



SICI General Assembly 2019



London, England
13–14
November 2019

Report of the
business meeting



SICI General Assembly 2019



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Ref.	EC_R_20191114_London_Business Meeting
Attendances	28 member inspectorates
Theme	Report Business Meeting, General Assembly London, England
Date	14 November 2019
Reporter	Sylvia Van Impe
Location	London, England



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1. POLICY AND STRATEGY

1.1 Implementation of the strategic plan – Year three

Last year, we decided to establish mechanisms for supporting and gathering information from national coordinators. One of the goals of the third year of the strategic plan was to further develop this network of national coordinators with the help of the development officer Erik De Bou.

- The yearly meeting is now established.
- A newsletter is published thanks to the contributions of the national coordinators.
- Most of the member inspectorates have now filled in the templates of the country profiles.

Promotion of collaborative projects is the second goal of the strategic plan. The Executive Committee has for example funded the regional group meetings for the German speaking group and facilitated informal cooperation between members. The Executive Committee would also like to encourage more SICI projects as we have had only one project (on Professional Communication) in 2019. There is certainly room in the budget for more collaborative projects.

Communication strategy was the third goal of the strategic plan and will also be the focus of 2020. This goal was achieved by developing a totally new design of the SICI website. Furthermore SICI is also participating in the international debate on Education:

- Collaboration with international organizations such as the OECD, EU expert groups, researchers,... was developed.
- Collaboration between the development officer and six other SICI members on the Erasmus+ project "BIBESOIN".
- Publication of the summary reports on 'Impact' in 2018 and 'Innovative practices of inspection' in 2019.
- Publication of the book on the history of inspection.

The number of SICI members is increasing and SICI has also opened SICI workshops and conferences to non-members such as Iceland, Azerbaijan, Ghana, Jamaica,...

1.2 Activities and cooperation between members

1.2.1 Regional group meetings

The Executive Committee is always trying to find new ways to improve the functioning of SICI. An example is the new format of the General Assembly. We are also trying to find new ways of collaborating because we really believe that collaboration is a way of developing our own work together with the different countries. In the Executive Committee, we are following different regional



groups and we are interested in finding out if there is an added value in working closer with the regional groups.

An example is

- The German speaking group in Düsseldorf, NRW (June 2019)
 - » Participants:
 - Hesse
 - North Rhine-Westphalia
 - Hamburg
 - Bavaria
 - Belgium (German speaking part)
 - Austria
 - South Tyrol
 - GUEST: The Netherlands
 - » Topics:
 - Current state of school inspection and evaluation in participating countries and a look at the development (reports from the participating countries)
 - Focus classroom observation: the different concepts and instruments for classroom observation in participating countries (presentation and discussion)

1.2.2 Meetings and bilateral contacts

The Executive Committee has also collected information on many other bilateral collaborations between members:

- **Bavaria:**
Peer exchange with colleagues from Hamburg, Baden-Württemberg and the canton of Zurich, Switzerland. They participate in the association of German school inspections (Kodex) as well as SICI at the international level.
- **Ofsted:**
Collaboration with France, Flanders and Sweden to investigate the challenges posed by extremism and radicalization.
- **Sweden:**
 - Guests from France at the Swedish Inspectorate presented the French Inspection of teachers and the debates in France about the evaluation of schools. Thereafter Swedish inspectors presented the different inspection models.



- Meeting with researchers from the “Japanese Research Association of After School Care” focused on the Swedish supervision and quality audit concerning after school centres.
- **The Netherlands and Flanders:**
Both inspectorates are currently in the middle of a peer review.
- **Estonia:**
Estonia took part in an inspection and job-shadowing in the Netherlands, Ireland and Flanders. Estonia is moving towards a risk-based system of inspections.
- **Basque Country:**
A training session for all the school inspectors in the Basque Country (around 80) about two issues: on the one hand the topic worked on in SICI during 2018 (Impact of Inspection), given by Chantal; on the other hand, a job-shadow activity done by 3 Basque inspectors in the Inspectorate of Cork, Ireland.
- **The Netherlands:**
Study visits in England, Estonia and Lithuania. And recently some colleagues have visited Sweden, Norway and Wales.
- **Republic of Moldova:**
Study visits in Romania within the Project “Education Reform in Moldova” and participation in a ERISSE workshop (Education Reform Initiative of South Eastern Europe) in Belgrade, Serbia.

1.3 SICI Project Professional communication

The project on Professional Communication is a SICI collaborative project of :



- The Ministry of Education and Research, Estonia



- The National Agency for School Evaluation, Lithuania



- Education Scotland, Scotland



- Inspectorate of Education, The Netherlands



1.3.1 Cause and purpose

- Common theme of all inspectorates: Impact of their work on quality of education
 - SICI Theme in 2018 - 2019
- Feedback session: crucial moment for impact

Research questions:

- 'How can we motivate schools or governing bodies in feedback sessions to work on improving their quality or working on compliance?'
- 'What has a positive and what has a negative influence on willingness of schools and governing bodies to improve their quality?'

