

## II. Activity Report

This activity report is used to inform about the operation's implementation in general, the progress towards the set objectives and of project parts financed from other funding sources as well as publicities measures and problems encountered.

### 1. Summary of the operation's activities so far

Please provide a brief overall summary of the operation's activities and achievements from the start of the operation till now. Information shall be provided on the main activities, achieved results and produced outputs, as well as on the development of the partnership. It is advised that this field is filled in after the rest of the Progress Report has been completed.

**Note that this summary information will be published at the Programme's website. Thus it should be easy readable, self-explanatory and without references to other parts of the reporting form or other documents.**

(maximum 1000+1000+1000 characters)

The goal of establishing European Regional Colleges (ERC - the EdGATE vision) came one step nearer to realisation. If the idea of a united Europe is to become normal and everyday, education has an essential role to play. It should convey to students, apart from academic qualifications, European values and should offer parents school models that incorporate the European idea. EdGATE, inspired by these challenges, has brought together regions from all over Europe to exchange knowledge and experience in the fields of education and regional development. This exchange will lead to the joint development of a concept for a new type of European school: the ERC. Europeans of tomorrow may have to react flexibly to changes in the labour market. Mobility within Europe will increase. Mobility, however, not only requires language skills, and multicultural competences; it also implies offering parents a perspective for the education of their children. If families have to move to other regions, they

will want to find schooling that, in terms of its basic concept, is similar to the one attended at home (e.g. multilingual/multicultural education, similar curricula and a common qualifications). In order to reach the above goal, the EdGATE operation started its operative activities on 6-7 Dec 04 in Vienna with the constitution of the Steering Committee (SC), consisting of one Partner Representative (PR) per partner institution and a meeting with the partner Finance Managers (FM) (2-day; 11PR & 9FM = 21). The SC, focussing on the operation's content as well as financial reporting, met again on 21 Feb 05 in Vienna for a 1-day meeting to monitor the development of the project with the Regional Coordinators (RC) (1-day; 13PR & 11RC = 24). Amongst other business, the Operation Manual, describing the necessary organisational, infrastructural, logistical, financial, and information and publicity measures, was finalised. An important milestone was reached when Regional Stakeholders (RS)

from the partner regions met for the first time at a 1-day meeting in Vienna on 22 Feb 05 to present their regional economic and structural situations (1-day; 13PR & 11RC & 6RS = 30). Regional Experts (RE) met at two Priority Area Workshops (2-3 May 05, Schwerin; 2-day; 15RE (WS1-8RE, WS2-7RE) focusing on: social inclusion, gender mainstreaming, quality assurance and teacher education. Work was carried out on the first part of the Best Practice Manual The first European Regional College (ERC) Conference where Regional Experts from the partner institutions worked together on a first framework of the ERC concept took place on 6-7 Jun 05 in Vienna (2-day; 8RE). Publicity-wise the project was presented at a press conference on 15 Dec 04 in Vienna and at the EdGATE Kick Off Meeting in Vienna with over 60 participants on 24 May 05. The homepage was launched on 24 May 05 and in total 18 press articles in national and foreign press media were published and four radio programmes broadcast.