

PRESS NOTE

EUROPEAN PROJECT ENFORMA EC TRAINERS TRAINING MEETING OF THE E-CONS NETWORK

The data of home and leisure accidents, which suffer the European consumers, show that consumer products, goods and services are responsible for this kind of accidents and, in a high percentage, the wrong use, not reading the labels and not being well informed are the main problems. On the other hand, in many cases, consumers throw away their money using energy and water in a wrong way and not knowing their rights and obligations. Being well informed and trained, money has more value and health risks can be avoided. It is necessary to act in a precautionary way urgently. And, this precautionary measure should start in the school.

Prevention, starting in the school, is one of the objectives of the E-CONS NETWORK (www.e-cons.net), a European thematic network which tackles the Education for a Responsible Consumption. It was set up in September 2004 as a Socrates-Comenius3 project, financed in part by the European Commission, and is made up of 28 partners from 19 countries, 280 collaborating organizations and 1825 schools from 23 countries. The purpose of this Network is to boost the training of consumers so that they may behave in a manner which is conscious, critical, socially aware and committed to the environmental surroundings; so that they may know their rights and assume their responsibilities within clearly defined transversal values.

Until now, the achievements of the E-CONS NETWORK are as follows:

- To create a stable and dynamic NETWORK useful for teachers.
- To organize work groups, meetings, virtual conferences and European Teachers' Meetings (held in Santander in 2005, in Rome in 2006 and in Sofia in 2007) where experiences have been exchanged and joint projects have been started.
- To set up a web www.e-cons.net that makes available to everybody: information, didactic materials, databanks, ideas and instruments for finding partners for European projects, etc.
- To share and publish didactic materials, like the "**Basic Manual for Consumer Education in the Classroom**" which is available in 20 languages:

http://www.e-cons.net/tools/ing/mat_did_ing_ppal.htm

The E-CONS NETWORK has now started a new project (**ENFORMA EC**) and is organizing the fourth European Teachers' Meeting that will consolidate the progress achieved in order to place it at the disposal of a crucial issue "Energy saving" and "Responsible consumption", using practical and very active methodologies aimed to schools. The project is in part financed by the European Commission and the fourth European Teachers' Meeting will be held in Valencia on 26, 27 and 28 March 2009.

ENFORMA EC (Accompanying Measures Comenius within the Lifelong Learning Programme of the European Commission) will carry out the following activities:

- Inventory of links on saving energy in Europe and in each member country (more than 30 countries are participating in the E-CONS NETWORK).
- Multimedia didactic material on DVD and on-line (in 20 languages) with the best practices, ideas and proposals on saving energy that will include workshops carried out and to be carried out in the classroom of primary and secondary education.
- Celebration of a European Trainers Training Meeting in Spain.
- Report of the meeting with photos, speeches, exhibitions, etc.
- Creation of a special section about the project on the E-CONS website.
- Methodology "Travelling Notebook" in order to involve the families.

FIRST INFORMATION

TRAINERS TRAINING MEETING OF THE E-CONS NETWORK

Place: Valencia – Spain

Action: Accompanying Measures COMENIUS of the European Commission's Lifelong Learning Programme

Organizer: E-CONS NETWORK (Comenius 3) in collaboration with the Generalitat Valenciana (Department of Industry, Trade and Innovation, Directorate-General of Trade and Consumer Affairs)

Target group: Teachers of Primary and Secondary Education

Date: from 26 to 28 March 2009

Languages: English and Spanish

Subjects: Responsible Consumption and Energy Saving

Complementary activities: Exhibition of didactic materials and of projects from the participating teachers. Ludic activities.

Meeting place: Sports and Cultural Complex La Petxina, Paseo de la Petxina 42, Valencia

Accommodation: Expo Hotel Valencia, Avda. Pio XII, 4 - 46009 Valencia
(www.expohotelvalencia.com)

Hotel NH Center, C/Ricardo Mico, 1 - 46009 Valencia
(www.nh-hoteles.es/nh/es/hoteles/espana/valencia/nh-center.html)

For more information:

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