

PERIODIC PROGRESS REPORT (12 MONTHS)

RESTRICTED

Contract nr: **HPSE-CT-2001-50011**

Project nr: **SETN-2000-00001**

Title: **Higher Education Reform Network (HERN)**

Project
coordinator: **University of Surrey Roehampton (ROEI.DSC)**

Partners: **Society for Research into Higher Education, UK (SRHE)**
Centre for Higher Education Studies (CHESCZ), Prague, Czech Republic
Vytautas Magnus University (UMAGN.FSS.CVER), Kaunas, Lithuania
Bureau for Educational Services (BESBG), Sofia, Bulgaria
National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (UAT.PSY), Athens, Greece
Kungliga Tekniska Hoegskolan (RIT.LL), Stockholm, Sweden
Johannes Kepler Universitaet Linz (ULINZ.ISUSS), Linz, Austria
Universiteit Leiden (RUL.SW.LO.ESREA), Leiden, Netherlands
Continuing Education Development Foundation (CEDEF), Riga, Latvia
Jagellonian University (UJAG.FC), Krakow, Poland

Project's
www: **www.HEreform.Net**

Reference
period: **from 1 Nov 2001** **to 31 Oct 2002**

Starting date: **1 Nov 2001** Duration: **36 months**

Date of issue of this report: **30 Nov 2002**

Project financed within the Key Action Improving the Socio-economic Knowledge Base

Executive Summary

1. Executive Summary

The overall purpose of the network is to explore the differential values underlying strategies for HE reform by addressing the question: "What is the relationship between HE and society in a world of change?", with particular reference to:

- structural changes taking place in European society and ways of managing change
- relationships between technology, employment and society
- mechanisms for collective action in terms of governance and citizenship
- learning development strategies fostering growth, employment and economic and social cohesion

The project began on 1 November 2001 and will continue for three years. It has just completed its first twelve months. The HERN project involves 11 partner organisations in 10 countries (UK, Austria, the Netherlands, Greece, Sweden, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Czech Republic and Bulgaria). The project comprises 13 workpackages in all; 11 have scientific objectives and one is concerned with establishing the operating framework and one with the management of the project. Of these, one workpackage has been completed, two are almost completed, four are in progress and six remain, for three of which planning is well advanced.

The project structure is very complicated with each partner being involved in several elements, all to varying extents. The work itself is also very varied, drawing on each partner's knowledge and research across the several domains. The task for the co-ordinator is to maintain an overview in sufficient detail to be able to monitor progress without being swamped in the detail. This is difficult and it has taken most of the first year to reach a point where the co-ordinator feels this balance has been reached.

Communication between partners has largely been by electronic means. This has worked effectively and efficiently. Three steering group meetings were held in tandem with each of the seminars. The next steering group meeting (Sofia, January 2003) will address issues concerning co-ordination and communication, especially partner involvement in the steering group and improvements to the monitoring of progress.

The project has met or exceeded almost all of its targets and the foundations of the work have been securely laid. The task in the second year is to consolidate the knowledge gained in order to develop the policy advice that is expected of it. A crucial objective for year 2 will be to 'network the network' - to ensure that the broadest range of information is available to the development of the policy instruments. In part this is likely to involve identifying and accessing information sources, but working in partnership with other organisations and networks is important too, and has begun to develop.

Scientific Report

2. Scientific overview

The overall purpose of the network is to explore the differential values underlying strategies for HE reform by addressing the question: “What is the relationship between HE and society in a world of change?”, with particular reference to:

- structural changes taking place in European society and ways of managing change
- relationships between technology, employment and society
- mechanisms for collective action in terms of governance and citizenship
- learning development strategies fostering growth, employment and economic and social cohesion

European Ministers of Education (Bologna, 1999) identified a need to facilitate information flow across and between research and development projects. The present EU context of enlargement brings with it social imbalance, particularly in relation to wealth creation and employment and a need to improve cross-cultural understanding between the states of Central, Eastern and Western Europe. HERN actively links experiences from a range of current EU programmes relating to HE (TEMPUS, SOCRATES, LEONARDO, PHARE, for example) and will provide a direct contribution to EU policy development. HERN members are connected to an extensive range of professional organisations, networks and end users and this ‘networking networks’ approach is a fundamental principle of HERN, supported by face-to-face seminars, internet-based, interactive forums, publications and dissemination through national, professional and academic channels in order to inform the widest possible range of interested stakeholders.