1.3.2 Research approach – some remarks

- Literature study → Design of questionnaires
- Two versions: for inspectors and for schools (or governing bodies)
- Four segments
 - Being clear
 - Professional dialogue
 - Stimulating nature of feedback session
 - Organizational aspects
- Translation in own language with small adjustments
- Participation of inspectors in each country varied
- Netherlands: Round table with governing bodies instead of questionnaires
- Scotland: no questionnaires (workload), but abstracted information from other feedback
- Lithuania and Estonia could present questionnaires to inspectors and schools



1.3.3 Most important to school leaders/gb



Sharing their own vision



Receiving recognition and appreciation



Conducting a dialogue



Input being valued



Carefully being listened to



Considering the context of the school (board)



Providing clear evidence and exemplars



Retaining relationship

1.3.4 Crucial elements in case of inadequate quality

According to inspectors:

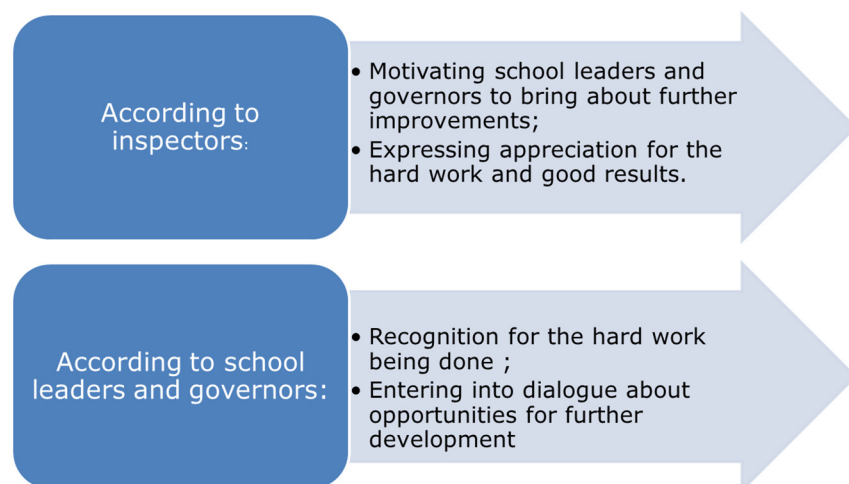
- Working towards conclusions from the very start;
- Providing clear evidence and exemplars;
- Retaining relationship;

According to school leaders and governors:

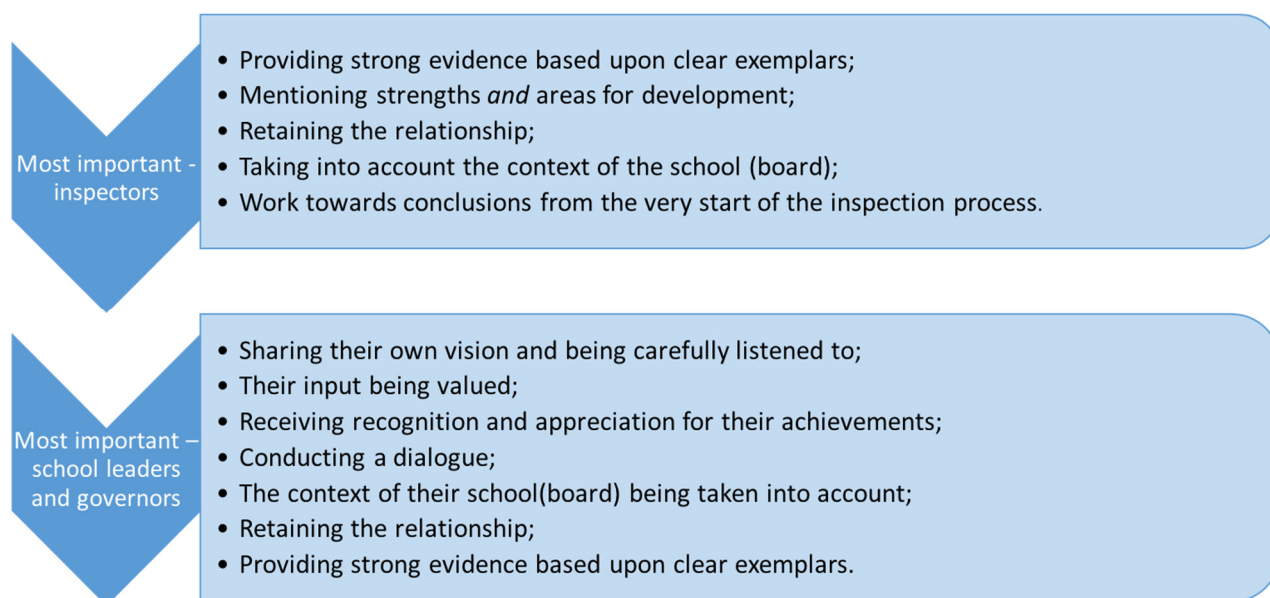
- Emphasising things that go well ;
- Taking into account the context/ developmental stage of the school (board);
- Inspectors should be emotionally well skilled.



1.3.5 Crucial elements in case of good/adequate quality



1.3.6 Conclusions – part 1





1.3.7 Conclusions – part 2

Relevant, but less important to both

- Prior to the feedback session, making clear its purpose and content;
- Reacting appropriately in response to emotions the judgment might evoke;
- Providing suggestions for improvement, matching the context of the school (board);
- Stimulating the school(board) to reflect on their own vision on quality of education;
- Supporting the school (board) to reflect on the direction they should take as part of school improvement.

Absolute don'ts according to both

- Final judgment coming as a surprise;
- Conducting a monologue;
- Adopting a "know-it-all" attitude;
- Being in a hurry;
- Communicating an unclear message.

1.3.8 Final remarks

Inspectors are well aware of the communicative aspects that are important for establishing an effective feedback session, but it still is difficult to always put it in practice, they feel there is some room for improvement.

- ✓ asking feedback from school leaders and governors
- ✓ asking feedback from colleagues

Further research centered around the question how inspectorates investigate which parts of the entire supervision process have a great impact on the development of a school.



