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## [EC meeting-minutes](#) [Cardiff 14 april 2016](#)

### **1.Attendances**

Bart Maes, Gonnie van Amelsvoort, Gordana Capric, Petr Drabek Adrian Gray, Wulf Homeier, Petter Skarheim, Alastair Delaney, Chantal Manes-Bonniseau  
Support: Sylvia Van Impe

### **2.Development officer: recruitment**

Following the mandate given by the Oslo GA in October 2015 and the call for candidates sent by the president to all members in January 2016, the EC has recruited a development officer, Janie McManus, from Scotland. Her mission it is to prepare a strategy document to be presented at the 2016 GA in October.

### **3.Report on current SICI projects**

#### **3.1 Language courses in Malta**

Following the language course proposal sent to all members by Peter Skarheim in March 2016, 12 different inspectorates have subscribed and will participate in the course next summer.

The decision made is that this year SICI is financing the course and a fixed amount for each participant.

#### **3.2 Bilateral cooperation Czech Republic and Burgenland (Austria):**

2 main aims of the project:

- To compare methods and tools used by the school management in inclusion of pupils with SEN.
- To present the acquired evidence and project outcomes and examples of good practice. During each visit, a school is visited where inspection takes place. Partners look for examples of good practice in monitoring the education of pupils with SEN and aim to find possible common tools for monitoring.

Outcomes for SICI

- Fulfillment of 2 SICI's aims :
  - To support improvement of inspectorates and the professional competences of inspectors.
  - To promote and support partnership and cooperation between inspectorates.
- Presentation of the final paper and findings on SICI web pages.

Next steps:

- Information about the project in November 2017 in Prague. However, the group will be asked to report to the EC by the end of 2016 about the project and the EC will decide then if and how to go on with the project.

### **3.3 Bilateral cooperation Czech Republic and Slovak Republic.**

The proposed end of the project is 31/12/2016.

Yearly a report of the state of the art is made.

- 3 project objectives
  - To become familiar with inspection activities of the partner institution.
  - To evaluate differences and to identify weak and strong sides and opportunities for improvement of both institutions and their activities.
  - To present the acquired evidence and partial project outputs to school inspectors and to the management of both organizations.
- Outcomes for SICI:
  - Presentation of SICI's work on the international level in the home inspectorates of partners
  - Strengthening the role of SICI in the inspection activity itself (improving the inspection systems through SICI's aims and financial support).
  - Presentation of the project outcome on SICI webpages and on the SICI seminar (Prague, November 2017). However, a report will be given to the EC in the first half of 2017.

### **3.4 Impact of Inspection**

The EC members discuss the proposals from the SICI impact working group, as there are a range of possible projects for the EC to consider.

*The EC approves that SICI is to write and publish its own "mid-range" summary of evidence and practice in the area of inspection's impact and improvement; to include how improvement happens, direct and indirect change, and the methods of inspection that yield*

*the most important improvements. This output is aimed at opinion formers, not at academics..*

Adrian Gray will be the lead author. A commissioned academic who will access the main papers will support him. Adrian and the working group will work out a specification for this person as soon as possible.

The EC would like the working group to respect the following aims:

- To make a **data collection of literature** which delivers information for inspectorates to be used in their own context.
- To produce a **theoretical framework** of how inspection leads to change/improvement in schools.

Adrian Gray will inform the EC members every EC meeting so that the EC members can decide if and when the next step will be taken.

**3.5 Professional Communication:** the president will contact several countries to take the lead of this project since Lower Saxony cannot go on with the project.

#### **4.Evaluation of SICI projects**

The EC members discuss and revise the criteria for endorsing applications for additional SICI funding. The EC agrees on a list of revised criteria:

##### **Criteria for decisions about funding:**

1. The benefit for SICI as a whole must be clear
2. The project aims at
  - a. developing inspection systems or inspection methodologies
  - b. further exploring (parts of) inspection systems or inspection methodologies
3. The project should preferably be designed as a project of minimum 3 partners
4. The financial support is limited to two years. Beyond this a new application has to be made
5. All partners are SICI members
6. All participating members are co-financing
7. The aims of the project are described in detail in the project scope
8. The necessary resources are described in detail in the project scope
9. The dissemination into SICI is planned (Minimum: report in a workshop or GA)
10. The evaluation plan is described in detail in the action plan

##### **PROCEDURE:**

- a) The EC discusses for every project if the project scope proofs that all criteria are fulfilled
- b) If all the criteria above are fulfilled, a positive decision can be made.
- c) If not all criteria are fulfilled a positive decision can be made by the EC if there are exceptional circumstances
- d) The EC nominates one member as a contact person for each project

*Tasks:*

- Encourage to explore other ways of financial support
- Support for staying to project scope
- Report to the EC
- Support for the dissemination within SICI

**5. Status of bilateral cooperation initiatives in the SICI GA report.**

The EC agrees to report on bilateral cooperation initiatives.

The Secretariat will send a letter to all members to report about such initiatives until the end of June.

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