



GENE PROGRAMME OF WORK 2021

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GENE PROGRAMME OF WORK 2021

AREA 1: Improving networking to deepen policy exchange and policy learning among European countries in the fields of GE

Roundtables of Ministries and Agencies

With the pandemic continuing to evolve, it was clear that the Roundtable format should as well. GENE acknowledges that virtual Roundtables can't entirely replicate the conference experience, which normally involves impromptu meetings in hallways and other social get-togethers. Even so, GENE sees growing support for online opportunities. Although the pandemic and consequent measures have limited the possibility for GENE members to meet in person, this has not prevented the dialogue and cooperation from continuing. To mitigate the impact GENE has been exploring at the beginning of 2021 new Roundtable formats for the short- to medium-term, until the international situation will allow for the resumption of in-person meetings.

Roundtable in 2021:

- Spring RT: Virtual 29-30 of April
- Autumn RT: Proposed date 14-15th October 2020; location TBC

Coffee Mornings (Based on the positive feedback) can continue every month to:

- Raise a pressing or thorny issue that others might have dealt with
- Ask for help/advice/support/ideas on a particular GE issue
- Share a good practice/policy initiative that you think others might find useful

Joint Initiatives

GENE is continuing a process aimed at strengthening co-ordination and facilitating common positions among associated Ministries and Agencies vis-à-vis broader global and regional processes (EC, OECD, UNESCO, UNECE, etc.) in ways that are deemed appropriate by and useful to our Ministries and Agencies, and not overreaching.

GENE is also Coordinating with Ministries and Agencies on GE policies with a view to strengthening the policy environment for GE | Recent CODEV presentation.

Capital visits to support networking processes and promote GE

During 2021 there will be an intense work based on the needs expressed by participating Ministries and Agencies in a number of fronts such as:

- **Individualised session on Global Education** –policies overview, resources, methods, structures, evaluation, Planning, particular sector strategies, history of GE (national or European)
- **Support** on new programme planning cycle, evaluation processes, a funding reviews, inter-ministerial cooperation/funding/policy/support for CSOs
- **Advised on particular aspect of GE/DEAR**
- **Development mapping/curriculum analysis/partnership approaches**
- **Accompanying the evaluation** of national funding mechanisms as an external “critical friend”, to facilitating whole DEAR-team brainstorming for long-term planning.

On-line platform for sharing in between the Roundtables

GENE will create an additional space on its website (to be launched in June) for the use of its members only. The members area will launch with the following features, but more will be added to respond to members' needs, as it develops further:

- A space to share knowledge: The GENE Secretariat will upload national strategies, funding mechanisms, policies, information on initiatives with specific sectors (e.g. Youth, ITE, etc.) and other relevant documents. This content will be organised in categories with a possible search function to make it possible to quickly find information needed.

Newsletters to update GENE participants on activities of the network

Three newsletters will be shared in 2021 with participants, partners and the wider GE community internationally to provide updates on GENE work, share news about publications and events.

GENE website update

The GENE website (www.gene.eu) will be further developed and continuously updated to share GENE work, results and to disseminate information to assist actors involved in GE policy in Europe and beyond.

AREA 2: Improving GE policy learning through peer review and follow-up support to achieve quality GE in European countries

Follow up Estonia

In 2021 a series of meetings will be organised with the Estonian stakeholders, as Estonia begins to establish its new agency for development co-operation. An MoU is currently being drafted

New Peer Review process

GENE may engage in the beginnings of a new Peer Review for 2021, depending on need. GENE secretariat has responded to an initial request for information about the peer review process from Latvia about possible Peer Review in 2021. A call for expressions of interest to host a Peer Review or to engage in Peer Review follow-up for the period 2021-2025 was launched in 2020.

AREA 3: Supporting ministries and agencies participating in GENE to strengthen GE policy at national level

Consultations with ministries and agencies

Throughout 2021 GENE will continue its work of consultation processes with interested ministries and agencies to assess political will for the development and strengthening of structures/mechanisms/units for funding and support of Global Education. These processes are open to all countries without developed national funding structures, strategies or policies in the field.

National consultation activities will be carried out in a number of countries, including Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Hungary, Latvia, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Serbia and Slovenia.

Partnership Agreements

Negotiations may lead to Partnership Agreements, multiannual agreements that delineate the character and the scope of activities at the national level, including all or some of the following elements:

- Co-financing mechanisms: Provision of a direct contribution towards improving the quality and increased reach of GE at national level.
- Organisation of national seminars: Support for the hosting of a Ministry or Agency-led national seminar / event that facilitates a dialogue among all relevant actors.
- Technical support: Provision of support to specific areas of GE where the country identifies a need (facilitation of the access to expertise, development of national language guides in GE, support to mapping of GE at the national level, exchange and study visits to more experienced countries in implementing GE, strengthening of capacities among GE actors, among others).

