

Latest News

Kick-off meeting of the project "Sportsign - Sign Language Index for Sports and Physical Education"

ISMAI hosted the kick-off meeting of the "Sportsign - Sign Language Index for Sports and Physical Education" project that took place on the 14th and 15th of November. This Erasmus+ project led by ISMAI aims to create a Bilingual Glossary in the area of Sport, with the goal of improving the effectiveness of the pedagogical strategy aimed at deaf students in Physical Education and Sports' classes.

In this first meeting, the partners had the opportunity to discuss ideas regarding the activities to take place in the coming months, as well as to validate the procedures related to the management of the project. The consortium includes, in addition to ISMAI, primary and secondary schools in Germany, Italy and Portugal, an association of teachers in Slovenia and the regional education directorate in Galicia, Spain.



Ismai's team represented (left to right) Cláudia Azevedo, Pedro Rodrigues, Fátima Sarmiento, Nuno Alves, Paulo Sá, Alexandre Sousa (left) and Helena Bastos (isn't in the picture).



Project partners (from left to right): Marisela Simões and Cândida Amorim (from the Soares dos Reis Art School), Wibke Wehner and Julia Erdmann (Rheinisch Westfälischen Berufskolleg Essen / Essen, Germany), Francisco Fernández, Esther Rego and Maria Luz Fandiño (Xunta de Galicia / Santiago de Compostela, Spain); Andreja Linec and Dušan Dvorščak (Društvo učiteljev Gluhih Slovenije / Ljubljana, Slovenia).

Društvo učiteljev Gluhih Slovenije (DUGS) - Slovenia

Slovenian Association of Teachers of the Deaf was registered in 2010. DUGS is an association representing the interests of teachers of the deaf, deaf youth and adults in Slovenia. The association included representatives from all professions, as well as colleagues from other fields who work with the deaf. It is a Slovenian non-governmental organization and for promotional purposes of culture, Slovenian sign language, deaf education, and other social, cultural, and sporting areas.



Presentation of the management plan, by Miriam Grottanelli (standing) and Mariapa Rizzi (left in the background), partners of the Siena Art Institute & Siena School for Liberal Arts.

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About the Project

Sportsign is an Erasmus+ project, created to develop a Bilingual Sports Glossary (sign language and written language)

The project aims to develop joint initiatives with other countries such as Germany, Slovenia, Spain, Italy, and Portugal for the creation of Bilingual Sports Glossary, consisting of videos with the demonstration of the Motor Skills of six sports modalities, which will then be translated into the national sign language of the various countries that are part of the project consortium. It aims to be a pedagogical and self-learning tool, for worldwide free access directed at deaf and hearing students, for PE teachers, coaches, sign language teachers, interpreters and people interested in deaf education.

The Glossary is the most important Output of the Project, parallel to its design, comparative studies will be carried out with deaf students, with PE teachers and sign language interpreters. The studies will focus on: the physical activity habits of deaf students, about the communication that PE teachers establish with deaf students in their classes, and about the knowledge that interpreters have of the sign language of sport and how they update themselves.

Who are the partners?

University of Maia (Ismai) - Portugal

It is the institution that leads the project, with a team of five professors. ISMAI is the 2nd largest private HEI in Portugal. It has more than 250 staff members and 4000 students, and offers a wide range of 1st, 2nd and 3rd cycle programmes in the fields of Social and Behavioural Sciences, Business Sciences, Physical Education and Sports Sciences, Communication Sciences and Information Technologies.

Reinisch-Westfälisches Berufskolleg für Hörgeschädigte (North-Rhine-Westphalian Vocational) (RWB) - Alemanha

College for hearing impaired students (RWB) is situated in Essen. The Vocational College combines a vocational school and a grammar school for deaf and hard of hearing students from all over Germany and the German-speaking region.

Direccion General de Educacion (GDEducation) - Spain

GDEducation has the responsibility of educational provision in Galicia, it is responsible for educational standards and the training and development of the schools. Its general scope of action includes the education authority at a regional level, including the design of education programmes and plans for all the Galician Community Region, with more than 1500 school institutions in all the four Galician provinces.

Soares dos Reis Art School (EASR) - Portugal

It is a secondary school that was established in January 1884, it is dedicated to artistic education and is a public non-profit institution. It is of the network of reference schools for bilingual Education of deaf students in Portugal. It welcomes about 960 students distributed annually by different educational offerings. It offers specialized courses in arts, to pursue university studies and also vocational courses.

Siena School for Liberal Arts (ISLA) - Italy

Is a cultural institute which is committed to running semester and summer study abroad programs where international students become a vital part of the ongoing cultural and social work of the organization. The institute's professional focus areas are Sustainability, Deaf Studies, Liberal Arts (Art, History, Anthropology). ISLA is the only school in Europe to offer deaf studies and sign language as part of its semester and summer curriculum.