an opportunity for researchers from partner universities to share knowledge and to increase mutual understandings.

The full report, papers and presentations were published in CD-ROM, Dou, Luka & Surikova (Eds), 2009. (ISBN 978-9984-44-031-6)



and can be accessed at [www.dpu.dk/RN4RigaJune2009](http://www.dpu.dk/RN4RigaJune2009)





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### Joint Research Project: "The Patterns of LLL Participation among different target groups in Latvia, Hungary, Korea and Thailand"

At the meeting researchers of RN4 elaborated the research themes initiated and discussed in the Beijing Conference in November 2008. The members of the network established a cross-country research project "The patterns of lifelong learning participation among different target groups in Asian and European countries". Two Asian and two European countries (Korea, Thailand, Latvia and Hungary) in the network will carry out the research with support from their home universities and the ASEM LLL Hub. The project invites partner universities from more countries to join. The research aims to answer the following questions.

- What is the participation rate in LLL in each country?
- What current programmes and lifelong learning strategies are there in each of these countries?
- What are the barriers against participation in lifelong learning in each national context?
- How can the participation rate be improved?

Quantitative and qualitative data will be collected, processed, compared and analysed in a comparative study.

### New Research Application: "Evidence-based Research Support to Implementation of Lifelong Learning"

Having discussed funding opportunities and sustainability, the network members from 4 European partner universities have submitted an application to the European Commission Lifelong Learning Programme for a new research project entitled "Evidence-based Research Support to Implementation of Lifelong Learning. The University of Latvia takes the coordinating role with participation from Danish School of Education, Aarhus University, Denmark; Spanish University for Distance Learning, and Beja's Polytechnical Institute, Portugal.



The research project includes three parts. The first part is the global context and new challenges to the traditional education and training system, focusing on background of the research project. The second part explores the pattern of lifelong learning participation in the above countries. The third part is to compare collected data and synthesise analyses to draw up policy recommendations and solutions to overcome the barriers and obstacles to lifelong learning.