1.3.9 Project group

Name	Professional position	Country
Elen Ruus	Chief expert of the external evaluation department	Estonia
Pärje Ülavere	Expert of external evaluation department	Estonia
Kęstutis Kurtinys	Head of division for training and accreditation of evaluators	Lithuania
Ramunė Korenkienė	Methodist	Lithuania
Herman Franssen	Inspector primary education	The Netherlands
Els Schram	Inspector special education	The Netherlands
Judith Schmidt	Policy advisor international affairs	The Netherlands
Aileen Monaghan	Inspector Education Scotland	Scotland
Celia McArthur	Inspector Education Scotland	Scotland

1.3.10 Report

Herman Franssen has presented the findings of the project on Professional Communication during the business meeting and he has given the report to Mrs Chantal Manes, president of SICI. The report will appear on the SICI website within two weeks.



2. ACTIVITIES REPORT

2.1 Workshops, GA & participation between two GA 2018-2019

In the period between November 2018 and September 2019, a total of three SICI international workshops and the General Assembly were organised and oriented on the priority theme of 'Innovative practices of Inspection'.

Date	Country	Theme
15 – 16 November 2019	Serbia	General Assembly
28 – 29 March 2019	Bulgaria	Driving forces and goals of innovation. Change versus innovation
30 – 31 May 2019	Madeira	Strategies and obstacles/limits system-wide approach, cocreation, resistance risk
23 – 24 September 2019	Ireland	Developing the innovation into the system and measuring its impact (efficiency and cost)

Table 1: Workshops, GA and participation between two GA 2018-2019

2.2 Overview of number of participants in the GA & three workshops excluding the participation of the hosts

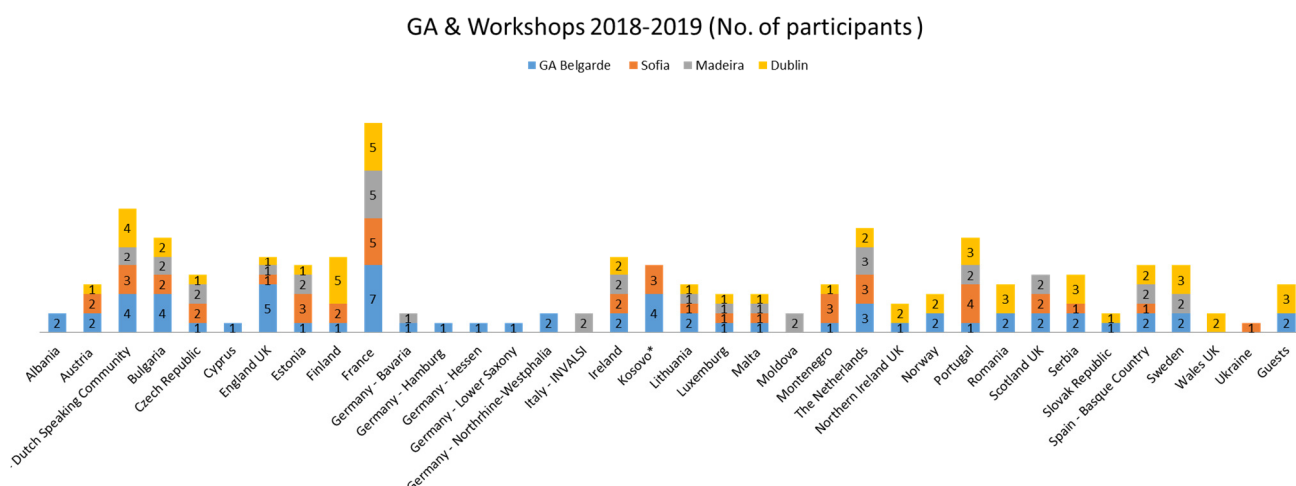


Figure 1: Overview of number of participants in the GA and three workshops excluding the participation of the hosts



2.3 Comparison of the number of participants and the number of members that participated in the workshops in two periods

	2013 (3 workshops)	2014 (4 workshops)	2015 (4 workshops)	2016 (GA + 3 workshops)	2017 (GA + 3 workshops)	2018 (GA + 3 workshops)	2019 (GA + 3 workshops)
No. of participants including hosts	125	288	211	277	170	159	245
No. of SICI members	32	30	35	36	37	37	39
No. of members that participated in workshops	19	22	31	32	28	32	35
No. of members that did not participate in workshops	13	8	4	4	9	5	4

Table 2: Comparison on the number of participants and the number of members that participated in the workshops in two periods

The number of SICI members always inclined and the number of members that participated in workshops followed this trend.

