# NATIONAL PROJECTS ON LANGUAGES EDUCATION: PROGRESS UPDATE

## NATIONAL PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED FROM 2005 SCHOOL LANGUAGES PROGRAMME FUNDS

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<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Contractor and Project Team</th>
<th>Timeframe</th>
<th>Progress update (November 2006 – August 2007)</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Improvement in the national coordination and quality assurance of</td>
<td>This project aims to strengthen national coordination and quality assurance in</td>
<td>Australian Federation of Ethnic Schools Associations (AFESA), known as Community Languages</td>
<td>July 2005 to Dec 2006</td>
<td>• This project has concluded. The Final Report of the project, together with Community Languages Education in</td>
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<td>ethnic schools.</td>
<td>after-hours ethnic/ community language schools in Australia, with a focus on 3</td>
<td>Australia (CLA). Project Manager: Mr Stefan Romainw OAM</td>
<td></td>
<td>Australia, and An Operational and Procedures Manual for Community Languages Schools, are available on the</td>
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<td>key areas:</td>
<td>a) national coordination and promotion;</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Community Languages Australia website at:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>b) improving quality assurance, including trialling and refining a nationally</td>
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<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.communitylanguagesaustralia.org.au/">www.communitylanguagesaustralia.org.au/</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>agreed Quality Assurance framework in 3 jurisdictions, and subsequent</td>
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<td></td>
<td>development of implementation guidelines; and</td>
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<td></td>
<td>c) professional development for teachers.</td>
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| 2. Investigation into the current provision of Indigenous               | This Project aims to improve the quality and sustainability of Indigenous     | Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) Project Director: Dr Nola Purdie          | July 2006 to October 2007 | • Third Project Advisory Group meeting was held on 31 May.  
| language programmes in Australian schools.                             | language programs in Australian schools. It will:                          | Project Team: Ms Tracey Frigo, Mr Geoff Noblett (Phillips KPA) Dr Nick Thieberger (Uni of   |                       | Fourth Project Advisory Group meeting will be held in mid-September.  
|                                                                       | • investigate current policy and provision of Indigenous language programmes  | Melbourne) Critical friends from Qld Dept of Education and the Arts: Mr Chris Bain Ms       |                       | The report is being finalised.                                                                                 |
|                                                                       | in schools, including issues related to staffing these programmes;           | Denise Angelo Mr Robert Ah Wing                                                           |                       |                                                                                                              |
|                                                                       | • examine existing models of teacher preparation and training for those      |                                                                                        |                       |                                                                                                              |
|                                                                       | involved in the delivery of Indigenous languages programmes; and            |                                                                                        |                       |                                                                                                              |
|                                                                       | • identify and evaluate examples of good practice in Indigenous languages   |                                                                                        |                       |                                                                                                              |
|                                                                       | programmes in schools reflecting different settings.                         |                                                                                        |                       |                                                                                                              |
| 3. Investigation into the state and nature of languages education in   | The objective of this project is to build on previous research to generate a  | University of South Australia - Research Centre for Languages and Cultures Education        | July 2006 to August 2007 | • Third Project Advisory Group meeting was held on 14 May.  
| Australian schools                                                     | comprehensive national picture of languages education, and recommend        | Project Manager: Assoc. Prof. Tony Liddicoat Project Team: Assoc. Prof. Angela Scarino       |                       |  
|                                                                       | strategies to increase effectiveness and quality of school-based languages  | Jim Delitt Dr Timothy Jowan Curnow Ms Michelle Kohler                                     |                       | The report is being finalised.                                                                                 |
|                                                                       | programmes. It will particularly investigate:                              |                                                                                        |                       |                                                                                                              |
|                                                                       | • current State and Territory languages policies and curriculum frameworks,  |                                                                                        |                       |                                                                                                              |
|                                                                       | modes of delivery, and teacher supply and demand;                          |                                                                                        |                       |                                                                                                              |
|                                                                       | • how policies respond to issues of mandatory language study, choice,      |                                                                                        |                       |                                                                                                              |
|                                                                       | continuity, and workforce planning; and                                      |                                                                                        |                       |                                                                                                              |
|                                                                       | • the roles of and interrelationships between mainstream and complementary  |                                                                                        |                       |                                                                                                              |
|                                                                       | language providers in each State and Territory.                             |                                                                                        |                       |                                                                                                              |
| 4. Development of a nationally coordinated promotion of the benefits of | The project aims to develop nationally coordinated promotion of the benefits of | Asia Education Foundation (AEF) in partnership with AFMLTA. Project Director: Kurt Mullane   | December 2006 to        | • Situational analysis completed by UniSA – RCLCE.  
| languages learning                                                     | languages education targeted at school principals, school leaders, students,|                                                                                        | February 2008         | Communication and promotion strategy has been developed.  
|                                                                       | parents and the community. The project will include a Communication and    |                                                                                        |                       | Second Project Advisory Group meeting was held on 7 August.  
|                                                                       | Promotion Strategy and the development of a range of promotional materials  |                                                                                        |                       | Draft text has been developed.                                                                                 |
|                                                                       | and products. The materials will highlight the intercultural, intellectual  |                                                                                        |                       |                                                                                                              |
|                                                                       | and vocational benefits of learning languages. The materials will also      |                                                                                        |                       |                                                                                                              |
|                                                                       | reinforce                                                                      |                                                                                        |                       |                                                                                                              |
| 5. Review of teacher education for languages teachers. | This project aims to produce a comprehensive national picture of the nature and effectiveness of teacher education and re-training opportunities for languages teachers. Key objectives are to:
- investigate course entry requirements, course content and structure;
- identify structural impediments relating to the development of teachers’ linguistic and pedagogical competency; and
- explore the potential application of the Professional Standards for Accomplished Teaching of Languages and Cultures, developed by the Australian Federation of Modern Language Teachers (AFMLTA), in teacher education for languages teachers.

