



Network project for the decentralised and centralised
dissemination of TNP3 results and outcomes

TNP3-D – aims, activities, and deliverables

Presentation held at the TNP3-D Launch Meeting
by Wolfgang Mackiewicz



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TNP3-D Launch Meeting

*Freie Universität Berlin
ZE Sprachenzentrum
Saturday 27 January 2007*

TNP3-D – aims, activities, and deliverables
Wolfgang Mackiewicz



Network project for the decentralised and centralised dissemination of TNP3 results and outcomes



TNP3-D is a dissemination network project, whose aim is

- to disseminate the findings and results of TNP3 (10/2003-09/2006) to
 - higher education specialists and experts
 - HE policy-makers and decision-makers
 - pertinent administrative units in HEIs (ML departments, language centres, schools of translation and interpreting, units specialising in Arabic language and culture, career centres)
 - public authorities in the field of education

2



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- representatives of the other sectors of education
- employers – including the language industry - and employer organisations
- the social partners
- professional and academic associations (at all levels)
- research centres and research funding bodies
- student and alumni organisations
- the European Institutions (EP & EC)
- the Council of Europe

3



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TNP3-D is less concerned with the development of new recommendations and proposals than with the dissemination of TNP3 results

- dissemination documents
- four decentralised conferences & one centralised conference
- a dissemination Web site
- preparatory documents

Challenge: new colleagues, unlikely to be familiar with TNP philosophy and TNP3 aims, activities and results

4



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REMINDER

Thematic Network Projects

- first introduced in the SOCRATES-ERASMUS Programme in 1996
- co-operation projects involving universities / university departments/faculties from all the participating countries
- devoted to a particular theme (a specific academic discipline; a transversal issue)
- to define and develop a European dimension in the given area / field

5



REMINDER

Thematic Network Projects

- to address the frequently observed disconnection between Higher education programmes / offerings from
 - changing needs in the social, professional and economic environments
 - research developments
- principal aim: to work out recommendations and strategies designed to overcome the said disconnection
- ⇒ product-oriented think tanks

6



Ten years of university cooperation in the areas of languages

Definition

- teaching and research devoted to the transmission of linguistic and cultural competences and to language mediation

Typology

- ML degree programmes, area studies programmes, programmes combining language study with the study of other areas

7



Typology (cont.)

- teacher education
- training of language specialists (people working in the field of language mediation in the widest sense) and the training of trainers
- delivery of (portions of) study programmes through other languages (CLIL)
- language provision for non-specialists, including linguistic preparation and support for student mobility
- academic teaching, and research designed to promote language learning and linguistic and cultural diversity

8



Five TNPs to date

- *Pilot project: SIGMA Scientific Committee on Languages (1994-5)*
- Thematic Network Project in the Area of Languages (TNP1) (1996-9)
- Project for the exploitation and dissemination of the results of TNP1 (TNP-D) (1999-2000)
- Thematic Network Project in the Area of Languages II (TNP2) (2000-3)
- Thematic Network Project in the Area of Languages III (TNP3) (2003-6)

9



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- Network project for the dissemination of TNP3 results and outcomes (TNP3-D) (01/10/06-30/09/07)

10



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Why did we go for a third full-fledged TNP?

- new developments in education in general and in HE in particular: Bologna, lifelong learning, competence orientation (TUNING Project; qualifications frameworks)
- new developments in the social and political environments: increasing integration, enlargement, trans-European mobility, migration into the Union, opening up to other parts of the world
- new developments on the labour market – new job profiles

11



In order to better understand the implications of these developments for HE programmes and offerings, we wanted to work out recommendations, and create structures, for consultation and collaboration between HE on the one hand, and the labour market and the other sectors of education on the other.



