

**European Joint Action Plan on youth AIDS Peer Education,
Phase 3 (SPC 2002443)**

FINAL REPORT

This report documents the progress made by the Europeer Project phase III within the period 1st January 2003 – 30th April 2004 with updates for the 11 EC funded partners (Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, UK and UK Agenda Multimedia- now Tinopolis) and self funding Czechoslovakia.

1. OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT

1.1. INTRODUCTION

Peer education has shown itself to be effective in influencing the knowledge, attitudes, norms and behaviour of young people, and an effective tool in youth health development and HIV/STD prevention programmes. Peer education is a very broad concept* and while apparently very fashionable, with large numbers of initiatives in many member countries, its mode and quality of application is extremely variable, often with little or no reference to good practice or evaluation.

The aim of Phase 3 of the Europeer project was to formally launch a European youth peer education network to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of youth peer education initiatives in slowing the spread of HIV/STD and to improve the health development of young people in all Member States.

** Svenson G. et al European guidelines for youth Aids peer education. Luxembourg: European Commission, 1998.*

1.2. OBJECTIVES

The objectives for the network were to:

1. Facilitate the exchange of information, experience, skills, and evaluation results between youth peer education projects in all Member States and to provide support to new initiatives;
2. Procure and disseminate state-of-the-art expertise in the peer education related areas of project practice, training, health education, policy making, and evaluation;
3. Facilitate and enable the capacities and skills of youth peer educators by co-ordinating information and skills development, inter-regional peer-to-peer and empowerment through interaction;
4. Establish close collaboration between the network and other Commission supported HIV/STD-prevention initiatives and networks targeting young people in order to consolidate efforts and to avoid duplication, including school, mainstream, marginalized and highly vulnerable young people;
5. Facilitate the development of evaluation methodologies and research in the area of youth AIDS peer education and related areas;
6. Establish 1) a Community secretariat for the network at a proven European organisation, 2) national networks and 3) a European Association representing the cultural diversity of the European Union.

1.3. METHODS

- A European youth peer education network has been initiated and consists of a central Secretariat, Advisory Committees, a Consultative Board, National Centres in 15 Member States and the Czech Republic. Membership is offered to all youth AIDS-STD related peer education projects and expertise in Europe (currently about 400).
- A European youth peer education conference that focuses on peer education and lifeskills capacity building, the exchange of best practice and research results. Youth peer educators representing Member States will participate in a 5-day camp to be followed by a 2-day formal conference involving professionals and peer educators.
- A Partner meeting.
- Ongoing searches for and dissemination of information, scientific research, literature and activities on youth peer education and related subjects by the Secretariat and National Centres.

- Development and dissemination of best practice recommendations by the Secretariat and the Advisory Committees (youth peer educators, policy making, practice/co-ordination, evaluation research).
- Co-ordination/collaboration at the Secretariat and national levels with other EC-sponsored networks, projects and work groups.
- State-of-the-art Internet portals offering: Network home pages; Downloads of the Guidelines and other documents, a searchable Bibliography and project description database, the best practice recommendations; a real-time Chat Room; a Threaded Discussion forum; a Links page; a News page; an electronic Newsletter in html; a bi-annual network newsletter in pdf; Interview & Features pages; a Network Members Listing; a Partners Listing; Reply forms.

An Internet portal for peer educators/young people offering: video streaming, Internet radio stations for projects, interactive learning modules, chat rooms and forums, news rooms, a bulletin board and informational sections (HIV, sexuality, drug use, youth participation, etc).

2. ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT

The network's organisational structure, decision-making process, aims and objectives action plan and communication strategies were agreed upon during Phase 2. Most of them have been maintained, and a few have been re-thought in order to match better the network (organisational structure, action plan and communication strategies but not the aims and objectives)

The network has been composed of a European Secretariat, three Advisory Committees (instead of the four proposed at the beginning), National Centres in 10 Member State and the Czech Republic as well as all interested youth peer education projects, organisations and experts.

The Phase 3 of the Europeer project has been built upon the outcomes, partnerships and the Internet portal developed during Phases 1 and 2. The Partner Organisations have carried out activities and research in the field and the network has integrated, expanded and complemented on their past and current activities. The Partner organisations representing all Member States have carried out national networks on peer education, project and literature updates, and other activities. The network has formally incorporated and exchanged the knowledge, skills and experience of nearly all youth AIDS-STD-related peer education projects, initiatives and expertise in the European Union and the Czech Republic.

The network has been dynamic and accomplished tasks on an ongoing bases, including two monthly electronic newsletters to subscribers (one for professionals and one for young people and peer educators), exchange among the National Centres *and* between the National Centres and the Secretariat, searches/reviews of the peer education literature and activities for dissemination, creation of best practice recommendations (not only about peer education but also about building up networks), and maintenance of the network's Internet portal and creation of a new Internet portal for peer educators and young people. Both websites have been integrated in one unique homepage providing access to them (<http://www.europeeryouth.org>)

Milestone events took place during this period: a Partner meeting and 'training of trainers' residential on peer education and life skills were held for Member State peer educators in conjunction with the European Youth Peer Education Conference (Exeter, UK).

