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MMS PROJECT

The staff exchange have taken place in the second year of MMS project and would like to share the stories of staff / tutor who were involved in the exchange to see what have they learnt



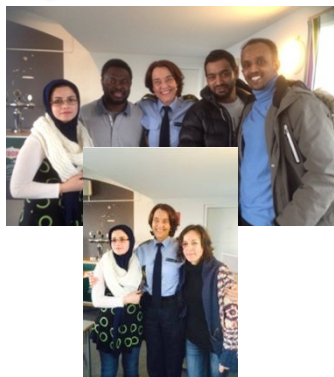
Germany: Paula in CBSI (Copenhagen)

Every day of the Staff Exchange was interesting to me since I felt very integrated in CBSI's team; they were really kind to me and always made time to explain things and exchange impressions of the Workshop. As highlights I would mention:

A visit with one of the groups of the Workshop to a Police Station: This was a very exciting activity to me because I could see the group working as a team outside the classroom. Since the students were by themselves in this visit - the teachers were not there to support them - they had to take responsibility for themselves: find the venue, introduce themselves and use their Danish language skills to present their questions and tell the police about their experiences with this public service in their countries of origin.

Tour of CBSI's neighbourhood: During this tour I learned many things about the historical and economical evolution of the most multicultural neighbourhood in Copenhagen. Annelise was a great guide who told me lots of anecdotes, called my attention to many interesting details and definitely increased my curiosity and enthusiasm for this city and its history.

iberika will benefit from my experiences and impressions in Denmark regarding organisational input and especially the approach to teaching. In my opinion, the Danish partner has a very interesting teaching method based on stimulating creativity and self-confidence in the participants.



Denmark: Annelise shares about her visit to UK.

My exchange visit to CAD was at the end of March. As I am working in a municipal organisation in DK my visit to a voluntary organisation, where things work very differently, was very interesting. On the whole I was happy to learn by visiting the local Volunteer Centre, how well the voluntary work is organised in UK. I had also the opportunity to participate in one pilot course session including a visit to the local CCTV-centre. It was interesting to talk to some of the learners on the course. They were mainly from East-European countries, unlike ours who come from very many different parts of the world. I also visited a language class, the local library and many other interesting places and gained a lot of knowledge of the English society and improved my English language.

I will always remember the hospitality and warmth I received from my European colleagues at CAD and all the people I met during the many excursions, which were included in the program.



UK: Staff exchange from UK to Denmark.

Ann Woolner took part in the staff/tutor exchange in 2014. Going to a new country and learning the systems and cultures of that country was the exciting part. It was an interesting experience going to one of the tutor's home to taste Danish food. I really enjoyed being part of the MMS course and producing the booklet with the students in the class with such diverse nationalities. One student was so proud that he said he will send the booklet to his family. The exciting part was where one student from Iraq had lot of negative view of UK system but as the week went and we spoke about things he came out of his shell and was more engaged. The tutor in the class said to Ann "your presence has made a huge difference to this person". It helps to address the perceptions/myths face to face. It has definitely broadened my horizons and will recommend the opportunity to anyone.



Homemade Danish food.



Turkey: Necmi sharing his experience of Norway.



My visit to the Norwegian partner's training program gave me an insight to how less developed and developing countries are connected through people. The stories about the history of Norway were telling me that Norway was a far-away country for the Turkish people. During my one-week visit to Norway, I could not see any Turkish people around. However, the stories of the students who have immigrated to Norway in the recent years has showed me that the African countries, the Eastern countries, Turkey, the EU countries, and the Northern Europe countries are connected through the immigration from South to North. Many of the students followed similar routes from their countries to Turkey, to Europe, and finally to Norway. Therefore, all these countries are a part of the international immigration ecosystem. Considering that the world population and the conflicts based on the sharing problems of the natural resources are rising in the world, the international immigration ecosystem will connect the countries and force them to be relatively closer to each other. In another word, the distance will not be defined in terms of geographical distance in the future.



Greece: George :My visit to Turkey.



I was very impressed with the dedication of Turkish trainers and staff to support Roma group of participants. I participated in training activities and with participants we visited the mayor, the regional director of education and the rector of local university. I was really happy the time that participants informed that local municipality had hired them as cultural mediators. Hospitality and social activities were very well balanced. Finely I have to mention that I have the opportunity to visit my grandfather's birthplace, which belongs to Turkey now. Many thanks to my wonderful hosts!



Norway: Harald sharing his story after visiting Greece.

I had never been to Greece before, so I was looking very much forward to my first visit, and I expected a profitable and rewarding week of exchange. I already knew George from the MMS project and one previous project before. Outside of the scheduled programme I was expecting warm weather and good food. (Only the weather did not meet my expectations). All in all it was a wonderful experience. The highlight of the week was the trip to Peloponnes with George and his family. We saw the ruins of the ancient city of Mycenae and visited the coastal town Nafplio. It was a wonderful day and with a beautiful view from the hilltop of Mycenae. From the pilot course I would highlight a visit to a café with the participants. There we had the opportunity to talk with each other on a personal level. An exercise that I liked a lot was done on the first day of the course. The learners had to work in a pair and later present the other person to the rest of the group. Huge thanks to George and his wife Athanasia for showing excellent hospitality.

