ACTIVITIES ON THE PROJECT:

The focus of our work in the HAND in HAND project is currently on analysing and interpreting the results of evaluation. Pre- and post-intervention data from participants (students, teachers, and leadership of the schools) included in the field trials in different conditions (quasi-experimental design) is being compared across groups, conditions, and countries involved (Slovenia, Croatia, and Sweden). Furthermore, additional small-scale field trial took place in Denmark with rich qualitative data. Based on the results of the evaluation of the field trials (quantitative and qualitative data), implementation experiences (from trainers and participants), policy analysis and interviews with relevant stakeholders, guidelines for policy and practice are going to be developed in the last stage of the project. The HAND in HAND final conference will take place in Croatia at the end of January (28. 1. 2020) and will intertwine research, practice and policy with the evaluation results and outcomes of the HAND in HAND project. It will be followed by a European teacher training (29. 1. 2020) where the participants will get the chance to experience part of the HAND in HAND programme for school staff.

RELEVANT ARTICLES:

**Effectiveness of interventions adopting a whole school approach to enhancing social and emotional development: a meta-analysis**

**Abstract**

This article presents findings from a meta-analysis which sought to determine the effectiveness of interventions adopting a whole school approach to enhancing children and young people’s social and emotional development. Whole school interventions were included if they involved a coordinated set of activities across curriculum teaching, school ethos and environment, and family and community partnerships. A total of 45 studies (30 interventions) involving 496,299 participants were included in the analysis. Post-intervention outcomes demonstrated significant but small improvements in participants’ social and emotional adjustment ($d = 0.220$), behavioural adjustment ($d = 0.134$), and internalising symptoms ($d = 0.109$). Interventions were not shown to impact on academic achievement. Origin of study and the inclusion of a community component as part of a whole school approach were found to be significant moderators for social and emotional outcomes. Further research is required to determine the active ingredients of whole school interventions that we can better understand the components necessary to achieve successful outcomes.

**The role of significant others in the intercultural learning of teachers**

**Abstract**
This article examines intercultural learning as a lifelong process. The data on which the article is based consist of 10 biographical interviews in which Finnish teachers were asked to talk about their lives from the perspective of intercultural learning. The analysis of the interviews showed that other people were involved in many of the experiences being referred to, and that these individuals played an important role in the stories. This article, therefore, focuses on the role of significant others in the intercultural learning of teachers. Three roles of significant others that arose from the data are introduced: transforming attitudes towards diversity; awakening and developing intercultural awareness; and developing ethical orientation.


**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**28th – 29th January 2020; Zadar, Croatia:** HAND in HAND final conference “Do we need a relational revolution in schools? Social, emotional and intercultural competences for inclusive societies”

The outcomes of the project will be presented with the emphasis on the school staff training and on policy implementation. Examples from the HAND in HAND programme and possible ways to support SEI competencies at classroom, schools and system level will be presented and addressed through multi-stakeholder sessions and practical workshops. The draft program will be available from November 15th 2019. The event features as keynote speakers Paul Downes, associate professor of Education at Dublin City University, and Helle Jensen, psychologist and family therapist, chairperson and co-founder of the Danish Society for the Promotion of Life Wisdom in Children.

**Save the date!**

- **27th February 2020; Sundsvall, Sweden:** Regional development network for school development and school leadership’s (RUN) yearly conference
HAND in HAND project will be presented with a key-note lecture at Regional development network for school development and school leadership’s yearly conference. The conference targets school leaders and stakeholders in Mid Sweden University’s region.

- **26th February 2020; Sundsvall, Sweden:** Conference for teachers
Our Swedish partners, Mid Sweden University, are planning a one-day conference for teachers (for the ones that that participated and others). At the conference HAND in HAND will be presented, together with project results and some practical exercises from the teacher and student programme.

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