A meeting seminar aimed to evaluate Europeer "state of health" as an organisation has been the finalisation of this phase III, ending with the creation and legal registration submission of a European Association. This has been carried out in Belgium because it is the only country which laws permit to launch International Associations. The by laws and statutes are appended.

The network has been managed with optimal transparency and decisions have been made on a consensus basis. European youth peer education projects targeting a broad range of youth groups and issues has served as the core of the network.

The overall aim of the project was to slow the spread of HIV and other STD among European young people and to offer them the knowledge and skills for protection in their current and adult lives. Moreover, peer education is effective in other areas of youth development and as a tool for empowering young people to work in partnership with adults and share civic responsibilities.

A scientific evaluation of the projects outcomes and process would have been carried out by Frie University, Berlin. Finally, and because the course and the nature of the project and also because personal and health problems from the person who was supposed to do the evaluation, Europeer network decided to evaluate itself as a network. This was carried out

by external evaluators (CRAC- Spanish organisation) using electronic and face-to-face methodologies. Also, they compiled statistics concerning visitors to the Internet portals. Evaluation questionnaires had been distributed to all projects, organisations and individuals that were part of the network. These covered the quality and usefulness of the network's services, how frequently they are utilised and recommendations for improvements. The evaluation ended with a meeting in London in which National Partners were represented by one professional and one young person each. The meeting not only were useful under the evaluation point of view, but also it served as a space to approve the by-laws proposal and to draw up further steps.

2.1. THE SECRETARIAT

As specified in the above grant agreement, the Secretariat and National Centres were set up and initiated at the beginning of January 2003.

Secretariat

John Tripp
Europeer Manager (co-ordinator)
Universities of Exeter and Plymouth
Department of Child Health
Church Lane
Heavitree
EX2 5SQ Exeter
UNITED KINGDOM
Tel: +44(0)1392 403146
Fax: +44(0)1392 403158
e-mail: jhtripp@ex.ac.uk

The National centres are listed on the attached Annex.

2.2. REACTIVATING CONTACTS

Contacts were re-established with all the national groups of Phase I and II. Only Ireland and Finland were unable to collaborate as planned in Phase III.

See annex 2.1 for partner details.

2.3. THE EUROPEER CONFERENCE

The Europeer Conference was held from 5th May -9th May in Torquay in the UK. (Barton Hall, Kingskerswell Road, Torquay, Devon, TQ2 8JY)

2.3.1. The program:

Monday 5th May

Delegates to arrive during the afternoon.
Welcome activities include badge making and T-shirt personalisation
18.00-19.00 Dinner
After dinner – musical activity – Drumming!!
Session for all – ‘How will the conference work consensus’

Tuesday 6th May

08.00-09.00 Breakfast
09.00- 11.00 Hello from each country – 10 minutes from each
11.00 – 12.30 – team building outdoor activity – Jacobs Ladder
12.30-13.00 Web Presentation
13.00-14.00 Lunch
14.00-18.00 - Divide into 2 groups
The Web - each group will participate in:
Website content and Web site structure sessions.
18.00-19.00 Dinner
19.00-20.00 – choice of 3 sessions:-
Recruitment, Role Play, Warm up Exercises

Wednesday May 7th

08.00- 09.00 Breakfast
09.00- 13.00 Training and Doing it
6 sessions (delegates will be able to participate in any 3)
Leading discussions
Developing content
Assertiveness/ Self Esteem
Community Activity
Human Rights, dealing with disclosures and peer safety
Problem solving and Life skills
13.00-13.45 Lunch
14.00-16.00 – Trip to Dartmoor – Hay Tor
16.00-17.00 Ambitions Targets & Making it happen
3 sessions (delegates will be able to participate in any 2)
Special Interest Groups – Aids support
Aims and Objectives – Educational Rights
Business Plans & viability
18.00-19.00 Dinner
19.00-21.00 Reporter Feedback session

Thursday 8th May

08.00-09.00 Breakfast

09.00-11.00 – Partners advisory 'Think Tank' & Strategy meeting
Peers IT creativity

11.00-13.00 Keeping it happening

4 sessions (delegates will be able to participate in any 2)

Retention, Reward & Accreditation

Evaluation

Business Planning

Participatory Learning

Outdoor activity for all – Zip Slides

18.00-21.00 Trip to Torquay – Dinner & drinks

Friday 9th May

08.00-09.00 Breakfast

09.00-11.00 – Partners advisory 'Think Tank' & Strategy meeting
Peers prepare for press

