

ETAG e-Newsletter

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English Language through Civic Education



In February, 2012 The US State Department funded project '**English Language through the Civic Education (ELCE)**' started in 5 regions of Georgia. This is a two-year initiative implemented by Project Harmony (PH) International with its partners: the English Teachers' Association of Georgia and the Center for Intercultural Education and Development (CIED) of Georgetown University. The goal of the ELCE project is to improve English-language teaching and learning in Georgian schools in order to support Euro-Atlantic integration and to improve students' capacity for higher and continuing education. The direct beneficiaries of this project are teachers of English for grades 1 to 12 and the students they teach in five regions of Georgia. The regional ETAG centres who assist the invited English language experts in successful implementation of the project are

located in Kutaisi, Batumi, Gori, Zugdidi and Telavi. Below brief reports are provided of the first trainings held in these regions within the framework of the ELCE project.

ELCE in Batumi



The first training session in Batumi led by Project Harmony and ETAG was held on 4th of February. 17 teachers attended the session. Charles Kinney, the trainer in Batumi, started with warm-up activity. Then, he explained the aim of the project. The next topic was 'Holidays'. Teachers shared their ideas and discussed the possibilities of making such kind of presentations in their classes. The final stage was a discussion of the lesson plans and giving constructive feedback to each other. In the end the trainer thanked all the participants for a wonderful first day and excellent work. Local coordinator of the project is Ana Kvachadze.

ELCE in Telavi



The first training session in Telavi led by Project Harmony and ETAG was held on 4th of February. 20 teachers attended the session. Judy Elliot, the trainer, began with a warming-up activity. She explained the aim and the content of the Module One and dealt with some terminology connected to the teaching process. Afterwards the teachers were shown the power-point presentation about the democratic, student-centered instruction. Teachers also worked on lesson plans. The trainer was monitoring their work and was very helpful. The trainer closed the workshop with 10 minutes on "What did they learn?" on a flip-chart, which was an effective way to sum up the session. Local coordinator of the project is Ana Giorgashvili.

ELCE in Kutaisi



The first ELCE training in Kutaisi was held on 11th of February. 11 teachers from 5 schools took part in the training. It was led by Peter Bohan, an American expert. The first module of the programme was devoted to democratic, student-centered instruction. Teachers actively participated in the workshop. The civic education topic focused on cultural practices of the US and Georgian holidays. Participants designed lesson plans and did micro teaching as well. Charles Kinney, an expert from Batumi, joined Kutaisi participants in the second part of the training. It was a real pleasure for Kutaisi teachers to work with very skilled trainers and great professionals of the field. Local coordinator of the project is Tinatin Kutivadze.

ELCE in Gori



The first ELCE training in Gori was held on 11th of February. It was conducted by American expert Kirsten Mashinter. 20 teachers attended the session. The topic for the training was “Holidays” based on democratic, student-centered instruction. The participants were actively involved in individual and group activities. The teachers were given very interesting materials to be done during the training and afterwards to be used in English classes at schools. Kirsten Mashinter was delighted with the work. Judy Elliot, the expert in Telavi, arrived in Gori to contribute to the training. Local coordinator of the project is Marine Chalauri.

ELCE in Zugdidi



The first training in Zugdidi was held on February 18. It was led by Peter Bohan. Ten teachers from both Zugdidi and Rukhi public schools attended the training. Fulbright teacher Kirsten Olsen led the training. Trainees were actively involved in the workshop, presenting mini lessons on the topic “Holidays”. The atmosphere during the training was friendly and everything went well. Kirsten Mashinter, English Language Teacher Trainer (ELTT) based in Gori, was assisting her colleague during the workshop. The training was observed by PH International English Language Programmes Manager Nana Ioseliani – Meissener and the American Embassy representative Nino Jugheli.

British Council expert presents in ETAG



The presentation, which took place on 20th of February, was about the British Council’s most up to date products in the field of teachers’ professional development. The presenter was Maggie Milne, the British Council Teacher Development Advisor from Manchester. The aim of Ms Milne’ visit to Tbilisi was to train local teacher trainers in delivering new British Council training courses. A four-day intensive training was called: “A Trainer Development Course”.

ETAG Batumi conducts training courses at the request of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport of Ajara



In November, 2012 the representatives of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport of Ajara and the Head of the department Natso Beridze, addressed ETAG Batumi to conduct a ten-hour course for the teachers of the mountainous regions of Ajara. Since these seven teachers had no training background, it was decided to use the already approved British Council course for beginner teachers “Classroom Language”. The course was run by the trainers – Nelly Kukhaleishvili and Natia Katamadze. The teachers gave appreciative feedback to the given training course. As a result, ETAG Batumi was again asked by the Ministry to conduct for these teachers a 20 hour NQT (course for Newly-Qualified Teachers) which will be run in March, 2012.



IATEFL is holding 46th annual conference in Glasgow on March 19-23. Four ETAG members together with the British Council ELT projects manager will be attending the Conference. This is the first time ETAG will be represented at IATEFL as its associate member, which gives the Georgian participants the opportunity to meet the colleagues from Britain as well as from many other countries of the world and share experiences. Read more about the IATEFL Glasgow conference at www.iatefl.org.

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