Project Manager: Andrew Ferguson

July 2006 to July 2007

- Fourth Project Advisory Group meeting was held on 25 July.
- The report is being finalised.

| 6. Development and distribution of a ‘Guide to the Teaching, Learning and Assessing of Languages in the 21st Century’ for teachers and schools. | This project will develop accessible support materials for languages teachers and school leaders, in Australian primary and secondary schools and after-hours ethnic/community language schools, to assist them in planning, resourcing, implementing and evaluating effective language programmes based on an intercultural approach.

The Guide will be complemented by a short online ‘user’s handbook’ as well as online companion documents consisting of language-specific support materials in Chinese, Japanese, Indonesian, French, German and Italian, for example unit outlines and assessment tasks.

Project Managers:
- Assoc. Prof. Angela Scarino
- Assoc. Prof. Tony Liddicoat

Project Team:
- Mr Jim Dellit
- Ms Michelle Kohler
- Dr Leo Papademetre
- Mr Andrew Scrimgeour
- Dr Johanna Carr (QUT)
- Dr Chantal Crozet (ANU)
- Assoc. Profs Angela Scarino and Tony Liddicoat

Research Project Officers:
- Ms Kate Loechel
- Ms Nives Mercurio
- Dr Anne-Marie Morgan

University of South Australia - Research Centre for Languages and Cultures Education

Project Team:
- Assoc. Prof. Angela Scarino
- Assoc. Prof. Tony Liddicoat

December 2006 to October 2008

- A roundtable stakeholder consultation meeting was held on 4 June 2007 in Adelaide to bring together representatives from the languages education sector and other key stakeholders to provide input into the purpose, nature and format of the Guide, the accompanying users’ handbook and online materials to inform the development of a Project Specifications Document. Participants in the forum included representatives from each education sector in each state/territory, a representative of each ethnic/community languages provider, the AFMLTA, ACACA, a national parents’ body, a national principals’ association, a languages teacher educator, all members of the Project Advisory Group and members of the project team.
- The first PAG telephone conference meeting was held on 27 June to consider the feedback from the stakeholder roundtable and finalise the specifications for the resource.
- During September, October and November, a revised content outline, together with drafts of pages of the Guide, will become available for PAG members to read and review, prior to the next PAG meeting which needs to occur before 15 December.

| 7. Leading Languages Education Project. | This is a professional learning project for principals and school leaders that aims to promote greater awareness of action at the national level to support languages, current teaching directions, and benefits of language learning. The Project will comprise an information dissemination strategy to support Principals and school leaders in the crucial role they play in implementing an effective language programme.

Key elements of this strategy include:
- face-to-face forums in each State and Territory;
- a ‘Leading Languages Education’ webpage on the APAPDC website;
- electronic and print communications

Project Manager: Mr Dennis Flannery

Australian Principal Associations’ Professional Development Council (APAPDC)

Project Director:
- Ms Susan Boucher, Chief Executive Officer, APAPDC.