Three sub-projects

- Languages for language-related industries and professions
- Languages for enhanced opportunities on the labour market
- Languages as a interface between the different sectors of education
- a working group on Education and Research
- three pilot experiences, among them Arabic language and culture



TNP3 Activities

- national reports (for the 3 sub-projects)
- synthesis reports (for the 3 sub-projects and E&R), plus synthesis report on research needs
- Europe-wide on-line consultation among
 - employers, and graduates working in the language industries
 - employers, and non-specialist graduates (incl. ML graduates) working outside the language industry
 - educational institutions and authorities; other providers

14



- two major conferences to discuss interim results, findings, and recommendations and proposals with stakeholders
- preparation of a variety of documents

TNP3 Outcomes

- three sets of national reports based on common structures (available on TNP Web site)
- three reports synthesising the above sets of national reports, prepared on the basis of agreed structures (SP1 & SP2 on the Web site; SP3 to be added shortly)

15



TNP3 Outcomes (cont.)

- four reports of workshops conducted at Y2 Closing Conference (2005) – soon to be made available on WS
- statistical analyses of consultation (to be put on members' section of WS)
- evaluations of analysed data – three ppt. presentations available on the WS
- sets of general recommendations regarding specific areas and programmes/offerings (being finalised)

16



- process recommendations regarding consultation and collaboration between universities and non-university stakeholders (being finalised)
 - proposals for development and research projects
 - reports of the workshops conducted at the closing conference - soon to be made available on the WS
 - a Virtual Consortium of stakeholders (under construction)
 - a document summarising the results and outcomes of TNP3 and presenting a multi-annual action plan (being finalised)
- ⇒ serious delays incurred in Years Two and Three

17



Dissemination tools

(i) Four decentralised conferences

- Handelshøjskolen, Aarhus Universitet, Friday 11 May 2007
- Universidade do Minho (Braga), Monday 18 June 2007
- University of Southampton, Friday 29 June 2007
- Uniwersytet Warszawski, Friday 21 September 2007

18



Why decentralised conferences?

- in an enlarged Union – including the participating countries outside the EU – provision and needs vary considerably
- hence, European recommendations have to be adjusted to specific national, regional, and local requirements
- to reach out to people and organisations not yet involved in European activities
- to hear about other people's achievements / experiences
- to convince people and organisations of the relevance of European cooperation to their own interests

19



(ii) A centralised conference to be held in Brussels on 27 September 2007

- Theme: *Current and future linguistic needs of graduates on the European and international labour markets*
- background:
 - the Lisbon agenda
 - the COM document *A New Framework Strategy for Multilingualism* (chapter on the Multilingual economy)
 - The new Lifelong Learning Programme
 - Commissioner Orban to set up a Business Forum on Multilingualism

20



A centralised conference to be held in Brussels on 27 September 2007

- Target groups:
 - Commission services, EP, EESC
 - European bodies active in economic and educational fields
 - of course, also people and organisations from the participating countries
 - external participants in TNP3 conferences
 - all Thematic Network projects

21



(iii) Dissemination documents

➤ input documents

- document – in plain language – outlining TNP3 findings, recommendations and proposals (plus pertinent recommendations from previous TNPs) (EN, FR, DE)
- 4 regional synthesis papers (EN, FR, DE; PL and PT)
- input paper for Brussels conference (EN, FR, DE)

➤ outcome documents

- summary of outcomes of decentralised conferences
- report of the outcomes of the Brussels event

22



(iv) TNP3-D Web site

- principal purpose: to reach out to project-external organisations and individuals
- how: by using non-specialist language

⇒ designed as the central dissemination tool

23



Preparation of conferences and documents

- will be discussed in detail during the remainder of this plenary and during the groups sessions this afternoon
- one important point: in order to prepare the regional synthesis reports, we need (updated) summaries of the national reports

24



What do we hope to achieve?

- make the work carried out in the past 10 years known more widely
- stimulate consultation and collaboration at all levels (-> creation of structures designed to facilitate continuous curriculum innovation)
- contribute to the enhancement of quality in teaching and learning in the area of languages

25