There is currently ongoing implementation of a Memorandum of Understanding with MEDE, Malta, including co-funding of GE projects in schools and technical support focused on training of teachers in GE. On the 30th of December, a Partnership Agreement with the Slovak MFA and MoE was signed, with implementation to begin in 2021.

AREA 4: Increasing research on GE relevant to GE policy

makers

Policy briefing papers

Two Policy Briefings will be produced in 2021 focusing on key themes of relevance to policy makers.

Knowledge bank

GENE Secretariat has been working on a Global Education databank which includes National GE Profiles for all countries that participate in GENE. These GE profiles present a short overview of Global Education per country; developed based on existing GENE information previously approved or already in the public domain. They have been designed in order to meet policymakers needs. Before dissemination will be shared for informal feedback to the country involved, but with GENE editorial responsibility and disclaimer. The launch will be in March 2021

State of Global Education in Europe 2020

The 5th edition of the *State of Global Education in Europe* will be co-produced with GENE participants who contribute to the publication through their country reports submitted in connection with GENE Roundtables and will offer an insight into cross-cutting issues, funding trends, highlights and examples of national GE practice, and an overview of the institutional landscape of GE in European countries.

The draft report will go out for consultation and approval in February, with a view to finalising the 2020 edition for launch in June.

Research Fund

This Fund was set up to stimulate policy-oriented research responding to policy needs identified by GENE and GENE participants.

In 2021 will continue the cooperation with EERA. Working together with the European Educational Research Association (EERA), GENE co-designed and launched a **Global Education Research Award** to fund high-quality educational research to inform policy and practice in GE. 14 research projects, based in 10 different countries, focusing on Global Education, were selected.

International ANGEL Seminar

ANGEL conference will be held on **25, 26 & 27th May 2021**:

The event theme this year is '**Pedagogy f Hope and Global Social Justice**'.

Aims:

- To review and reflect upon the role of global learning and global citizenship education in providing visions of hope for social change

- To discuss the role of global social justice as a pedagogical approach in response to the challenges and inequalities in the world identified from COVID-19

Database on GE research

The ANGEL Member Directory was launched on **1 June 2020** and features 644 GE experts and professionals interested in GE from 65 countries. It can be accessed via a member only area in the [ANGEL website](#). The Database to consult specialists in particular areas of GE will be constantly updated during 2021.

ANGEL website

Throughout 2021 the ANGEL website (<https://angel-network.net/>) will be maintained and updated and using social media.

Meta-analysis based on the GE Digest

In 2021 the publication of a meta-analysis / literature review based on the bibliographic references compiled in the Global Education Digest will be organised, providing an overview of particular topics in the GE Digest by summarizing and explaining the most significant papers produced in the field.

Area 5: Providing recognition, visibility and re-enforcement of quality GE practices in Europe, in order to inspire better public policies in the field

GENE Global Education Award

In 2020, GENE has launched a new Award on Quality and Good Practice in Global Education across Europe. Within this 4th edition GENE participating ministries and agencies had nominated quality GE initiatives/projects/programmes in their countries. 47 nominated organisations submitted a wide range of inspiring initiatives and programmes. In 2021 GENE Board selected 6 initiatives that will be awarded 10 000 Euro. Additionally, other inspiring initiatives will be included in a GENE Award summary of quality initiatives and will receive the certificate of GE quality recognition. *GENE will address each organisation separately with the relevant feedback.*

Peer learning process

GENE members were invited to engage in a peer learning process which involved the review of some applications (other than the ones nominated) and a policy discussion about quality in Global Education.

Area 6: Strengthening of partnership with relevant regional and global organisations working on GE

Organisation of an international Conference

A multi-stakeholder international conference on “Global Education: towards the 2030 Agenda” will be organised by GENE and ENABEL in 2021 (**Brussels, 17 November**), bringing together national, European and some Global South policy makers, researchers and practitioners.

Invitation to partners from other continents

GENE wants to continue and to strengthen the international dialogue with ministries and agencies from other continents that are involved in or starting to work in the field of Global Education. Representatives from other continents relevant institutions will be invited to the GENE Autumn Roundtable.

Joint initiatives with partner organisations

GENE continues and intense dialogue with International Organisations to identify areas of cooperation and mutual support and explore possibilities of collaboration and synergies in the frame of the initiative GENE@20 – Maastricht+20.

In the beginning of 2021 GENE had structured conversations with:

- OECD (Development and Education)
- UNESCO, UNECE
- EUROPEAN YOUTH FORUM
- CONCORD. PLATFORMA, OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATION
-

Some international events to which GENE has contributed with inputs during Spring 2021:

- UNECE Committee on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)
- EC Multi Stakeholder Group
- Conference Civic Competences and Lifelong Learning for the Green & Digital Transitions (is Europe ready?) by SOLIDOR
- NSC Regional Visegrad Meeting

Participation in relevant international processes

During 2021 GENE will participate in international conferences/meetings on GE to ensure that it is up to date with the latest research, ideas and practices but also to have the opportunity to network and strengthen the relationships with other organisations.