Project Manager: Mr Dennis Flannery

July 2006 to April 2007

- This Project has been completed.
- The project’s webpage is now live, hosted on the APAPDC website, www.apapdc.edu.au/leadinglanguages/
- Two e-Newsletter are available on the project’s webpage.
- 8 forums were conducted around Australia, one per State/Territory, with a total of 392 participants. An 8-page hard-copy publication, Leadership in Languages Education, will be available for distribution to all schools in May.
- An 8-page hardcopy publication, Leadership in Languages Education has been distributed to all school principals in Australia and key stakeholders.
### 8. 2006 National Seminar on Languages Education: "Maximising the Opportunity"

Key objectives of the National Seminar were to:

- provide time and opportunities for State and Territory teams to consider what the MCEETYA National Statement and Plan for Languages Education 2005-08 means for their local contexts and priorities and to plan strategies that can be taken forward after the Seminar;
- provide an update on action being taken at national level to assist the implementation of the MCEETYA National Statement and Plan for Languages Education 2005-08, particularly the national projects funded under the School Languages Programme;
- share effective practice in languages education, in particular work being undertaken to enhance intercultural language teaching and learning;
- promote the broad benefits of languages education;
- raise awareness of the links between languages education and other national and State education priorities.

### Project Officer, APAPDC

Asia Education Foundation (AEF)

Project Manager: Mr Kurt Mullane

June 2006 to Jan 2007

- The National Seminar was held on 30 & 31 October 2006 and was attended by 140 invited participants.
- A Seminar Report, summarising the contributions of the National Seminar speakers/presenters, good practice workshops, panel discussions and deliberations of State and Territory teams, is available on the Asia Education Foundation website at: [www.asiseducation.edu.au/public_html/reports.htm](http://www.asiseducation.edu.au/public_html/reports.htm)

### NATIONAL PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED FROM 2006 SCHOOL LANGUAGES PROGRAMME FUNDS

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| Professional Standards Project | AFMLTA Project Directors: Lia Tedesco, AFMLTA Angela Scarino, UniSA RCLCE | March 2007 – December 2008 | Contract has been finalised.  
First Project Advisory Group has been held.  
A communication strategy has been finalised  
Guidelines and protocols for the selection and administration of participants are currently being refined  
A brochure has been developed to promote the project. It is available from the project website at [www.pspl.unisa.edu.au/](http://www.pspl.unisa.edu.au/) |

### NATIONAL PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED FROM 2007 SCHOOL LANGUAGES PROGRAMME FUNDS

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| 1. 2007 National Seminar on Languages Education | Asia Education Foundation (AEF) Project Manager: Mr Kurt Mullane | May 2007 – March 2008 | Contract has been finalised.  
Seminar will be held in Melbourne on 29 & 30 November 2007. |

Contract has been finalised.
First Project Advisory Group has been held.
A communication strategy has been finalised.
Guidelines and protocols for the selection and administration of participants are currently being refined.
A brochure has been developed to promote the project. It is available from the project website at [www.pspl.unisa.edu.au/](http://www.pspl.unisa.edu.au/).
### 2. Improvement in the national coordination and quality assurance of ethnic schools.

This project will support Community Languages Australia (CLA) in consolidating the progress it has made thus far in enhancing national coordination and quality assurance in after-hours ethnic schools:

- Ongoing national coordination of ethnic languages and ethnic schools in consultation with State and Territory education jurisdictions and ethnic schools authorities.
- Strengthening and promoting the quality of teaching and learning practices in ethnic schools across Australia. This will involve piloting the implementation of the Quality Assurance Framework developed by CLA in selected ethnic schools in three States.
- Strengthening professional learning opportunities for personnel involved in the delivery of languages taught through ethnic schools.
- Improving data collection to enable annual national reporting on community languages in Australia.

**Australian Federation of Ethnic Schools Associations (AFESA), known as Community Languages Australia (CLA).**

**Project Manager:** Mr Stefan Romaniw OAM

**Timeline:** June 2007 - 30 November 2008.

- The first PAG meeting will be held on 9 August in Adelaide.
- A roundtable with MCEETYA Languages Education representatives will also be held on 9 August. The purposes of this meeting is a) to provide Community Languages Australia the opportunity to highlight progress achieved to date and discuss issues that are impacting on effective national coordination and quality assurance of after-hours ethnic schools and b) for WP members to raise issues and the challenges that impact on them with regard to after-hours ethnic language programmes.