11-13.00 Press

13.00-14.00 Lunch

Close

2.3.2. The participants

Delegate	Country	Organisation
Christian Scharinger	Austria	Austrian Health Promotion Foundation
Andrea Lins	Austria	Fonds Gesundes Osterreich (FGOE)
Michelle Proyer (Young person)	Austria	Aids Hilfe Wien
Lih Nuo Huang (Young person)	Austria	Aids Hilfe Wien
Johan Bertels	Belgium	In Petto [www.inpetto.be]
Karolien Vanhaverbeke (Young person)	Belgium	Youth Advice Centre - Brugge
Miet Gentier (Young person)	Belgium	In Petto
Bert Paris (Young person)	Belgium	In Petto
Jaroslav Jedlieka	Czech	[www.aids-hiv.cz]
Rasmus Aspe Mork (Young person)	Denmark	Lysthuset
Sune Borgen (Young person)	Denmark	Lysthuset
Chiara Novello	Italy	SEYPA
Gloriana Bartoli	Italy	SEYPA
Koula Merakou	Greece	National School of Public Health
Lampros Iliopoulos	Greece	National School of Public Health
Maria Aftia (Young person)	Greece	National School of Public Health
Irene Apostolidou (Young person)	Greece	National School of Public Health
Marie Ines Gomes	Portugal	National AIDS Commission
Ana Rita Laranjeira (Young person)	Portugal	National AIDS Commission
Joana Beja (Young person)	Portugal	National AIDS Commission
Elisabete Ramos (Young person)	Portugal	National AIDS Commission
Eva Martin	Spain	Spanish Youth Council
Ana Koerting	Spain	Spanish Youth Council
Maria Leon Torre (Young person)	Spain	Youth Dept of the Spanish Red Cross
Anette Agardh	Sweden	Lund University Medicine
Tina Wilhelmsson (Young person)	Sweden	Lund University Medicine/ P6
Helena Olsson (Young person)	Sweden	Lund University Medicine/ P6
Helena Olsson (Young person)	Sweden	Lund University Medicine/ P6
John Tripp	UK	Europeer
John Rees	UK	APAUSE
Dave Evans	UK	Europeer
Carlota Riera (Young person)	UK	Europeer
Arianna	UK	Tinopolis
Matt	UK	Tinopolis
Ellen Vroonhof (Young person)	Holland	WPF
Eefje Kerstens (Young person)	Holland	WPF
Alena "Lena" Trukhan	Belarus	CCF
Alexandra "Sasha" Brodovska	Ukraine	CCF
Ian Boulton	UK	UK
Adela Bohiltea	Romania	SEYPA
Mihaela Marinescu	Romania	SEYPA
Paulo Vieira (Young person)	Portugal	SEYPA
Silvina Magnani	Spain	SEYPA
Natasha Alexeyeva	Russia	SEYPA
Naomi Hollingsbourne	UK	SEYPA
Simon Forrest	UK	Conference Facilitator

Attendance at the conference was excellent with 45 delegates and from 10 partners and Holland, Russia, Romania, Belarus, the Ukraine.

Two reports were produced after the conference, one specifically for partners and a more general one for non partners and this was posted on the website for all interested parties. These reports fully reported the sessions, activities and the overall outcomes including agreed 'Best practice' and papers from the session leaders. These reports are attached on the annex.

During the 3rd week in May all delegates were sent a questionnaire for completion with an honest (anonymous) appraisal of all aspects of the conference - from the housekeeping to the session content. The collated responses show general satisfaction with the conference programming (well organised, not too rigid, collaborative and appropriate), although there are many different views about the specific content and the style of the conference. A model of the questionnaire used is attached on the annex.

Responses showed strong agreement on 3 points:-

1. The conference strengthened the Europeer identity and clarified direction for phase 3.
2. Dissatisfaction with the conference timetabling (it was too intense with little time off).
3. The young people expressed satisfaction regarding the respect given to their opinions and with their own contribution to the conference.

The Conference was 5 days – 4 nights, as specified in the budget. The 2 day conference cited in Annex 1 is there due to a clerical error. The 2 day conference was mistakenly transferred from the original contract prepared by Sweden, to the contract that Exeter agreed with The European Commission, but the budget was not allocated for an extra 2 days.

2.3.3. The outcomes

Report on Findings and Conclusions of Last Day 9/5/03

Organisation:

Some of the delegates had to leave early and the remaining delegates met at 9.00 am and be divided into two groups: a) Youth b) professionals

Discussion process:

Through "brainstorming" activity the attendees worked to reach clarity and consensus on the key themes and issues which arose during the week.

Both groups worked independently in an attempt to arrive at separate lists of themes/issues which could then be compared and discussed in an attempt to find areas of agreement and identify areas which still remained unresolved.

Feedback from Young People's Group

Consensus was reached on the following themes/issues:

- Central involvement of youth in initiatives.
"The Europeer network is to promote youth peer-to-peer initiatives strengthened by a youth and professional collaboration and commitment" – Paulo Vieira
- European network to share peer-to-peer related things.
- Equality among youth and professional sharing execution in HIV-prevention and making different resources available.
- Confirming Europeer is really about youth.