2.4 Participation

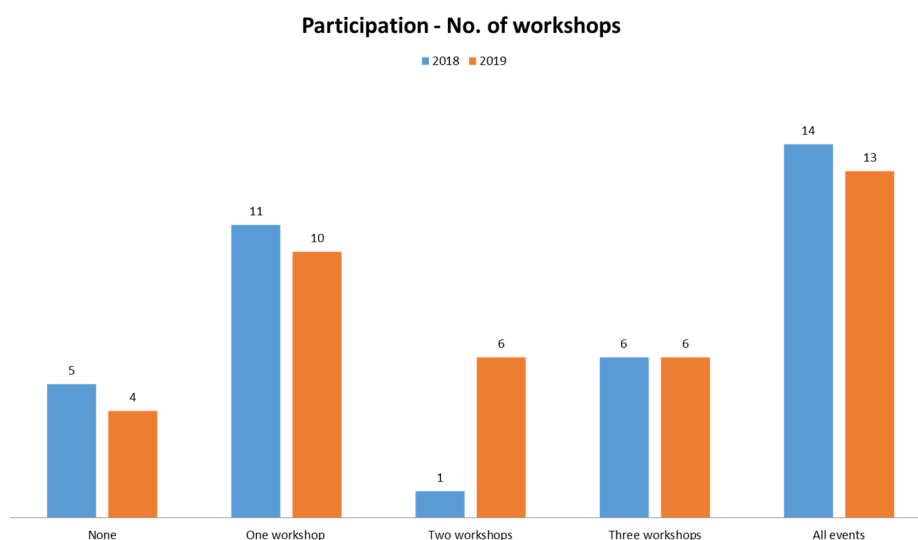


Figure 2: Participation



2.5 Total amount of refunds per year

Refunds

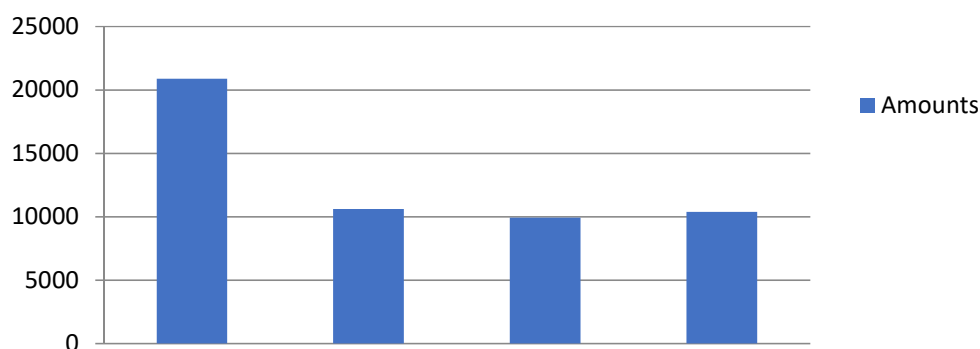


Figure 3: Total amount of refunds per year

In 2015, the General Assembly decided to pay for one inspector per member inspectorate the costs of a workshop (workshop fee, accommodation) excluding travel and personal expenses. Inspectorates are free to choose its places from up to three different workshops/conferences per calendar year. This procedure was evaluated at the General Assembly of 2016 in South Tyrol. It was decided that the approach of refunds would be continued. However, in order to help working towards a balanced budget, members were asked not to apply for this refund if it was not really necessary. Table 3 shows that this goal was reached as only half of the members applied for SICI refund. Please note that 35 refunds in 2019 is not the final amount. The refunds of the General Assembly in London still need to be added.

2.6 Calendar 2020-2021

Date	Country	Theme
5 – 6 March 2020	The Netherlands	The quality assurance that inspectorates have in order to make reliable, fair and effective judgements
21 – 22 May 2020	Czech Republic	Improving the quality of inspection using feedback from schools on impact
24 – 25 September 2020	Finland	Evaluation and quality assurance: national perspectives
19 – 20 November 2020	France	General Assembly
March/April 2021		
May/June 2021		
September 2021		
November 2021		

Table 3: Calendar 2020 - 2021



For the year 2020, the General Assembly and all workshops are fixed. The priority theme for 2020 will be "Internal quality insurance of Inspectorates".

SICI members who are interested in organizing a SICI workshop or the General Assembly in 2021, can contact the SICI Secretariat at sici@vlaanderen.be.

2.7 Overview GA 2006 - 2021

Year	City	Country
2006	Bruges	Flanders
2007	Stockholm	Sweden
2008	Bucharest	Romania
2009	Dublin	Ireland
2010	Bielefeld	North Rhine-Westphalia
2011	Amsterdam	The Netherlands
2012	Prague	Czech Republic
2013	Edinburgh	Scotland
2014	Dresden	Saxony
2015	Oslo	Norway
2016	Bolzano	South-Tyrolia
2017	Valletta	Malta
2018	Belgrade	Serbia
2019	London	UK
2020	Paris	France
2021		

Table 4: Overview GA 2006 - 2021

2.8 Discussion on the next priority themes

The Executive Committee decided to have a discussion with the SICI members based on the ranking of a few proposals for the thematic priority theme of 2021.

1. Contribution of inspection to equity and excellence
2. Differentiation (in inspection forms, frequency, intensity, risk-based, board inspection, situation-based) – why and how?
3. Contribution of inspection to inclusive school systems
4. Communication (with schools, policy makers, among inspectors,...)



5. Inspecting curriculum design (scope, balance, purpose, access to, equity...
6. Inspecting pedagogy (discipline specific and general pedagogies

During the discussion, SICI members agree that it is important to find a priority theme that is meaningful for all members. It appears that “Contribution of inspection to equity and excellence” could be the priority theme for 2021. Other themes like “Contribution of inspection to inclusive school systems” and “Communication (with schools, policy makers, among inspectors,...) might be subthemes which will be included in the workshops. A vote will take place (see voting results 2.9).

2.9 Voting results

The SICI members voted for:

1. The new SICI members: Kosovo*, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and Basque Country
2. The priority theme 2021 “Contribution of inspection to equity and excellence” and sub priority themes “Contribution of inspection to inclusive school systems” and “Communication (with schools, policy makers, among inspectors,...)

2.9.1 Results election of the new SICI members

Against	Abstain
0	0

Four new SICI members are adopted.

2.9.2 Priority theme 2021

Against	Abstain
0	0

“Contribution of inspection to equity and excellence” is chosen as priority theme for the year 2021 with sub priority themes “Contribution of inspection to inclusive school systems” and “Communication (with schools, policy makers, among inspectors,...)



