

*Global Education
Good practice and National Strategies
for GE/DEAR in Europe
An Overview*

Bulgaria, January 2021

Liam Wegimont, Director GENE



GENE
**Global Education
Network Europe**
**Networking
Ministries
and Agencies**



GENE - who we are

GENE is the **network of Ministries and Agencies** with national responsibility for GE/DEAR in European countries.

Over 60 Ministries and Agencies with the EC.

Bringing together policymakers for **increased and improved GE** - through networking for policy learning.

“Working towards the day when all people in Europe have access to quality GE/DEAR.”

GENE - What we do

Networking policymakers - multilateral roundtables

Peer Review and peer learning

Support to national ministries and agencies

Policy research - issues identified by policymakers
(ANGEL)

Highlighting good practice, quality, innovation, etc.

Work with *other international organisations* (EC, OECD, UNESCO, NSC, UNECE)

Work with policymakers in *other regions*

GENE - Examples of Good Practice

The GENE Quality in Global Education and Global Education Awards
- highlight good practice in Global Education in a variety of sectors
- give visibility to projects that exemplify quality and innovation, so that others can learn from them.

Bulgaria participated in the following projects awarded by GENE in 2017:

1. **Future Worlds Center, Map Your Meal, Cyprus, UK, Greece, Austria, Bulgaria, Ireland, Germany**
2. **Team Up 2 Teach, Lifeline Teaching, Bulgaria, Serbia and Greece**

See www.gene.eu/awards

Where we get our knowledge

- National Reports at Roundtables twice per year
- State of Global Education - annually. 2018 and 2019.
- Peer Reviews - latest Cyprus (2017); Estonia (2019-20)
- Policy Research
- National Strategy work since 2002 - accompanying, “critical friend”, advising on evaluation of strategies, aligning Peer Reviews with national strategy processes, developing outline processes and documentary support.

Strategy

Living in uncertain times....how to deal with uncertainty?

“There are effectively two ways to confront the uncertainty of action:

- Full awareness of the wager (bet) involved in the decision
- Recourse to STRATEGY”

Edgar Morin: Seven Complex Lessons in Education for the Future

Challenging contexts to the development of national strategies in GE/DEAR

- A plethora of **competing strategies**.
- Some believe that every country needs a GE strategy. GENE does not! Sometimes a strong strategic intent within an existing or related strategy is equally important.
- What about the **strategy next door (ESD, etc)?**
- What about **GE and DEAR within existing:**
 - National education system plans, policies, strategies and curricula
 - *International Development and Foreign Policy and broader strategies of nation states. CONGRATULATIONS BULGARIA*
 - Regional and Global strategies and reporting

Some national strategies - a little detail

- Austria - National Strategy Group on GL since 2002; recently revised 2019
- Belgium - Strong strategic initiatives across sectors and communities; enabled by national strategic note.
- Cyprus - Strong ESD Strategy and MoE led inter-departmental ministerial committee on GE; plans to review ESD strategy to strengthen DE, ICE, HRE.
- Finland - Intergovernmental Coordination Group on GE; strong national strategies in mid-2000s, leading to very strong integration into curricula at all levels;
- Germany - ESD national platform - 16 Länder education Ministries, BMZ, Engagement Global; civil society and academia; expert support groups.
- Greece - In 2019, new legislative framework for ESD formulated: incorporating other dimensions of GE/DEAR.
- Hungary Government decision of 2014 (1182/2014): MFA and the Ministry for Human Capacities concept paper for introducing GE and DEAR into the Hungarian education system. In 2019 implementation agreed by Ministries.

Some national strategies - a little more detail

- Ireland

Irish Aid Dev Ed Strategy Plan 2003-2005; 2nd : 2007-2011; 3rd Irish Aid DE Strategy (2017-2023). Partnership with stakeholders, national platform, GENE Peer Review, External reference group.

- Portugal

1st strategy 2010-2015; prolonged to 2016; second national strategy in 2018-2022. Deep reflection on conceptual basis; strong stakeholder engagement; evaluation and monitoring built in; strong political buy-in (Council of Ministers).

More on www.gene.eu

GENE can and has....

Accompanied the development of

- national strategies,
- programmes,
- policies,
- funding mechanisms, and
- Monitoring and evaluation models
- Curriculum development and reform

With colleagues in countries as diverse as

Austria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, Ireland, Malta, Portugal, Spain....

More on www.gene.eu

A Framework for Comparative Analysis of National Strategies



**Whose National
Strategy?**



**Conceptual
Basis**



**Process of
Development**



**Locus of
strategic
intent**



Sectors



Scope



Reach

Continuum 1: Whose national strategy?

From CSO strategy to ...
ministry owned to.....
ministry-led to
inter-ministerial/interagency to
whole of government



Continuum 2: The Conceptual Basis

Definitions and Concepts -
From strong theoretical conceptual base
to broadly consensual
to pragmatic/non-reflective to
anti-theoretical



Continuum 3: Process of Development

From Stakeholder Participative
to Directive



Continuum 4: Locus of strategic intent

From

“supporting existing and emerging initiatives”
to

“right of initiative”
to

“strategic intent”



Continuum 5: Sectors

From

narrow range of sectors

to sector specific coordinated approaches (per sector)

to particular priority sectors

to inter-sectoral policy learning



Continuum 6: Scope

From “pilots , projects and programmes”

to “sector-wide coordinated approaches”

to “many learning sectors of society”

to “all sectors of society”



Continuum 7: Reach

From

“committed individuals”
to “influencers/multipliers”

to many/most people

to a universalist, rights based approach: “the right of
all people in XXXX to access to quality GE”.



A Framework for Comparative Analysis of National Strategies



Whose national strategy?
CSO...Whole of Government



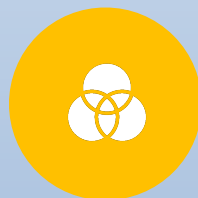
Definitions and Concepts:
From strong conceptual to anti-theoretical.



Process of development:
Participative vs directive



Locus of strategic intent:
From “right of initiative” through strategic intervention



Sectors:
From narrow range of sectors....to inter-sectoral policy learning



Scope:
From pilots and projects to sector-wide coordinated approaches



Reach
From the few to some to most to the many to all people.

Does every country need a national strategy? Not necessarily...

From each according to their ability....

To each according to their need

- Not every country needs a national strategy for GE/DEAR...
- Many countries have one (or more) national strategies... or related strategies
- What profits a sector if they gain a national GE/DEAR strategy but lose, for example, a pillar within a more important policy area?...
- Much more important that there is strategic intent and clarity of the relationship between GE and broader development policy goals and educational structures...

Working towards the day when all people in Europe -
in solidarity with people globally - will have access to
quality Global Education.



Thank you!

Liam.wegimont@gene.eu



www.gene.eu



GENE_GlobalEd



gene_gloaled



GENEGlobalEducation

GENE
Global Education
Network Europe
Networking
Ministries
and Agencies



Co-funded by the
European Union

GENE is funded by the European Commission and by the following Ministries and Agencies: Austrian Development Agency and the Ministry of Education, Science and Research, Austria; Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, Belgium; Czech Development Agency, Czech Republic; Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Estonia; Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Finland; Agence Française de Développement and the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, France; Engagement Global, with funding from the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany; Irish Aid, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Ireland; Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Luxembourg; Ministry of Education and Employment, Malta; Ministry of Education, Montenegro; Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Camões - Institute for Cooperation and Language, Portugal; Slovak Agency for International Development Cooperation, Slovakia; Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Slovenia.