Equally important as the above areas of consensus was the making of practical commitments by young people to each other and the network. These were expressed in the following practical suggestions:

- To be in touch by e-mail and chat
- To reinforce the connection between us:
 - Chat for peer educators
 - Messages board
 - Mailing list
 - Calendar *Project of the month* or *Country of the month*
 - Making something in their own language for youth (partners responsibility)
 - News (*Country of the month* linked into the News)
 - Internet conferences

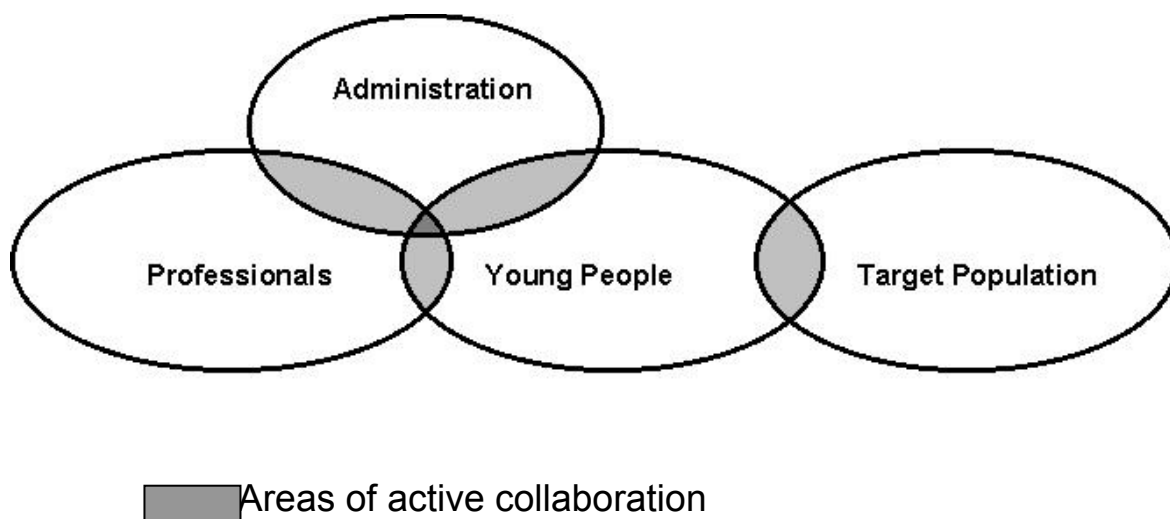
Feedback from the Professionals' Group

Consensus was reached on the following themes/issues:

- Europeer is about young people working in partnership with professionals in order to best facilitate the effectiveness of the direct contact between peers/young people and young people in the target population.

This commitment to collaboration is illustrated in the diagram below.

The diagram clearly shows discreet areas of specialist activity and areas where roles overlap. For example, in this model we would expect young people to actively collaborate in the roles of "Administration" and policy making and work in partnership with "Professionals" in the development of program design and materials. The model acknowledges the importance of those fundamental and exclusive processes which occur between "Young People and the "Target Population".



- Europeer is to re-examine the administration/advisory structure decided in phase 2 and to make a new start in partnership [with young people] which reflects the partnership illustrated above.
- Carlota Riera and David Evans to form a lead partnership in developing the young persons' website as a central resource for network functioning.
- In each member country the central coordination will have direct links with young people.
- Each country (National Coordinating Partner) has the duty to involve young people in the decision making process.
- Europeer should continue its identification with and focus on issues of sexual and relational health.
- The Legitimacy (mandate, imperative, rationale, justification) of Europeer is based on the human rights of young people.
- Europeer has a duty to meet the needs of young people in the whole of continental Europe.

Consensus

Both groups were delighted to find that there was considerable consensus between the conclusions that they had reached separately and agreed the following actions.

Actions agreed on the Final Day

Create advisory groups in three critical areas:

a) Youth Web site Development

Fast track, youth friendly youth web site to be initiated by Carlota Riera (advocating a youth perspective), David Evans (professional/academic perspective).

To be developed in collaboration with partners including:

Tinopolis - multi-media and IT company (Arianna Stamatopolous) **Lund University** (Anette Agardh Academic/professional perspective and Tina Wilhelmsson youth perspective)

b) Europeer Strategic Planning (Lobbying, funding, public relations)

c) National Networks Development (Strengthening the national networks of partner nations as central to the concept and functioning of Europeer)

Work collaboratively with partners to create a guidance document of best practices related to national network building.

NB the Spanish Europeer document is an excellent example and will be translated into English and placed on the website as an example of good practice.

To seek out suitable models for forming an association which reflects the above areas of agreement. Share models to arrive at agreement on the best fit.

Outline of Europeer 2003 Conference.

Day 1 Arrival Activities– Personalised T-shirts & badge making
Welcome with theatre and drumming,

How will the conference work?