2.10 Structural Reform Support Project (2017-2020), Malta (Regulation(EU) 2017/825)

2.10.1 Objectives of the project

- Assist in evaluating and improving the current inspection and quality assurance ;
- Critical friend on new initiatives taken up by the Quality Assurance Department;
- Gather different perspectives from different countries and their practices and processes;
- Look into ways how this project can involve other sectors of the ministry vis a vis Quality Assurance practices; (Assessment, data gathering)
- Contribute towards our Department's internal quality assurance.

2.10.2 Project plan

Activity	Date	Location	Status
Workshop 1	May 2019	Malta	Completed
Workshop 2	October 2019	Malta	Completed
Study Visit 1	November 2019	Scotland	Planning phase
Expert mission 1	January 2020	Malta	Planning phase
Workshop 3	March 2020	Malta	
Study visit 2	May 2020 (end)	Possibly 2 different countries	
Expert Mission 2	June 2020	Malta	
Workshop 4	October 2020	Malta	
Workshop 5	November 2020	Malta	
Final Report / Presentation	February 2021	Malta	



2.10.3 Where are we so far?

Activity	Date	Objectives	Participants
Workshop 1 – Malt	May 2019	Introductory meetings and discussions on project; Shadowing of one day visits and feedback; Focus of next workshop – giving feedback / Assessment Report with recommendations on workshop;	Mr William Maxwell (Project Consultant) Mr Bart Maes (Flemish Inspectorate) Mr Padraig Mac Fhlannchadha (Department of Education and Skills) Mr Konstantin Scheller, Policy Officer, SRSS QAD Team
Workshop 2 – Malta	Oct 2019	Proposed changes to one day visits following feedback received; Giving feedback – workshop with Inspectors; Meeting with relevant authorities re assessment and use of data; Report with recommendations on workshop;	Mr William Maxwell Ms Shona Taylor (Education Scotland) Mr Herman Frannsen (Dutch Inspectorate) Mr Konstantin Scheller, Policy Officer, SRSS Officials from other sectors – assessment, examinations etc QAD Team
Study visit 1 – Scotland	Nov 2019	6 officers will visit Education Scotland ; Visit will focus on: Observing assessment within the classroom Data collection and how it is processed and used during inspection; How do schools use the data provided by the inspectorate; Report will be drafted to feed the next workshop	6 Officers from the Quality Assurance Department Various colleagues from (Education Scotland)

2.10.4 What's next?

Activity	Date	Location	Participants
Workshop 1	May 2019	Malta	Completed
Workshop 2	October 2019	Malta	Completed
Study Visit 1	November 2019	Scotland	Planning phase
Expert mission 1	January 2020	Malta	Planning phase
Workshop 3	March 2020	Malta	
Study visit 2	May 2020 (end)	Possibly 2 different countries	
Expert Mission 2	June 2020	Malta	
Workshop 4	October 2020	Malta	
Workshop 5	November 2020	Malta	
Final Report / Presentation	February 2021	Malta	



2.10.5 What have we gained so far through the SRSP Project?

- The SRSP is helping SICI reinforce its European platform and is contributing towards shared expertise in the field;
- Through collaboration with SICI the SRSP project has enabled Malta to work on the project with Scotland, Flanders, Ireland and The Netherlands so far;
- Enhanced our opportunities to network with SICI members; as a small inspectorate it has given us the opportunity to share our practices and also provide food for thought for others;
- Learning experience on different levels - we have gained a lot through discussing our practices with our colleagues from different inspectorates and this has helped us to tangibly strengthen and improve;
- Enhanced our belief in the value of carrying out meaningful internal quality assurance of both current and new practices.

2.11 Better inspection for better social inclusion

Strategic Partnership for school education



ERASMUS+ KEY ACTION 2

Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



8 partners – 8 'expert teams' → 50 participants

ONDERWIJS
INSPECTIE
OOG VOOR KWALITEIT



Vlaanderen
is onderwijs & vorming



Arolygiaeth Ei Mawrhydi dros Addysg a Hyfforddiant yng Nghymru
Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales



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AND RESEARCH



2.11.1 Project focus

‘Better inspection for better social inclusion’ in mainstream education in order to strengthen the competencies and skills of

- inspectors and external evaluators
- inspector and teacher educators
- school heads
- teachers

→ reinforce the interaction between practice, research and policy, create a 'voice' in the European debate for inspectorates and their stakeholders

→ a way to structure our work that can be shared with all SICI stakeholders to strengthen cooperation and the development of policy and practice in the future

2.11.2 Project overview

	2018	2019	2020
February		Short-term joint staff training event 1 Innovative practices of inspection Focus on intercultural competences, tackling discrimination, segregation, racism, bullying and violence SPAIN	Short-term joint staff training event 3 Innovative practices of inspection focus on reducing disparities in access to digital technologies, gender differences in relation to ICT. MALTA
May		Short-term joint staff training event 2 Innovative practices of inspection Focus on disadvantaged learners, reducing disparities in learning outcomes WALES	Short-term joint staff training event 4 Internal quality assurance of inspectorates to foster social inclusion in all his aspects by putting the first tangible outcomes of the Toolbox into practice. CYPRUS
October		Transnational meeting 2: Reflection and adjustment ESTONIA	Transnational meeting 3: Conclusion ESENER In combination with Multiplier event organised in cooperation with SICI
December 13-14	Transnational meeting 1: Kick off BIBESOI FLANDERS		



2.11.3 *Transnational project meetings and short-term joint staff training events*

2.11.3.1 Transnational project meeting 1 – Brussels, Belgium – December 13th – 14th, 2018



Vlaanderen
is onderwijs & vorming

KICK OFF MEETING 'Adaptation and development stage'

Fine-tuning of the project plan

- the time table
- the finances
- the numbers of travelers
- hotel hosting
- organizing the project activities in more detail
- finding the right jobs to shadow...