The network will explore how different higher education institutions (HEIs) have responded to their histories and see their future. It will explore how different contexts influence changing patterns of governance, decision making, quality assurance and accountability and will include considerations of how women are allowed to play an equal part in these aspects of HE behaviour. The network will identify and analyse the different ways in which various forms of HE see their regional role and how they respond to societal trends and needs. Models for fostering growth, social balance and employment will be explored and analysed for their implications for the quality of education and training in Europe in order to improve European integration strategies for the future.

In order to gain new perspectives for teaching and learning the network will identify innovative strategies for implementing change in teaching and learning. This will include the role of technology, flexible study modes, open and distance learning, modular and lifelong learning models and new systems which need to be developed. It will explore higher education models and approaches to guidance, skills and curriculum that address the interrelationship between learning, employment and citizenship. It will identify research that explores the tensions and

possible solutions to a selection of student support issues which can influence future access policies in HE.

HE's current role in providing continuing vocational education and continuing professional development will be explored with particular emphasis on the implications for lifelong learning and strategies for addressing social integration, particularly amongst older adults and women who may have been excluded from higher education in the past.

2.1 Summary of the specific objectives for months 1 to 12.

2.1.1 Project Management Objectives

Two workpackages (WP1 and WP13) are concerned with the establishing and managing the project. The following objectives have been achieved within this period for each of the work-packages:

WP1

Establishment of a draft constitution and communications framework for the network

Establishment of publicity, website and database frameworks

Two further objectives under WP1 were started during this period and are continuing:

Audit of networks in each country relevant to HE reform

Audit of case studies in each country relevant to HERN domains and research questions

WP13

Obtain consensus on the constitutional and organisational structure of the network

Agree protocols for communications, data and information exchange

Establish the network's Steering Group, its terms of reference, membership and schedule of meetings

Organise financial and managerial systems that ensure full transparency and accountability

Ensure that partners are involved in planning for and developing network activities beyond the limits of the present project - both to widen the present network and to develop it into the future

Obtain consensus for a common design scheme for all HERN paper and web materials and products

Months 6 - 12 – progress the information gathering and ensure that all databases and records are updated and kept current

Months 6 - 9 – work with SRHE to resolve residual problems with software for eForums

Months 8 – 9 . Ensure timely warning and requests for progress reports and other project documentation

Months 10. Organise and run Steering Group meetings to be hosted by the Netherlands partner after seminar 3.

Month 12 - provide such reports to the Funding Body as may be required.

Four objectives under WP13 were initiated in the first period and will continue throughout the life of the project:

Organise (in partnership with the hosting institution) and Chair Steering Group meetings ensuring that all necessary information is circulated, that minutes are kept and that progress is monitored

Maintain an accurate database of all partners and contacts and manage the distribution of Steering group papers, seminar papers and other products of the network

Require progress reports from each of the partners to be given at each Steering Group and provide such progress reports to the Funding Body as may be required by them

Represent the Network and partners in dealings with the Funding Body

2.1.2 Scientific Objectives

Workpackages 2 and 3 are largely completed. Outstanding work in each case relates to the conference papers (due to be delivered at the SRHE conference in December 2002) and the contributions to the first policy document (also due in December 2002), The objectives for these workpackages addressed during this period were:

WP2

To analyse the historical and forward looking contextual influences on and implications for HE reform in selected national case studies

To exchange and analyse outcomes of existing CE training projects, with a focus on Latvia

To obtain an analytical overview of national responses to EU policy

WP3

To make theoretical comparisons of different underlying economical, political and social contexts for the employment prospects of female graduates

To compare and analyse case studies of strategies for preparing female students for transitions from education to work across different subject areas (for e.g. women & science, women & technology)

To contribute innovative ideas to enhance the study and employment prospects for female students

Workpackages 4 and 5 are in progress. The HERN Disability Research Group contributed to the 8th International Conference on "Computers Helping People with Special Needs" (ICCHP) held at the Johannes Kepler University Linz in July 2002, in particular through the conference workshop "Studying and Academic Mobility - IT Support for Students with Disabilities" but also in various other sessions. The objectives for these two work packages are:

WP4

To identify and design, within the project's overall theoretical perspectives, successful interventions to integrate disabled graduates into the European labour market

Work planned in WP4 for the last reporting period was:

Month 7-8: literature review and establish communications for the exchange of information on disability, HE and employment outcomes. Individual partners have begun to collect information but the co-ordination of the workpackage has been absent. To a large extent this is due to a very difficult staffing problem that caused the Austrian partner some difficulty. This came at a time when the partner was also running a major international conference. The problem was eventually resolved, leaving a lot of ground to be made up. In October the Austrian partner regained the initiative and has taken some very active steps to co-ordinate the joint activities.