Dr Tripp reminds conference of our mandate to complete phase 3 and explained that the conference is flexible but must be about creating visions and policy for phase 4

Day 2 Introduction - The Hello Show

– each country makes a brief presentation

Team building – Jacobs ladder, High ropes

Workshops/seminars

Exploring the potential of the web as a tool in building a network

“Recruitment” - Simon Forrest

Day 3 workshops –

“Social action methods” Ian Boulton,

“Development of Content” - Simon Forrest and Carlota Riera,

“Human rights and sexual rights” - Ellen Vroonhof and Eefje Kerstens

Trip to Darmoor

Policy development –

European Commission White Paper on Youth

–(participation and information) Johan Bertel

Youth – develop an agenda to present to professionals

Beer Education from Belgium – Johan and Team

Day 4 workshops –

“Project Implementation” – Ines Gomez

“Evaluation” – Carlota Riera and Simon Forrest

Policy Development - Professionals

Policy Development - Youth

Youth Present their agenda

The Sandwich Bar – that does not listen to the customer.

Eating out in traditional English Pub followed Party in evening

Day 5

Policy Development Professionals

Policy Development Youth

Sharing and consensus building between professionals and youth

Conference Style and Development over time

The conference did not begin with a rigid agenda - this was open to negotiation. It needed to provide a framework in which to clarify, modify and reach agreement on the aims and objectives of phase 3.

Thus the purpose of the conference was to:

- define an action plan for completion of phase 3 - with an emphasis on the website as a tool for building this network
- refine organisational structure and direction to achieve these actions
- to share a vision for whole of phase 4 .

Day 3

Key bases for Europeer on the future were established:

- Youth empowerment must be the centre of Europeer as a right
- Young people's “Human and sexual Rights” must be given greater prominence (based on Convention on Human Rights, Cairo 1998)
- Peer sex education is based on “Human Rights”
- Meaningful youth participation requires that youth voices are heard as a right (European Commission White Paper on Youth)

Gradually Youth and professionals needed to work as separate but complimentary groups.

Policy of phases 3 & 4 phases emerge according the dynamics within the conference and as a dialogue between Youth and Professionals.

On the final day Youth and Professionals met to share their separate agendas and ambitions.

Very strong consensus between two groups.

2.4. THE ADVISORY COMITEES

Europeer identifies itself as a network organisation which has the perceptions and expressed needs of young people as a motivating force. Professionals and young people work collaboratively to establish an organisation that gives young people and their needs public representation at all levels.

These were the underpinning concepts, which drove the ensuing structural and policy changes: Under the original proposal there were to be 4 advisory committees, but emerging from the conference was the idea to consolidate them into 3 committees covering the same areas and organised as follows:

- “Policy makers” became the Task Group for Strategic Development
- “Practitioners and co-ordinators” and “Evaluators” are combined and be include in the various functions within Task Group for Website Development
- A Task Group for Supporting National Networks is a completely new advisory group which will be addressing the challenges of creating an effective network within each of the member countries.

As intended the Advisory Committees work as virtual committees using Internet (e-mail), but when they have considered it important to meet, they have done so. The Task Group for Website Development has organized three meetings so far.

Task Group for Strategic Development

Professionals: Johan Bertels (Belgium), Anette Agardh (Sweden)

Youth: Ellen Vroonhof (Netherlands)

Supported by John Tripp from UK Co-ordination centre.

This group is working with the Human Rights (UN, Cairo 1998) and Youth Participation (European Commission White paper on Youth) as frameworks to constitute Europeer as an Association. Once the Association has been formed a Consultative Board will be set up. This has been deliberately delayed until concrete evidence of activities is available to public view on the website.

Task Group for Website Development

Professionals: Anette Agardh (Sweden) + Tinopolis (Agenda Multimedia)

Youth: Carlota Riera (UK)+ *youth team from different countries:*

Martin Olsson (the webmaster), Sweden

Tina Wilhelmsson, Sweden

Ida Järvliden, Sweden

Stefan Rydin, Sweden

Tobias Berg, Sweden

Anna Bäcklin, Sweden

Carolina Ohlsson, Sweden

Cliff Shelton, United Kingdom

Rasmus Aspe Mork, Denmark

Paulo Viera, Portugal

Supported by David Evans from UK Co-ordination centre.

This group has met in Sweden (27-29 June) and again in September in Exeter, UK.

This group has started two newsletters on-line, one for professionals and one for young people and peer educators:

<http://webnews.textalk.com/europeer/>

<http://webnews.textalk.com/europeer.youth/>

Both newsletters are based on a collaborative philosophy; open for anyone to write articles, express opinions and share experiences, projects and news. It is a useful tool to build a sense of community, and encourage collaboration between all the Europeer members.

All professionals and peer educators around the European Community are able to send in articles or comments, but only the editors (one professional and one peer educator for each Europeer partner country) are able to publish it.

Each month one country is the lead feature in the Newsletter. This entails them committing to collect articles for the front page of that issue of the newsletter. This does not change the fact that everyone has the right and responsibility for the production of the newsletter each month.

The youth website is being developed and it is near to being finished (contents are being developed).