2.11.3.2 Short-term joint staff training event 1 – Elda, Spain – February 27th – March 1st 2019



Focus on:

- international competences
- tackling discrimination
- segregation
- racism
- bullying and violence

2.11.3.3 Short-term joint staff training event 2 – Cardiff, Wales – July 8th- 13th 2019



Arolygiaeth Ei Mawrhydi dros Addysg a Hyfforddiant yng Nghymru
Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales

Focus on:

- disadvantaged learners
- reducing disparities in learning outcomes



Structure of short-term joint staff training events

- Each training consist of 5 days, 3 days effective working days.
- Content:
 - ✓ National inspection system of the host as 'friendly consultants'
 - ✓ Focus on the specific topic: different subobjectives of 'social inclusion' in regular education
 - ✓ Job shadowing during school visits
 - ✓ Swot analysis

2.11.3.4 Transnational project meeting 2 – Tallinn, Estonia – October 7th – 10th, 2019



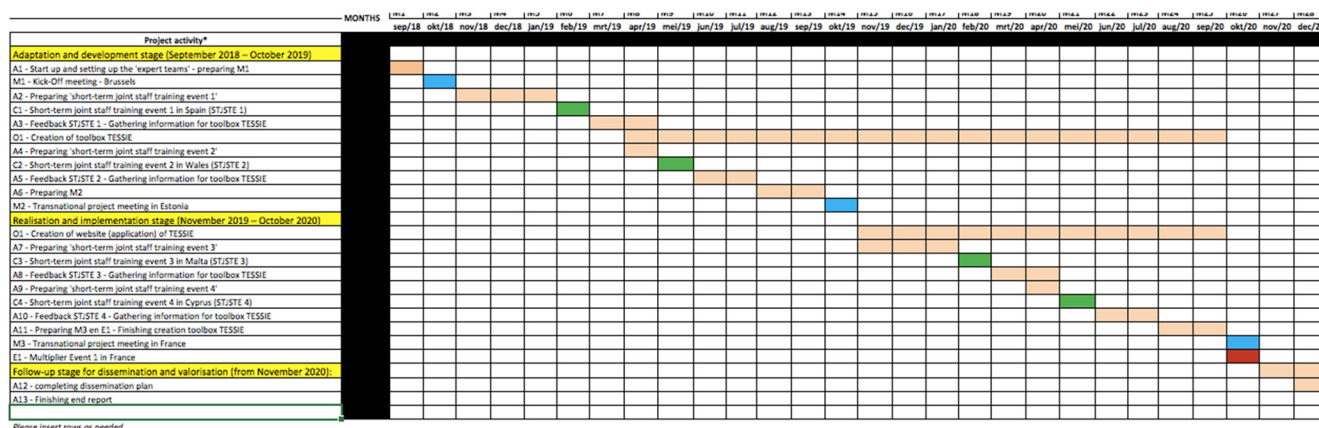
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AND RESEARCH

'Reflection and adjustment stage'

- Coordination and implementation
- Identify ways and tools to share ideas and information
- Dissemination of the results of our international cooperation
- Local dissemination: either as speakers presenting their systems and its specificities or as members of a 'workshop' in a school
- Optional school visits
- One-year summary - SWOT analysis
- Update and follow-up of the input
- Reflection and adjustment about the creation and evolution TESSIE + example of French partner
- Filling in the intermediate report



2.11.3.5 Future: project total duration – 28 months



2.11.3.6 Short-term joint staff training event 3 – Valletta, Malta – April 20th – 24th 2020



Focus on:

- Reducing disparities
- In access to digital technologies, gender differences in relation to ICT

2.11.3.7 Short-term joint staff training event 4 – Limassol, Cyprus – June 2th – 12th 2020



Internal quality assurance of inspectorates to foster social inclusion in all its aspects by putting the first tangible outcomes of the Toolbox TESSIE into practice

2.11.3.8 Transnational project meeting 3 – France, November 2020



'Realisation and implementation stage' in combination with

- GA SICI
- 'Multiplier event'



2.11.4 Project output



TESSIE = 'RESOURCE' + 'FORMATION'

- European vision on inclusion
- Systems of the partners concerning inclusion + swots
- Reports of the training events
- Formation
 - theoretic part about inclusion (index for inclusion,...)
 - Thematic systems
 - Tools in regular inspections

2.11.5 Dissemination

Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



- Logo BIBESOIN + Erasmus+
- Publication on website: <http://www.sici-inspectorates.eu/Activities/Projects>
- Press
- Multiplier Event



3. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

3.1 Elections and re-elections

Name	Nominated	Last re-election	Re-eligible
Gordana Čaprić	October 2012	November 2018	GA 2021
Petr Drábek	October 2006	October 2017	GA 2020
Bart Maes	October 2015	November 2018	GA 2021
Chantal Manes-Bonnisseau	October 2015	November 2018	GA 2021
Tommy Lagergren	October 2016		GA 2019

Table 5: Elections and re-elections of the EC members

One EC member is up for re-election this year: Tommy Lagergren. It also seems to the Executive Committee in the interest of SICI to continue to keep operating costs down and therefore to continue with no more than five members. The Executive Committee proposes to renew the mandate of Tommy Lagergren. A letter was sent by the Secretariat to inform all SICI members that article 13 of the statutes of SICI gives the possibility to a group of five members to propose the nomination of a candidate to the General Assembly. The Secretariat did not receive any nominations.

3.2 Voting results

The SICI members voted for:

1. The re-election of EC member Tommy Lagergren

3.2.1 Results re-election of three EC members

Against	Abstain
0	0

EC member Tommy Lagergren is re-elected.