Month 9: electronic conference (with WP5) to establish common research methods parameters. The opportunity to hold a HERN event at the international ICCHP conference in July meant that certain aspects of the collaborative links could be set up. Staffing problems meant that the partner did not have the resources to run the conference as planned and as a result the co-ordination aspects of the electronic conference were not brought into play. This has now been remedied. It is intended to use the same software package (Groove) as that used for the eForums.

WP5

To analyse, within the network's overall theoretical perspective how disabled students are given equitable access to lifelong learning in HE

Work planned in WP5 for the last reporting period was:

Month 7-8: conduct literature review and desk research in each collaborator's country on government and HE policies for disabled students. All partners report considerable progress has been achieved in gathering information within each partners country and area of responsibility.

Month 9: agree research design according to methods outlined in the proposal - using questionnaire, focus groups and interview strategies - via electronic conference. This aspect of the workpackage could not be

co-ordinated by the Austrian partner; unfortunately none of the other partners took the lead instead. This is an area where the workpackage has slipped seriously behind schedule. The Austrian partner has initiated a programme to engage the other partners and make up for lost time. This is an area that will need considerable effort from all concerned.

Month 10: implement questionnaires, focus groups and interviews in selected HEIs. Individual have identified possible targets but the absence of a strong co-ordinating initiative has meant that there has been no pooling of information nor, as was noted above, a detailed research activity programme. Now that the Austrian partner has regained the initiative it seems likely that the project will move forward rapidly.

Workpackage 6 is almost complete. The third seminar in the HERN series was held at the University of Leiden, Netherlands on 13th and 14th September 2002 on the theme of “*European enlargement and citizenship: the role of HE*”. A subsequent eForum was conducted and a paper is being prepared for the HERN symposium at the SRHE Annual Conference in Glasgow in December 2002. A contribution to the policy document is also being prepared for dissemination in December 2002. The following activities were scheduled to take place during the reporting period:

Month 9: NL will liaise with relevant partners over publicity, dates and plans for steering group meeting, seminar, analytical strategies and follow up website discussions. Completed successfully.

Month 10: NL hosts steering group meeting and one day seminar. Partners produce presentations and papers for analytical discussion. The seminar was completed successfully (see Deliverable 14)

Month 11: UK-SRHE produces time limited website discussion to explore further the underlying values influencing HE's role in promoting citizenship and economic development. Completed successfully (see deliverable 15)

Month 12: partners will prepare a conference paper on the outcomes of the seminar and eForum. This paper has been prepared and will be delivered at the SRHE conference in December 2002.

2.2 Overview of the technical progress

HERN has been established within the time-scales set out in the contract and has just completed its first six months. The core partnership has been established, the framework of seminars has been agreed and general operating procedures are in place. The first two seminars have been held, the first in Riga, Latvia, on 25th and 26th January, 2002 and the second in Athens, Greece on 20th and 21st April 2002. The project's website (URL: www.HEREform.Net) has been created by SRHE and is hosted by the University of Surrey Roehampton.

Month 1 – November 2001

Communications between network partners was established, an outline programme was proposed and a framework of operations established, especially arrangements for the first seminar due in Month 3.

Project financial framework established at university of Surrey Roehampton. Framework for information gathering established. UK partners attended a seminar in London to publicise the project in the UK.

Interim project web-site established (while main site under development by SRHE).

Month 2 – December 2001

The project's presentation, communication, control and co-ordination systems and protocols were devised and disseminated.

The calendar of dates for seminars and eForums was agreed between the partners.

Article on HERN published in SRHE News,

Latvian partner organises first seminar. SRHE investigate methodology for follow-up eForum. Seminar information published on the web-site.

Month 3 – January 2002

SRHE decide to establish the project's web-server at University of Surrey Roehampton and establish the protocols for the eForum to follow seminar 1.

Seminar 1 run in Riga, Latvia. Attended by representatives of higher education, the education ministry and the continuing education community in Latvia together with partners from Lithuania, Poland, Sweden, Netherlands, Austria, Czech Republic and the UK.

Inaugural HERN steering group meeting held in Riga, Latvia. Technical matters agreed included the operating procedures for the eForum, design of the web-site and standard operating procedures.

Month 4 – February 2002

First eForum conducted to develop the issues arising from Seminar 1. Technical facilitation undertaken by SRHE and academic leadership provided by the Latvian partners.

Initial plans for Seminar 2 in Athens discussed

Web-site development and information gathering continues.

Month 5 – March 2002

First eForum concluded. Latvian partner undertakes task of collating and analysing the resulting documents and discussions as the basis for development into a conference paper on HE reform relating to the development of CE and training in Central and Eastern European countries.