Although the site is already available (<http://www.europeeryouth.org>) it has not yet been promoted to the membership. A team of young people are still working by testing the tools and add some more contents (see "the youth website").

Task Group for Supporting National Networks

Professionals: Maria Ines Gomes (Portugal)

Youth: Rasmus Aspe Mork (Denmark), Paulo Vieira (Portugal)

Supported by Carlota Riera from the UK Co-ordination centre.

2.5. THE WEBSITES

The professional website

The professional website has been updated with recent projects and bibliography (attached as annex).

The youth website

The specification for this was decided at the Europeer Conference in May by the young people present in collaboration with the professionals.

Meetings have taken place in Exeter, Llanelli, and Lund to bring the site to this stage of development and many young people have been involved in the process.

<http://www.europeeryouth.org>

The website layout is finished and it is already on-line

The peer educators' site has a menu button with the following sections:

Home: a friendly welcome and information of the "latest added" in *IdeaBank* and *Forum* sections, to check quickly which new issues are on the site. A "vote" section (funny questions to vote on) and "the little book of peer education" (compilation of the best "*tips and tricks*" posted to be used as a little peer guide).

The first vote will be on the Europeer logo: two young people from Sweden are designing two different logos for Europeer and people will be able to vote for the best one.

Forum with several categories:

- General discussion
- The website
- Comments on the Newsletter
- Project discussions
- Comments on Storyboard
- Comments on Tips and Tricks
- Help me

The forum will be linked to as many sections of as possible. For example, at the end of each newsletter article will be a direct link to the section "Comments on the Newsletter". Links will also exist for the storyboard, tips and tricks, and project discussions.

Instant message will be integrated in the forum.

Projects: a database of peer education projects with flags representing the country of origin. New projects are to be submitted on a form, by e-mail to the Webmaster. The professional website (existing green website) will share the same database with links to the peer projects. At the moment we have this section linked to the green (professional) website. At the end of each project description will be a link to a discussion forum.

Newsletter: The Europeer Youth digital newsletter
<http://webnews.textalk.com/europeer.youth> is integrated to the youth site. The articles will provide a link to start article discussions in the forum. It is led by a different country each month. A separate newsletter is produced for the professional which is used to actively disseminate new information by all who want to join in.

Idea Bank: consisting of the “storyboard” (designed and developed by Tinopolis) and a “*tips and tricks*” section, both of which will be linked to the forum. The best “*tips and tricks*” will be selected and added to another the led “*The little book of peer education*” section (it will be placed in the *Homepage*).

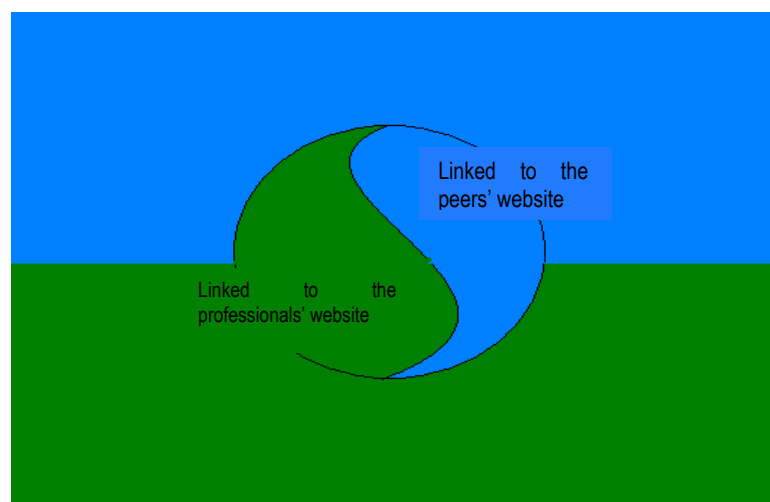
Peer test: friendly and funny quizzes to test yourself as a peer educator. Any peer will be able to send new questions to the Webmaster for inclusion! It will be a fun section (like the “vote” section available from the “*homepage*”)

Contact and about will provide information about the website and the possibility to send an e-mail to the Webmaster. It is placed in the footer

The peer educators’ website will be available to read around the world. Only active participation on the site will require registering. There will be no registration restrictions - every peer educator will be eligible. Grand rules of behaviour will be provided which users must accept in order to register.

A name for the new website was bought and registered:

- The *Task Group for Website Development* agreed that it was necessary to have a first page or a starting page providing access to both websites (the professional existing website and the new youth one). They also agreed that the first page would have the domain: www.europeer.org



The website also contains a storyboard mechanism to enable young people and professionals to exhibit their examples of good practice in an ITC format which has been designed by young people.

2.6. THE NEWSLETTERS

Two digital newsletters have been created and have been linked to both the professional and the youth websites. All the articles published are attached at the annex.

A team of young people from Sweden created a Manual for users, collaborators and editors. The manual is also attached as annex.

