

## 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)

An important element of any INTERREG IIC project is dissemination. In this context EdGATE celebrated its half-way stage by organising a highly successful Interim Conference in Vienna on 29-30.5.06 attended by 197 participants. The title was "Future Europe – Future Education". The conference received excellent publicity in the Austrian media through an article in the "Standard" (national newspaper) (30.6.06); through a 6 minute report (29.6.06) on "FM4", an Austrian national radio station; and a report on [www.wieninternational.at](http://www.wieninternational.at). Also internationally, EdGATE was presented in a full-page report in the British newspaper "Times Educational Supplement (TES)" (16.6.06). EdGATE started on 6-7.12.04 with the constitution of the Steering Committee in Vienna. This Committee, focussing on the operation's content as well as financial reporting, met again with coordinators from the regions on 21.2.05, on 17.10.05, and 13.2.06 to monitor the development of the project. Another important

element of EdGATE is cooperation with the partner regions. Stakeholders from the regions met for the first time in Vienna on 22.2.05 to present their regional economic and structural situations. Similar meetings followed including exchange with representatives from regional politics, employment and media on 18.10.05 and 14.2.06. Regional educational experts met at Priority Area Peer-learning Cluster Workshops on 2-3.5.05 in Schwerin and on 23-24.1.06 in Vienna to work on the following topics: social inclusion, gender mainstreaming, quality assurance and teacher education, European dimension, modern language tuition, vocational education and ICT (e-inclusion). Best Practice Manuals of the work were published. The first two European Regional College (ERC) Conferences focussing on the development of a regional educational concept took place on 6-7.6.05, in Vienna, and 7-8.11.05, in Cracow. A further group of regional educational experts met in Schwerin on 19-20.6.06 to focus on

an important EU issue: Unqualified School Leavers (USL). Further meetings will be held about this topic. An EdGATE info brochure and folder have been produced. (An extensive list of information and documentation about the EdGATE project are available on the homepage [www.edgate.eu.com](http://www.edgate.eu.com) under "Project Results – Results/Publicity".) The project was presented at a press conference on 15.12.04, at a Kick-off Meeting on 24.5.05, and at the Interim Conference, as well as at numerous regional press conferences and meetings. The EdGATE homepage was launched on 24.12.05 with an average of 1620 hits per month. So far 29 press articles in national and foreign press media have been published and five radio and three TV programmes about EdGATE have been broadcast. Internationally, dissemination also took place at meetings with other European institutions in Prague, Rotterdam, and Malmö.