### 3. Student participation data collection

This project is a first step in working towards comprehensive nation-wide data collection on student participation in languages education for strategic planning purposes and to enable current provision to be measured. The project will analyse student participation data supplied by State and Territory education authorities for 2005-2006 on student participation, language studied, and year level.

**Research Unit for Multilingualism and Cross-Cultural Communication (RUMACCC).**

**Project Manager:** Yvette Slaughther

**Timeline:** May 2007 to August 2007.

- First Project Advisory Group meeting was held on 14 June.
- Data has been collected from education authorities.
- Drafting of reports are underway.

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### COMPLEMENTARY NATIONAL INITIATIVES

**Intercultural Language Teaching and Learning in Practice (ILTLP) project**  
(funded under the Australian Government Quality Teacher Programme)

A national professional learning programme on intercultural language teaching and learning, which will build on the outcomes of the Asian Languages Professional Learning Project (ALPLP). The ILTLP will be conducted in 4 Phases:

- **Phase 1:** Commissioned, supported school-based research and development to generate exemplars in long-term programming, assessment processes and describing outcomes of intercultural language learning.

- **Phase 2:** Development of ILTLP professional learning materials and accompanying processes to support the delivery of the ILTLP in each State and Territory. This Phase must run concurrently with Phase 1.

- **Phase 3:** Delivery of the ILTLP in each State and Territory throughout 2007. The ILTLP will consist of an initial 2.5 day conference, followed by 2 x 1 day recall sessions and a final reporting day for participants to share the outcomes of their classroom investigations.

- **Phase 4:** Revision of the ILTLP Resources and preparation of final Report, including collation of collected ILTLP data.

**University of South Australia - Research Centre for Languages and Cultures Education**

**Project Managers:** Assoc. Prof. Tony Liddicoat  
Assoc. Prof. Angela Scarino

**Project Team:**  
Mr Jim Dellit  
Ms Michelle Kohler  
Dr Leo Papademetre  
Mr Andrew Stringeour  
Dr Johanna Carr (QUT)  
Dr Chantal Crozet (ANU)

**Research Project Officers:**  
Ms Kate Loechel  
Ms Nives Mercurio  
Dr Anne-Marie Morgan

**Timeline:** June 2006 to Jan 2008.

- Third Project Advisory Group to be held at the end of May
- The ILTLP website is now live at www.iltlp@unisa.edu.au It provides a rich resource base to support and complement the ILTLP materials developed to support the national professional learning programme.
- Phase 3 is currently underway. Initial 2.5 day conferences have been conducted in the Northern Territory, Victoria, Tasmania, Australian Capital Territory, Western Australia and in Queensland. Conferences will held in NSW and SA by end of May.
- Classroom-based investigations are being conducted by participants during April – November.
- 2 x 1 day recall sessions and 1 full day reporting session will be held during this period as determined by individual states and territories.

**Endeavour Language Teacher Fellowships (ELTF)**

The Endeavour Language Teacher Fellowships (ELTF) is part of the Australian Government’s Endeavour Programme of international scholarships and exchanges. The ELTF Programme provides opportunities for practising languages teachers in Australian schools and trainee (pre-service) languages teachers in Australian tertiary institutions to improve their language and cultural skills through an intensive short-term study programme. The Fellowships take place over a three-week period in January each year.

**Asia Education Foundation**

**Project Director:** Kurt Mullane

**Fellowships take place in January each year.**

- Trainee language teacher application process has been extended to 10 August.
| Collaborative Structural Reform Project: innovative approaches to the provision of languages other than English in Australian Higher Education. | The aim of the project is to identify a range of innovative, cost efficient and pedagogically appropriate models for languages other than English (LOTE) delivery and collaboration across higher education. This will be achieved through identifying successful, (components of), existing models, nationally and internationally; and new and innovative modes of LOTE delivery. The project will trial selected models in individual universities and consortia of universities and evaluate the feasibility of transferability across the sector in Australia. | Australasian Council of Deans of Arts, Social Sciences & Humanities (DASSH) Project Director Dr Jo Winter University of Western Australia | 2005-2008 | • Further information on the project can be found at: [www.dassh.edu.au/casr/casr_home.html](http://www.dassh.edu.au/casr/casr_home.html) |