2.6. NATIONAL REPORTS

Country Reports

In general terms, the actions carried out at national level could be summarized as: create, amplify or strengthen national networks; conferences and meetings involving professionals and young people; collection and diffusion of information about peer education, HIV/AIDS, and the international network; publications, flyers, leaflets; use of new Information Technologies; evaluations.

We are able to describe briefly the **nationals' project developments** that have been done until now.

Austria

The focus of the Europeer activities is expended in the field outside the school-setting. It also has to expend the field of HIV/AIDS prevention and try to find models of good practice in the field of risk-competence in general.

The specific activities achieved are the "Austrian Europeer Newsletter" (the first edition of the peer-newsletter was published in October 2003 and the second one at the end of February 2004) and the National Europeer Conference that took place in Vienna the 3rd of October 2003. The first "Austrian Europeer Conference" was realized with over hundred participants. National HIV/AIDS-Foundations were contacted and were represented at the conference. Both the newsletter and the conference are aimed to strengthen the national network. In the same way as project contacts have been made: a membership to all youth AIDS-STD projects is open and it has been offered to all NGO's. The Austrian related organisations are linked and all dates and addresses are available.

The field of "risk behaviour" is documented and new studies were published and disseminated in the professional community.

A constructively collaborating network of Austrian Europeer partners has been established.

Belgium

Belgium has Special emphasis on "peer support".

Several meetings between young people, youth workers, administration workers and politicians have been organised to exchange experiences and to discuss possible strategies on good practices of peer support work (in which peer education is included). Some important information in the project website has been translated to English, French and Dutch. The project brochure has been updated, printed and sent out by post in March to all public and NGO organisations. The next step is the evaluation of the methods of 'Youth Advisers' (at the moment a questionnaire has been given to all ex-youth advisers of the past three years and 150 completed forms have been received back).

Denmark

They are developing a national peer learning website where people will be able to find links to the nearest peer learners and information about the different national partners. They established first contacts to different Danish peer learning groups through different networks in order to consolidate the Europeer Danish network. There exists a special collaboration and exchange of ideas with "Ung Dialog" (Copenhagen Country) which a meeting seminar were organised.

Europeer Denmark network has also participated in a conference arranged in Copenhagen by the "Sexonauter" which are part of

“Ungdomsringen” (youth organisation which administrate youth clubs, peer learning, etc).

After the conference in May in UK, Denmark has established contact and a collaboration framework with the Swedish partners “P6” (Lund University). They both have visited each other and shared best practices and methods.

Germany

It is working with the national web site and they have been contributing to the Europeer web site development. Illness of a German Partner who has been hospitalised for a long period means that the organisation needed to find a different mechanism to complete the evaluation which the EC had been consulted upon (the evaluation was finally focused not on projects but in networking “state of health” and it was conducted by CRAC, Spain). All peer projects have been phoned to inform and offer participation in the German website. 16 projects have responded to date. As Austria and Germany are working together to link their consulting institutions with the website they are in regular contact.

Greece

Greece launched its National network by contacting experts in peer education in the country and organising a meeting all together to inform them about the European and national Europeer network. The same was made with other private organisations and NGO’s relevant in the field of HIV/AIDS/STI’s prevention and sexual health. Finally a meeting for both (experts in peer education and experts in sexual health) were organized for their collaboration.

A meeting with peer educators from Greek schools was also organized where the network was presented and youth were motivated to use the Europeer website. Teachers were also trained and schools involved were visited in order to empower peer educators and teachers about the method and about the network.

Italy

Italy is working in drug prevention among 13-19 year-olds. They have 132 schools involved in the project and they developed the project web site for supporting all those schools involved.

Portugal

They have edited, printed and distributed a brochure in Portuguese about the Europeer, the services being provided and the national network and it was disseminated at schools and other youth settings.

The first National meeting took place on 12 December 2003 in Lisbon with the title “Sexual health and peer education: opportunities and challenges”. The workshop was aimed at discussing the peer education methodology at six main aspects: youth participation, peer education roles and models, social and personal skills, gender, project implementation and evaluation. The workshop targeted professionals and young people (peer educators). There were 71 participants in total. The meeting ended with the edition and publication of a report with the conclusions and recommendations pointed out during the National workshop.

Spain

Spain took up again the contacts (youth organisations) established during phase II and has facilitated the incorporation of those that do not belong

to the network yet. Membership has been offered to all the Spanish projects interested in youth peer work and AIDS/STD related work. They have compiled specific information about each HIV related peer education project and bibliography related and they distributed it between all the projects. That information is also available at their website.

The web site development on peer education and HIV has been completed.

Four-monthly informative bulletins about Europeer project were edited, printed and distributed (on paper and digital version).

The national meeting about "Peer education and Health promotion" took place in Santander (12-14 December). A seminar on HIV/AIDS had also been organized on 13th November 2003.

Sweden

Sweden has had a crucial role with the development of the youth Europeer web site (International site) and they are taking an important role within "Task Group for Strategic Development".

UK

They have held national meetings as well as making project contacts in order to strengthen the national network. They have also written four newsletters (two first newsletters in paper and second ones in electronic version).

