

## ***Conclusions from Small Group Discussion nr 2 for building partnership between pre-service training institutions (28<sup>th</sup> June 2011)***

### ***Topic of the group discussion:***

**Improving the quality of teaching/learning in early childhood pre-service education**

### ***Participating countries to the group discussion:***

- Latvia
- Mongolia
- Check Republic
- Bosnia and Herzegovina

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### ***Rationale and common issues for building cooperation:***

- Changes at university level, especially in the teaching process, do not follow other changes and students' needs
- Most of the university teachers have no experience in teaching since they start their university career directly after study
- Universities are not learning communities
- Young professors and assistants need to improve their competences in the areas of planning and assessment, teaching strategies, interaction with students, etc.
- University teachers from non-education sciences faculties need additional support in all above mentioned skills and competences

### ***Activities envisaged within the cooperation with the institutions from interested countries:***

1. Bosnia and Herzegovina is in the process of developing a training module and manual for university teachers. It is a collaborative process which includes a group of university teachers who took part in a nine day training about learner-centred approaches in university teaching. The content is already defined (but still very flexible) and the first short draft will be presented at the Regional Conference in Bosnia and Herzegovina in August 2011, and also sent for comments to university representatives from Latvia, Check Republic, Mongolia and other interested countries.

2. Feedback and comments from partners will be included in the material.
3. Some countries could add materials they have already developed, such as on formative assessment and portfolio development (Check Republic and others).
4. Opportunities for future cooperation, professional exchange, training programs and other follow-up activities will be assessed. Funds could be raised through Erasmus (for traveling and visiting more developed programs, developing international dialogue among young university teachers) and Tempus program (trainings, material development etc.)
5. First version of the manual and the training module is envisaged be finalised in Bosnia and Herzegovina by December 2011 and other activities are planned for 2012.