4. FINANCIAL REPORT

4.1 Auditors

The three auditors are:

- Denise Gatt (Malta)
- Ronny Alver Gursli (Norway)
- Herman Franssen (The Netherlands)

The auditors had a separate meeting together with the SICI Secretary-General Bart Maes and the SICI Secretariat, Sylvia Van Impe, to check the detailed SICI bank accounts, the financial statements and the Excel file with revenue and expenditure in 2018. Ronny Alver Gursli and Herman Franssen were already auditor last year. The new auditor, Denise Gatt, had to be voted for during the business meeting (see 4.7 Voting results). The auditors approved the financial statement and also expressed their support of the proposed budget 2020 and of the proposed raise of the membership fee. The latter is in line with the auditing committees in 2016, 2017 and 2018 who advised SICI to raise the membership fee in order to keep up with inflation rates. Furthermore the auditors also advised the Executive Committee to more actively communicate to SICI members that there is SICI budget available for regional group meeting. Finally the auditors also suggested to revise the criteria for members to start a project. Those criteria should be more assessable.

4.2 Financial statements 31.12.2018

Statement of revenue and expenditure in 2018		
Expenditure		Revenue
€ 87 545,02		€ 106 570,57
Difference: € 19 025,55		

Account Balance		
01.01.2018	€ 160 725,41	Difference = € 19 025,55
31.12.2018	€ 179 750,96	

Table 6: SICI financial statements

In terms of financial accountability and reporting, SICI works with a three-way approach:

- Firstly, an external accountant checks the accounts in detail and gives a yearly financial statement.
- Secondly, according to the statutes of SICI, three auditors (SICI members) check the balance and the documents underpinning that (accountant's report and a detailed overview of income



and expenditure provided by the secretariat). The auditors also provide advice to the Executive Committee.

- Thirdly, an overview of the budget of the working year in relation to the voted budget and budget proposal for the next year is put to the vote of the business meeting.

Table 6 shows the financial statements of 2018. These financial statements are made by an external bookkeeping office in Flanders. They provide a report with an overview of the real financial traffic on SICI's bank accounts on 01.01.2018 and 31.12.2018 but also the statement of revenue and expenditure for a calendar year. This document is put to the auditors' approval, together with the information of the secretariat. It is not the same as the working budget although that is based on the same income: the membership fees. Last year, this might have caused a lot of confusion as we were still in the change of shifting from the working year (GA to GA) to the calendar year as our financial reference (hence also the GA in November instead of early October). This year, there is already more similarity between the working budget and the 'real' financial traffic. But there are still differences, for example because bills are sometimes only send to the Secretariat and paid for in the year after an event took place or a service is provided.

4.3 SICI budget categories 2018

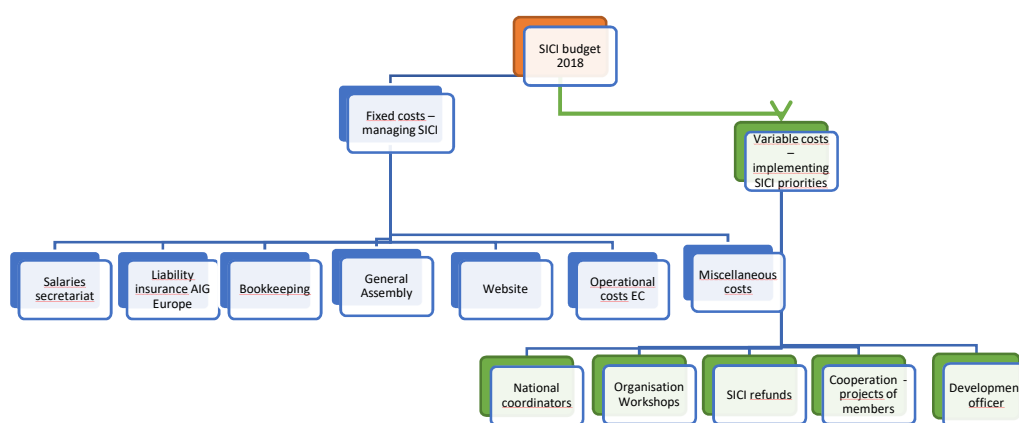


Figure 4: SICI budget categories 2018

This figure shows the SICI budget categories in 2018. The EC proposed this new structure to the SICI members during the Business Meeting of the General Assembly in Malta in 2017.

The EC aimed to make the budget of 2018 less complicated and to link the financial policy more clearly to the strategic policy of the organization. Also, a balanced budget is aimed at. There are only two main categories: fixed and variable costs. The fixed costs are the costs which cannot be removed because



these are necessary for the operational working and the existence of SICI. For example, SICI cannot exist without a General Assembly, as described in the SICI statutes. The variable costs can change over the years.