All the contactable youth peer and related organisations have been contacted by letter and e-mail informing them about Europeer and offering a listing for their project on the UK website.

The website is already finished.

Tinopolis (Agenda multimedia)

Since the May conference, Europeer met with the Swedish partners to reconsider the structure and requirements of the Europeer site in general. In the subsequent meeting between Tinopolis and Europeer, this work was prioritised and Tinopolis agreed to focus on the development of the monolingual (English) collaborative /youth oriented site (incorporating proprietary software that fulfilled many of Europeers functionality and communication requirements) but to delay development until after a meeting with the Swedish Partners and Europeer to agree scope and roles. Subsequent to meeting with Sweden and Europeer, the scope of Tinopolis's contribution will be further refined. The youth site will be developed by a team of young people and Tinopolis agreed to develop a Multilingual User Interface for the storyboard tool (not finished yet).

The storyboard is placed at the moment in a site called "Conference site", which contains the storyboard resource and a summary of the Europeer Conference (May 2003). The storyboard is also available through a link at the professional site (www.europeer.org) and in the youth site (www.europeeryouth.org).

National Collaboration

The Partners are actively engaging in collaboration at many levels both with the secretariat and nationally. In order to forward the websites development many meetings have taken place at the national level.

Because of the geographical area or historical reasons some collaborations between different partner countries are more pronounced, such is the case with of Austria-Germany and Denmark-Sweden which are in regular contact.

At an international level Sweden, UK and Belgium have been particularly aware of the International network needs and efforts required. For this reason they have worked together (via e-mail) in this field.

Although Spain have not had any other direct collaboration with other countries since the conference, they offered their newsletters (the first ones published and distributed) to be used as a template by any other Europeer partner. Carlota attended a conference in Spain in December 2003 to discuss networking out of which the contract for external evaluation arose.

A general collaborative environment has developed and the co-ordination centre has sent out the information partners have requested be shared.

All the countries that have planned national meetings, best practices reports and national evaluations agreed to share the resulting documents. All that information will be collected and put it together and will be distributed and disseminated.

A general document about best practices and recommendations about peer education and HIV-STD prevention in Europe will be the final step. This document will be a result of all ideas, reflections, experiences, recommendations and agreements made at national level and it will be a general agreement between all the Europeer partners.

This manual enabled the editor to be rotated between countries and gives the 'country of the month' editor power to receive, edit, agree and publish articles for that month. It has successfully enabled most of the countries in the network to edit an edition of the youth newsletter and several countries to edit the professional newsletter already.

2.7. EVALUATION

Europeer meeting, April 2004

LIST OF ATENDEES

Name	Country	e-mail
Andrea Lins	Austria	andrea.lins@fgoe.org
Lina Huang	Austria	polarlicht@hotmail.com
Gee Van Den Berghe	Belgium	jacplus@antwerper.be
Junior	Belgium	rafe_balamander@hotmail.com
Rikke Moller	Denmark	rmr@ag.aaa.dk
Nap Dangthongcharoen	Denmark	Npaporn_d@hotmail.com
Daniela Kondrova	Czech Republic	dkondrova@szu.cz
Jindrich Bedan	Czech Republic	bagrik@seznam.cz
Ines Gomes	Portugal	migomes@cnlcs.min-saude.pt
Ana Margarida	Portugal	ajpas@sapo.pt margarida_pires@hotmail.com
Ana Anes	Spain	aanes@cje.org
Ana Maria Gracia	Spain	anamariagc@teleline.es
Anette Agardh	Sweden	anette.agardh@smi.mas.lu.se
Ninive Yonnan	Sweden	niyo02@student.btn.se
Tina Wilhelmson	Sweden	tina.wilhelmsson.477@student.lu.
John Rees	UK	jbrees@ex.ac.uk
Cliff Shelton	UK	unisex_manchester@hotmail.com sheltonhousehold@hotmail.com
Rasmus Aspe Mork	Denmark / Spain	980139@ps.au.dk
David Evans	Europeer	d.l.evans@ex.ac.uk
John Tripp	Europeer	j.h.tripp@ex.ac.uk
Carlota Riera	Europeer	carlota.riera-claret@pms.ac.uk
Antonio Moreno	CRAC (evaluators)	amoren@redasociativa.org
Miguel	CRAC (evaluators)	roro@redasociativa.org

2.8. BY-LAWS

Setting up an international charitable organisation proved more difficult than expected but the by-laws as in the annex have been submitted for the registration process in Belgium as this is the only country currently eligible to register international charities under EU arrangements. EU are developing arrangements for this to become an EU activity but as we understand it are not yet operative.

This report was produced by a contractor for Health & Consumer Protection Directorate General and represents the views of the contractor or author. These views have not been adopted or in any way approved by the Commission and do not necessarily represent the view of the Commission or the Directorate General for Health and Consumer Protection. The European Commission does not guarantee the accuracy of the data included in this study, nor does it accept responsibility for any use made thereof.