**RESCUR Consortium Meeting**

**30 th June, 1 s t and 5 th July 2015**

**University of Lisbon, Portugal**

**Minutes**

**Present:**

Carmel Cefai, University of Malta, Coordinator

Renata Miljevic Ridicki, University of Zagreb

Dejana Bouillet, University of Zagreb

Anatastassios Matsopoulos, University of Crete

Mariza Gavogiannaki University of Crete

Valeria Cavioni, University of Pavia

Celeste Simoes, University of Lisbon

Paola Lebre, University of Lisbon

Anabela Caetano Santos University of Lisbon

Birgitta Kimber, Orebro University

Charli Erikkson, Orebro University

Alexandra Attard, University of Malta (part of the meeting)

Michael Ungar, Dalhousie University, Canada (part of the meeting)

**Review of the teachers’ manuals**

The teachers’ manuals have been sent to the two external reviewers, with the parents’ manual following suit soon. The Maltese partner will be making the changes suggested by the external reviews, but the team will decide first which changes will be made; if the changes are major the RESCUR editing team will also be involved in making the changes. Each partner will also look at the reviewers’ report and must send any feedback to the editing team. The reviewers will send us feedback on each manual as soon as it ready so that we can start the amendments. It is planned that by 1st September 2015 at the latest, the manuals will be ready for translation. Translations will remain as faithful to the original as possible but names, examples, etc may be adapted to reflect cultural differences.

**Resources**

* Name of programme to be: RESCUR (RESKUR in some of the languages) followed by “A resilience curriculum for early years and primary schools” The name of the international version in English will be: RESCUR: Surfing the Waves. A resilience curriculum for early years and primary schools.
* Posters: since the posters are not to be printed, all three versions will be available on the electronic version; the two with text will have the text removed but with space left for the text in different languages (Antonija to be told about this).
* Manual covers: Zelda to feature more prominently in the cover as at the moment Sherlock appears to be the main character; Antonija to be told about this
* Music and mindfulness:
  + there will not be a separate CD for music and mindfulness activities, but these will be included in the CD/stick which includes all the programme
  + there will be an acknowledgement for the music composers (copyright of composers) and mindfulness activities (copyright of University of Orebro)
  + mindfulness: each partner to translate the text of the 10 activities (available on google drive/webpage) using the ping sound to be provided by Birgitta; Birgitta to send the 10 recordings in English to all partners as an example. Each partner start to start translating and recording; Katya to send information on the computer software which may be used for recording to those who wish to. There is no need to include the text of the mindfulness activities in the manuals, but it will be included in the CD.
  + Portfolio: we will not include the learners’ portfolio which was added later on, due to lack of funds, but we will include a short description in the introduction how the teachers may help learners start and build their portfolio.
  + Puppets:
    - no finger or cloth puppets will be included with the hard copies, but there will be samples of both the cloth and finger puppets made by Antonija; teachers will be left free to devise their own puppets
    - it is suggested that each partner will have at least one pair of the cloth puppets which will be used when training trainers or teachers; those who wish to order some cloth puppets against payment are to contact Paola
* CD: it is being recommended that instead of CDs we use USB sticks which are more user friendly and easy to use, even though these might cost more than CDs. Paola is to get a price for bulk buying of the sticks, which will be bought all in Portugal and then sent to the partners by post (against payment of course).

**Copyright and training**

* The copyright and royalties of both the international version and the local versions (both hard and soft copies) will be retained by the whole consortium as agreed earlier on in the project. Those who wish to print more hard or soft copies of the programme once the project has been concluded will give 5% of the selling price (royalties) which will go towards a RESCUR Programme Fund to be opened at the University of Malta, project coordinator; the fund will be used to maintain the programme website (post project), revision of the curriculum, promotion of the curriculum, and training, amongst others.
* Training: rather than just recommended, training is to be mandatory in order to implement the programme, particularly in the light of some of the teachers’ feedback in the piloting and also to maintain programme integrity and fidelity. Training may be held by each of the six project partners or by the Rescur Programme Fund according to request.

**Parents’ Manual**

The editing of the parents manual has been done by Croatia and Malta, while the review following the external reviewers’ team will be undertaken by the Malta team; if major changes are required the editing team will be involved as well. The introduction to the manual is to be simple, practical, parent friendly (no theory) and make reference also to the take home activities

**Publication of the hard copies of the manuals**

Each partner gave an indication of the cost of the printing of the manuals (300 or 100 copies) and the CDs (300 copies); following a discussion it was agreed that each partner will explore the following possibilities:

