

International Network for Research in Arts Education (INRAE)
Prof. Dr. Eckart Liebau / Dr. Ernst Wagner
University of Erlangen-Nuremberg
UNESCO-Chair in arts and culture in education

Monitoring national arts education systems (MONEAS)

A pilot study investigating the implementation of the Seoul-Agenda in the world

Introduction

The proposed pilot study should be the first step towards a mutual research project focused on the implementation of the Seoul-Agenda (i.e. the level of arts education) in the world. The collected data of this pilot study and the interpretation should be given as a report to UNESCO and interested stakeholders in the field. It will enable follow-up research as well as provide a research framework for the possible 3rd UNESCO World Conference in Arts Education. The data will be collected by Prof. Dr. Susanne Keuchel (Zentrum fuer Kulturforschung, Germany).

MONEAS' Objectives

This study aims to investigate how far the arts are part of formal, non-formal and informal education in different countries. It will allow to compare different national systems in arts education, in regards to two aspects: the access of children to various arts activities and the qualification of the teachers/mediators in the field. It does not depend on specific educational systems.

The pilot study will hopefully become a starting point for follow-up studies - using qualitative methods, too. By connecting them and existing national data sources we can gain an understanding of how the Seoul-Agenda is implemented worldwide. We also hope that the outcome of this project is going to initiate the development of a larger study with a revised questionnaire and more participants. A continuous monitoring could also be realised on this basis.

Research Questions

- What is the state of arts education in a country? (How many children are practicing arts in formal, non-formal and informal contexts? What about the qualification of the teachers/mediators?)
- How do the observed facts correspond with the goals of the Seoul-Agenda?

Methods

The research method chosen for this study is descriptive quantitative. We are going to collect data by a questionnaire from experts in ten different countries. We can generate universal indicators on this basis which will allow us to make statements about different arts education systems. In this pilot study we will work with only a few experts who will additionally be asked to contribute to the development of the final questionnaire. For this reason they will be interviewed at a later date.

The questionnaire asks about basic and universal productive arts activities¹ of children (two groups, aged 8 and 15). We are convinced that these selected activities are representative for arts education as a whole and that they are independent from specific circumstances/cultures. The observed activities are:

- making music [e.g. singing, playing an instrument]
 - making pictures [e.g. drawing/painting, taking photos]
 - dancing
 - acting
- in all areas of education - formal, non-formal and informal
 - done over a specific period (not once or only sometimes)
 - and practiced on a regular basis.

The pilot study will collect two different types of data: numbers from already existing data (empirical studies) or - if no statistical data exist - appraised numbers. These estimated numbers should be highlighted in the questionnaire.

Observed Aspects

	Places / ways of organization		
	formal	nonformal	informal
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in school • regularly • over a period 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • planned activities by an organization / initiative out of school • regularly • over a period 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at home, in the street, with peer groups • voluntarily • regularly • over a period • significant in social life
	curricular	extra-curricular	
Access (Seoul Agenda, Goal 1) <i>Indicator (process):</i> artistic activities (%)			
Quality (Seoul Agenda, Goal 2) <i>Indicator (input):</i> Teacher/artist/educator qualifications ²			n/a
Social benefits (Seoul Agenda, goal 3) <i>Indicators (outcome):</i> Existing data e.g. UN's Human Development Index, Health Index, Global Peace Index, OECD's Education at a glance etc.	Relationship of indicators 1 und 2 with existing data		

Follow up

After the pilot study a revised questionnaire can be used for a worldwide survey with more experts in more countries. The results could be related to other existing data or qualitative follow-up-studies then. A continuous monitoring would be able to show the development of national efforts in the field.

¹ Receptive activities (like looking at art in a museum, watching a theatre performance, listening to music) will not be asked.

² Professional teachers with/without arts specific qualification; artists with/without pedagogical qualification; certificated mediators; active persons without any formal qualification; others (e.g. youth leaders)

Milestones

1. Discussion within INRAE and decision about the pretest	Oct / Nov 2012
2. Final development of the research design / questionnaire	December 2012
3. Pilot study (ten experts independent from governments as well as from UNESCO from different parts of the world). Their answer will be based on two types of data: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Type 1: appraisal of the expert • Type 2: already existing (national) empirical data 	December 2012
4. Presentation of the results of the pilot study (→ International Yearbook for Arts Education / → World Summit Wildbad Kreuth)	May 2013

Intended follow up

<i>Phase I</i>	July 2013
Contract with UNESCO to carry out this research in UNESCO's member states (for a possible 3rd UNESCO World Conference)	
Revision of the research design	May – July 2013
Finding the experts - creating the network of experts	May – Sept. 13
Realization Phase I	Oct. 13 – May 14

<i>Phase II</i>	from
Ethnographical / comparing research in bi- or multilateral, transnational research groups in regards to (e.g.):	August 2013
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality (of processes and results) • Political and societal contexts • Structural conditions • Concepts and understanding of education • Concepts and understanding of art(s) • social, religious, ethnical differentiations • developments in a country / longitudinal studies • developmental psychological tendencies 	

<i>Phase III</i>	2017 / 2021 ...
Continuous repeating of the basic research (phase I) using an updated design (every four years)	

Ethical Consideration

Ethical principles will be followed to ensure no harm will come to the participants or the institutions. Data will be protected. Privacy and confidentiality will be maintained at all times, all findings will be published anonymously.