

SELVET - Social and Emotional Learning in Vocational Education

Evaluation of the 5th Meeting, 11th – 13th March 2015 Paola, Malta

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The aims of the 5th SELVET meeting in Paola were:

- Introduction of SEL in Malta
 - To participate in lectures and fields trips with organizations involved in SEL and VET in Malta
 - To assess progress on development of the toolkit and to agree on tasks and timetable for its completion
 - To participate in cultural activities
 - To evaluate the meeting
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The meeting was hosted in the Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology (MCAST), Paola, Malta. It was attended by 18 participants from Germany, the Netherlands, Malta, Hungary and the UK. The content of this evaluation is based on the responses received from 4 of the participants via a Survey Monkey questionnaire.

1. Overall impressions of the meeting

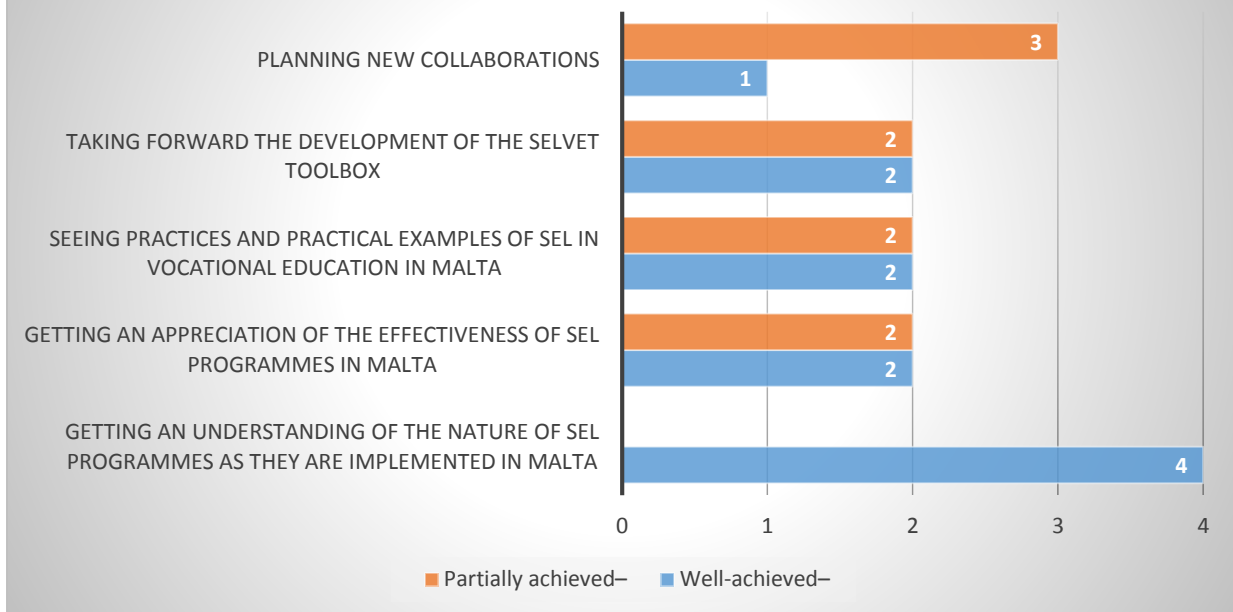
All reported that they enjoyed the experience. The programme was well-organized and balanced, the atmosphere was positive, and the group learnt about the activities of MCAST and work on SEL in VET in Malta. Progress was made on development of the toolkit.

“By the Malta meeting there was a real understanding between the partners, we knew what wanted to achieve together the atmosphere was great, the host was very generous.”

2. Achieving the meeting objectives

Figure 1 provides an overview of responses.

Figure 1: Achievement of the stated objective expressed as number of responses (total 4)



