

Newsletter 2

April 2006

By Maria Xanthoudaki, Head of Education,
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On 31 March and 1 April Hands-on & Brains-on Project had its second meeting, held at the National Museum of Science and Technology Leonardo da Vinci of Milan (IT).

Programme of the meeting

Welcome General Director Fiorenzo Galli, NMST, Milan, Italy.

Visit of the i.labs of the National Museum of Science and Technology Leonardo da Vinci. Salvatore Sutera, Executive Director & Maria Xanthoudaki, Project Manager.

Consortium structure, Funding principles, Time-tables, Milestones, Schedules
Prof. Hannu Salmi, Coordinator, Heureka



Objectives and content of the meeting
The objective of the meeting was to discuss the progress of the activities devised for the project by each partner as well as methodological and

practical issues. However, the meeting offered also the opportunity to the partners to get a close idea of the life and work at the MNST and to experience directly the collections,

interactive laboratories, educational programmes and also of the long-term renovation project that the Italian Museum is currently carrying out. The first part of the meeting was therefore devoted to a visit of the Museum. The partners were taken around some of the historical collections which have recently been renewed and reopened to the public (such as the Telecommunications permanent exhibition or the one on Plastic Materials) and to the new interactive laboratories (such as the ones on Genetics and Biotechnologies, on Robotics and on Electricity). The aim of the visit was not only the presentation of the contents, activities or future programmes but also a better understanding of the (content and methodological) ground on which the HANDS-ON & BRAINS-ON activities will be developed.

Sat 1st Apr 2006

Content seminar

Presentation of the Italian school system

The partners concentrated on the content of the project. One of the important aspects is the study of the school systems and curricula of each country, aiming to the identification of common and diverse elements across countries and of the impact that curricula have in educating in science, and in particular in teaching the research method and in learning to make observations. Part of the study of school systems and curricula was therefore, during this meeting, the presentation of the Italian case made by Roberto Ceriani researcher of IRRE Lombardia (Regional Institution for Educational Research).

The presentation was followed by the presentations of the partners who talked about the development of the activities in each institution.

- **Museo Nazionale della Scienza e della Tecnologia Leonardo da Vinci**, Italy (Maria Xanthoudaki)
- **Palace of Miracles**, Budapest, Hungary (Lazlo Egyed)
- **NEMO**, Amsterdam, Netherlands (Leo van den Bogaert, Roos Franse)
- **Technopolis**, Mechelen, Belgium (Steven Vols, Halinka de Visscher)
- **Experimentarium**, Copenhagen, Denmark (Poul Kattler)
- **Ellinogermaniki Agogi**, Athens, Greece (Manos Apostolakis)
- **Energiakeskus**, Tallinn, Estonia (Kristel Mõistus)
- **Heureka**, Vantaa, Finland (Kati Tyystjärvi)



The next partners' meeting of the HANDS-ON & BRAINS-ON project will take place during the Ecsite Annual Conference at Technopolis, the Flemish Science Centre, precisely on Wednesday 7 June 2006. During the conference the project will be also presented to the participants at a session "Hands-on, Brains-on: combining formal teaching and informal learning" on Thursday 8 June 2006, 14.00.