4.4 SICI budget 2019

Kolom1	Kolom2	Kolom3	Kolom4
Categorie	Subcategories	Voted budget 2019	Actual expenses 2019 (jan - dec)
Fixed costs - managing SICI	<i>Salaries secretariat</i>	€ 24 000,00	€ 24 000,00
	<i>General Assembly</i>	€ 8 000,00	€ 8 000,00
	<i>Website</i>	€ 2 500,00	€ 6 558,20
	<i>Liability insurance AIG Europe</i>	€ 220,00	€ 218,51
	<i>Bookkeeping - legal adviser/chamber of commerce</i>	€ 1 500,00	€ 544,50
	<i>Operating costs EC</i>	€ 9 000,00	€ 7 992,87
	<i>Miscellaneous costs</i>	€ 500,00	€ 632,80
Variable costs - implementing SICI priorities	<i>National coordinators</i>	€ 4 000,00	€ 3 252,69
	<i>Organisation Workshops</i>	€ 18 000,00	€ 6 143,63
	<i>SICI refunds (workshops)</i>	€ 15 000,00	€ 10 859,57
	<i>Cooperation - projects of members</i>	€ 12 000,00	€ 1 345,20
	<i>Development officer</i>	€ 25 000,00	€ 24 094,37
	<i>Publication and translation</i>	€ 5 000,00	€ 2 324,18
Total		€ 124 720,00	€ 95 966,52

Table 7: SICI Budget 2019 (Financial situation on 14.11.2019)

Table 7 shows the financial situation of SICI on 14.11.2019. Below you may find some remarks:

- In the budget, 2500 euros was foreseen for the SICI website, so it might be a surprise that we have spent much more money than foreseen. Reason for those unexpected costs is that SICI had the opportunity to renew and innovate the SICI website.
- The operating costs for EC meetings was far too high in 2016 and too high in 2017. The Executive Committee succeeded in reducing these operating costs significantly by having EC meetings in cheaper cities and hotels and by having only 5 members in the Executive Committee instead of 7 or 8 members. This amount was kept rather stable in 2019.
- At this moment, we do not know yet what the costs of the national coordinators meeting in London will be. The figure in the table is the cost of the national coordinators meeting in Serbia last year.
- In the budget, 18000 euros was foreseen for workshops. This figure is not final yet.
- 35 refunds for workshops in 2019 is not the final amount. The refunds of the General Assembly in London still need to be added.



- In 2019, only one project (Professional Communication) was funded. The Executive Committee would like members to participate in more projects. The auditors therefore suggested to invest more money in regional group meetings and to revise the criteria for members to start a project.

4.5 SICI budget 2020

Kolom1	Kolom2	Kolom3	Kolom4	Kolom5
Categorie	Subcategories	Voted budget 2019	Actual expenses 2019 (jan - dec)	Budget to vote for 2020
Fixed costs - managing SICI	<i>Salaries secretariat</i>	€ 24 000,00	€ 24 000,00	€ 24 000,00
	<i>General Assembly</i>	€ 8 000,00	€ 8 000,00	€ 8 000,00
	<i>Website</i>	€ 2 500,00	€ 6 558,20	€ 2 500,00
	<i>Liability insurance AIG Europe</i>	€ 220,00	€ 218,51	€ 220,00
	<i>Bookkeeping - legal adviser/chamber of commerce</i>	€ 1 500,00	€ 544,50	€ 1 500,00
	<i>Operating costs EC</i>	€ 9 000,00	€ 7 992,87	€ 9 000,00
	<i>Miscellaneous costs</i>	€ 500,00	€ 632,80	€ 500,00
Variable costs - implementing SICI priorities	<i>National coordinators</i>	€ 4 000,00	€ 3 252,69	€ 4 000,00
	<i>Organisation Workshops</i>	€ 18 000,00	€ 6 143,63	€ 18 000,00
	<i>SICI refunds (workshops)</i>	€ 15 000,00	€ 10 859,57	€ 15 000,00
	<i>Cooperation - projects of members</i>	€ 12 000,00	€ 1 345,20	€ 12 000,00
	<i>Development officer</i>	€ 25 000,00	€ 24 094,37	€ 25 000,00
	<i>Publication and translation</i>	€ 5 000,00	€ 2 324,18	€ 3 000,00
	Total	€ 124 720,00	€ 95 966,52	€ 122 720,00

Table 8: SICI Budget 2020

Table 8 shows the budget proposed by the Executive Committee for the year 2020. This budget proposal should be voted by the General Assembly (see 4.7 Voting Results).

- The Executive Committee has tried to make the budget stable: both the fixed costs and variable costs
- The Executive Committee would like to stimulate cooperation between members.

4.6 SICI membership fee 2020

At this moment, we clearly see that there is a decrease in the SICI excess finances. The membership fee has been the same for many years, but inflation rates go up. In order to be able to provide more/better support for members' activities (e.g. Workshops, General Assemblies, regional group meetings, projects, cooperation between members,...) the Executive Committee would like to propose a raise of 10%. This means that the membership fee from 2020 onwards would be 3300 euros. This proposal takes up a suggestion made last three years by the auditors (see voting results 4.7).



4.7 Voting results

The SICI members voted for:

1. The election of the new auditor Denise Gatt
2. The proposed SICI budget of 2020
3. Raise of the SICI membership fee from the year 2020 onwards

4.7.1 Results election of the new auditor

Against	Abstain
0	0

The new auditor is adopted.

4.7.2 Results Budget to vote for 2020

Against	Abstain
0	3

The budget for 2020 is adopted.

4.7.3 Raise of the SICI membership fee 2020

Against	Abstain
0	1

The raise of the SICI membership fee from the year 2020 onwards is adopted.



5. AOB

5.1 International conference on Evaluation – Paris, March 2020

In March 2020, the French general inspectorate will organize a conference on evaluation in Paris. It will deal with all aspects of evaluation , from standardized tests of students to teachers and school evaluation , as well as evaluation of education policies.

The aim is to contribute to building a culture of evaluation in the French system , explain the goals, the way the results of evaluation can be analysed and used to improve the governance of the education system and the performance of students.

This conference will be in partnership with SICI who will contribute to the international session of the conference. Two experts will be invited to present the way evaluation is conducted and monitored in their country.

There will be a call for proposals sent by the Executive Committee in January 2020.

5.2 SICI Website

Petr presents the new SICI Website (<http://new.sici-inspectorates.eu>)