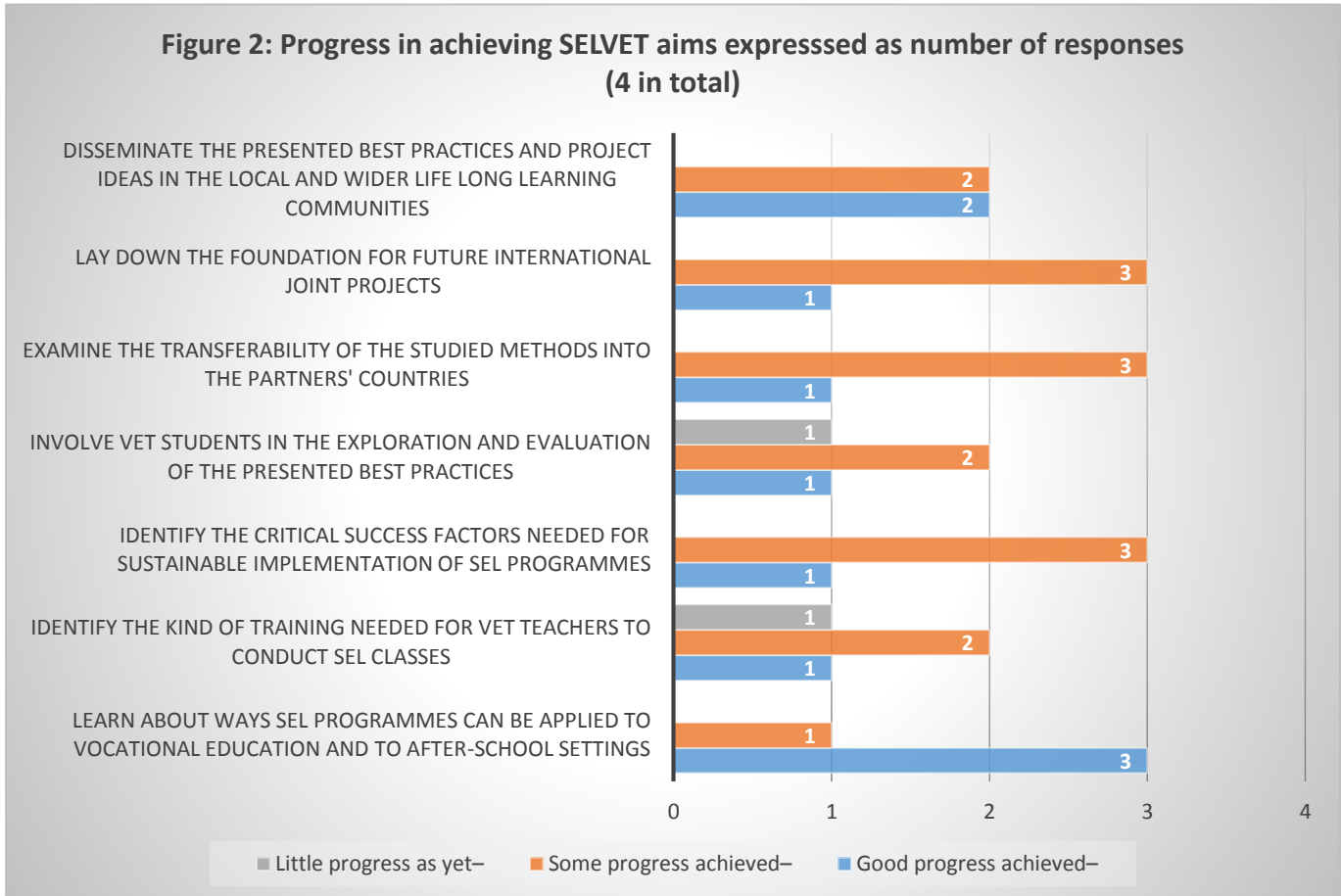
The meeting objectives were all well or partially achieved. Factors that contributed to the success of doing so included the practice orientation of the meeting and enabling partners to see a range of the work of MCAST by visiting a number of units and institutions. The partners appreciated being able to speak with teachers and with students, and enjoyed the interactive session run by MCAST students.

A greater degree of preparation by the partners on writing chapters for the toolkit would have helped to progress it further than was managed, and discussions on future collaborations should be started sooner.

In terms of the details – room set-up, agenda, flow of the day, everything was well-planned and organized. The hosts went out of their way to make sure everyone was comfortable and were very generous. There was a good balance between lectures, discussions, interactive sessions, and socializing. It would have been good to have had more time at the Maritime Institute and at the Arts and Media facilities to see students in action e.g. in the TV studio.

3. Progress in achieving SELVET aims

Figure 2 provides a summary of responses (good progress, some progress, little progress) on our progress towards achieving the aims of the SELVET project.



Respondents perceive that we have made good progress in learning about ways that SEL programmes can be applied in vocational education and after-school settings, and good/ some progress and in dissemination of ideas and best practice. We have made some progress in identifying critical success factors for sustainable implementation of SEL programmes, in laying down foundations for future projects, and in examining the transferability of methods. More variable progress has been made in identifying the kind of training needed for VET teachers and in involving VET students in evaluation of best practice.

It was felt that we are making ongoing progress and continually learning about SEL practice and the challenges and opportunities of its implementation in different settings. 3 of the present

partners have already collaborated on a new project application and more collaboration is envisaged. There is a need to gather all the information together in a systematic way and present it in an accessible format for use by teachers, students and others interested in SEL.

4. Moving forward

The main work that remains to be done in the present project is completion of the toolkit. We have agreed to hold an additional meeting in Budapest in May 2015 in order to take this forward. The respective National Agencies have been contacted and agreed to this proposal.

Respondents hope to be able to meet all partners and to work together again as they found the SELVET project to be very enjoyable and worthwhile.

“I would like to set up SEL programmes in a VET school, in a primary school and would also like to see how SEL could work outside the school system. With the profile of the partners, all of these goals can be achieved and I would like to work with each of them if they are open to it.”

Final comments

“Thank you for the great experience, cooperation and I look forward to seeing the team very soon.”

“This was my best international project experience so far not just professionally, but also on a personal level.”

“I enjoyed the meetings very much and would love to get together again soon, e.g. for another project. The vibe was all of time, in every country great, and I think the output of highest value as well. It is really rare to find so many nice and capable people at once, therefore I would like to stay in contact and keep the chance for many future collaborations to come.”

Send any questions or comments on this report to:
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