* printing 100 hard copies and 300 CDs/sticks (one CD/stick which includes all manuals, posters, music, mindfulness etc), with no mascots, no posters and one colour only; but the covers will be in full colour;
* use the allotted 3000 euros, plus any excess difference, to be transferred from other areas of the partner budget if available and subject to commission approval (coordinator will make these requests later on behalf of the partners); if that is not possible, coordinator will request the Commission for less hard copies (eg. 70 copies) and more cds/sticks; partners may also consider printing in other countries if this results to be cheaper; postage costs however need to be kept into consideration.
* in order to reduce printing cost, it has also been agreed that the printed versions will have
  + reduced space in formatting (eg remove half blank pages where possible, reduce spaces, etc)
  + smaller font (except resources)
  + black and white only
  + reduce thickness of page
  + posters to be available only electronically
* All the manuals will be printed by the end of November 2015

**Michael Ungar**

Professor Michael Ungar from the University of Dalhousie, Halifax, Canada, an international expert on resilience in children and young people, attended part of the meeting on the second day. He is very interested in the RESCUR curriculum and proposed various avenues for potential collaboration, including

* An international research project, to evaluate the effectiveness of the programme making use of RCT, possibly making use of the CYIR tool developed by Prof Ungar
* Link to other countries which might be interested in the curriculum to engage in collaborative projects (eg differential impact of the curriculum: universal vs selected populations, developing more the contextual aspect of resilience)
* Develop a digital version of the curriculum in collaboration with a Scottish organisation (agreed later on by the consortium)
* Potential participation in the planned European Masters in Resilience

It was agreed to discuss these suggestions further later on in the meeting

**Budget**

Each partner met Alexandra Attard, project financial officer from the University of Malta, individually, to discuss pending budgeting and financial issues

**ENSEC Conference symposium**

The powerpoint presentation was reviewed with each partner making changes to the final presentation; presentation to include the new RESCUR dvd developed by Portugal, which includes also some of the findings of the pilot project

**Dissemination and exploitation**

* Posters: 25 posters in each language were distributed to each partner while the 25 English posters were distributed amongst the partners (Portugal).
* Brochures: various changes were made to the RESCUR programme brochure to be printed later on this year; brochures will be in colour and will include 100 in each language and 300 in English. The translation of the brochure is to be done by each partner by the end of July and will be sent to Anabela (Anabela to send the final brochure to be translated after the meeting).
* Dissemination:
  + power point of symposium to be uploaded on the website (including news feature) by Carmel (July)
  + Celeste to write a feature on the RESCUR meeting with a photo and send to Sarah for the news event on the website (July)
  + New video: Anabela to send video to Sarah to download on the news section of website (July): Anabela to send the video for translation to each partner - partners to send back the translations by the end of July to Anabela.
  + Old video with voice over: Greece to send video in Greek by the end of the July to Sarah
  + The six posters to be downloaded on the website: Anabela to send the posters to Sarah.
  + New article on pilot project will be published later on this month in the International Journal of Multicultural Education
* **European Masters in Resilience**
  + In fulfilment of one of the exploitation deliverables of the RESCUR project, an application will be submitted for EU funds to organise a European Masters in Resilience. This will be a three year project with the first year dedicated to developing the modules, the second year planning the running of the masters, and the third year running the masters.
  + It will include face to face to face and online modules
  + Five of the 6 partners will participate in the application (Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal and Sweden); other countries which showed interest may be included as well (eg Romania). The project will be coordinated by Malta which will write and submit the application in 2016 in collaboration with the other partners; if unsuccessful, the application may be resubmitted the following year by another interested partner
  + The partnership will explore whether Michael Ungar may be able to participate, possibly in evaluation, teaching etc
* **Further research on RESCUR: evaluation of the programme:** Possible evaluation of the programme has been proposed by Greece which has shown interest in submitting an application for EU funds to evaluate the effectiveness of the RESCUR programme (RCT) in 2016, in collaboration with the other five partners in RESCUR. The partners will need to approve further who among the current partnership has more expertise to make an application for a three year project, including the implementation and evaluation of the programme according to the research expertise of each of the current partners. It was pointed out that Sweden has extensive experience in the implementation and evaluation of SEL programmes that should be valued, so partners would need to research about possibilities for funding, other interested new partners and before any application, inform the other partners who would be interested to be coordinators and /or partners involved in the application.
* **Half day seminar:** The half day seminar by each partner will be held towards the end of the project when the manuals would have been printed, ideally in the last two weeks of November 2015. However, where this is not possible and has to be held earlier, participants will be given the programme brochure and the link to the electronic version, and also information on how to get a hard copy once it becomes available. The main target audience of the seminar will be the key stakeholders in the country/region, who will help to facilitate the potential introduction of RESCUR in the curriculum in their respective country/region. A common template of the seminar, including the new dvd clip, will be developed later on. Each partner has 1700 euros of the organisation of the seminar.

Carmel Cefai, Coordinator

24th July 2015