ALERT, aiming at a dialogue on ESD in practice

Organising institution:

Artevelde university college by order of the Department of Environment, Nature and Energy

Faculty/Department/Programme/External partners:

Provision of research and services QUEST (provoking and supporting an inquisitive attitude in children and young people so that they can be critical and creative and solve problems in a constantly changing and complex society) - Artevelde university college. Courses concerned: Bachelor in Education: nursery education and Bachelor in Education: secondary education

Abstract:

The network 'ALERT' made 20 organisations - within both the formal and non-formal fields - reflect on how ESD can be implemented in a meaningful manner in practice. This network is composed of organisations which jointly question and shape the knowledge regarding ESD and its translation into practice.

Contact:

Eef.Thoen@arteveldehs.be Thomas.remerie@arteveldehs.be

Website: www.alertnetwerk.be

Description:

The participating organisations form a heterogeneous group, in which each organisation focuses on education, involves learners and/or provides services to educational institutions. The organisations are active within both the formal and non-formal fields. Within the network a group of diverse organisations is aimed at which jointly engage in interaction with all sections of society.

The participating organisations are educational practice-oriented institutions that are 'seekers' in view of education:

- 1. They want to question the organisation's communication and structure.
- 2. They want to reflect on the 'What' and especially the 'How' of ESD.
- 3. They are open to changes regarding the practical implementation of ESD in the organisation.
- 4. The learning network is a Community of Practice which is strongly related to practical experiences regarding ESD. Participating organisations are represented by stakeholder teams. These varying teams (some 20 in total) enter into dialogue with each other within the learning network. Through this dialogue it is tried to exchange as much knowledge and information as possible about the implementation of ESD in practice, more specifically within their own activities. The information collected by the stakeholder teams links up as closely as possible with their own organisations' best practices. A network of best practices is created so to speak which examines and indicates how the theory and the vision developed with regard to ESD can be applied in practice. These contacts also result in networks which continue to examine, even after the learning pathway has ended, how ESD can be monitored and broadened in practice. The stakeholders team aims at transparent communication on findings relating to a best practice, the organisation and the learning network. This communication takes place with the other members of the learning network on the one hand and the organisation of the stakeholders team on the other. This makes a critical dialogue possible.