ASEM LLL Hub Research Network2 Meeting, 22 July 09, Bangkok, Thailand.
The Network’s Coordinator: Professor Lynne Chisholm, Institute of Educational Sciences, University of Innsbruck, Austria and Danish School of Education, Aarhus University, Denmark

The ASEM LLL Hub Research Network2 (RN2) on Workplace Learning had a successful meeting, with participants from 11 countries (Austria, PR China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Hungary, Indonesia, Latvia, Lithuania, Malaysia, Thailand, UK), 4 further countries interested to join the network (Japan, Korea, Philippines and Vietnam) and representatives of the Asia-Europe Foundation. Following two working paper contributions from Lithuania (on managerial competence formation) and Hungary (national review of workplace learning research), the meeting turned its attention to detailed planning of the Asia-Europe workplace learning survey to take place in 2009-10. This cross-national survey focuses on

• the interrelations between employees’ attitudes and behaviours with their perceptions and experiences of workplace-based learning as a compulsory or a voluntary activity;
• how employees in different countries and from diverse cultures perceive these issues;
• how the different ways in which labour markets and employing organisations in Asian and European countries affect employees’ and employers’ approaches to workplace learning provision and participation.

The network expects to present the initial findings at the next ASEM LLL Hub Conference, followed by publication of the national and comparative results and analysis in order to highlight similarities and differences between the two world regions in cultural, economic and social context.

This first study should provide the basis for designing a larger-scale comparative study from 2011. The overall aim is to contribute to the empirical and theoretical decoding of working places as lifelong learning spaces, in order to gain a fuller understanding of what, how, why and with what benefits for whom do which people learn in working environments and in particular, how workplace learning can be a key context for competence development.

Read more about the network and its publications on http://www.dpu.dk/ASEMWorkplaceLearning