Web-site development completed and project site activated. Interim site closed down. Web-server hosting arrangements agreed with USR.

Month 6 – April 2002

Seminar 2 hosted by the Greek partner in Athens and attended by their colleagues together with representatives from the Netherlands, Sweden, Latvia, Czech Republic, Poland, Lithuania and the UK.

Second steering group meeting held in Athens following the seminar. Technical issues concerning the eForum (to run in Month 7) and the information audit were the principal items on the agenda.

First 6 monthly report written and submitted

Month 7 – May 2002

Second eForum was run following seminar 2. Some local difficulties delayed the start and the level of participation was less than expected. In part this was due to problems with user familiarity the Groove software. It was decided to upgrade to a newer version and to review progress after the third eForum.

Partners begin work on desk research for WP4 and WP5. Set-up of research steering group delayed owing to staffing problems and rising workload due to ICCHP conference.

Planning for seminar 3 starts. Original date moved from July to August and then to September in effort to find dates that did not clash with holiday periods.

Month 8 – June 2002

SRHE accepts in principle the concept of a HERN Symposium to be held at the Annual Conference in December. Decision partially influenced by the wish to raise the profile of HERN and make it more accessible to others with similar interests. Also, to provide an opportunity to present the conference papers at a suitable venue within the target times.

Month 9 – July 2002

Plans almost finalised for seminar 3. Eventually a date and venue was fixed and detailed planning commenced and partners were informed.

ICCHP conference hosts HERN participation in Linz, Austria. Attended by some HERN partners. Papers resulting to be published in conference proceedings. Considerable value to developing network links.

Month 10 – August 2002

Severe floods in Prague seriously damage the offices of CHES. Full restoration of office services and communications not likely before end of October

Month 11 – September 2002

Seminar 3 hosted by Dutch partner in Leiden. A very successful event that repaid the preparation that went into it. Well supported by colleagues

from the Netherlands, UK, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Sweden and Bulgaria.

Third steering group meeting held. Details of the SRHE Symposium discussed and agreed with Polish, Latvian, Dutch and Swedish partners agreeing to contribute. Warning and guidelines given for reporting arrangements.

Guidelines for reporting distributed to partners

Planning for seminars 4 (Bulgaria), seminar 5 (Sweden) and seminar 6 (Poland) initiated.

Third eForum was run following seminar 3. Generally judged to be technically successful but some concern still remains about participation levels. Since the software had been upgraded and much more preparation had been done following earlier recommendations it was felt that still more thought needs to be given to how best to run these events.

Month 12 – October 2002

Detailed planning for seminar 4 in Sofia Bulgaria in progress. Provisional programme published and participants urged to register.

Detailed planning for HERN symposium undertaken and bookings made. Papers in process of being written.

Annual reporting procedures undertaken. Partner reports and financial details requested.

2.3 Comparison of planned activities and actual work accomplished.

The project is broadly on target except for the collaborative elements of WPs 4 and 5, which have slipped up to three months behind. The Austrian partner has taken vigorous steps to co-ordinate activity and to make up lost ground. It is intended to review progress in this area at the next steering group meeting. At present the delays are to the design and issuing of research questionnaires. Partners report that they have done the local work necessary to identify what must be asked of whom and so what is lacking is the concerted and co-ordinated activity of the group to agree quickly on a plan of action. Accordingly there are no immediate plans to amend the overall plan (WPs 4 and 5 have the longest duration of all the WPs – 24 and 21 months respectively). The steering group in January 2003 will review progress and recommend changes if they are needed.

The 'Groove' software that supports the eForum is theoretically ideal for the task as has now been shown by its use in the first three eForums. The software was upgraded to the latest version and most of the technical problems have been solved but, especially with older hardware, some local difficulties do remain. But technical problems are not believed to be the major cause of usage levels that are below expectation. Exactly what the reason might be is not yet known, but participation rates have not increased in line with the rise in knowledge of and expertise with the software. Despite considerable efforts to identify and frame appropriate starting points for the discussion there is still limited interaction. As a medium for posting material it seems to work well – but as a collaborative tool (the

software's design purpose) it is only rarely used. The steering group will consider again how best to maximise the use of this software at the meeting in Sofia in January.

In the first twelve months of the project a great deal of information has been amassed. Some of this information is in discrete form – such as names and contact details of organisations – but a rapidly growing volume is in the form of documents, mostly electronic but some paper-based, and there is a need to revise the information strategy to deal with this effectively. At present the drive is to collect information but it is clear that a simple database is not sufficiently flexible to extract the maximum benefit from this material. This subject will be addressed by the steering group (probably at the Stockholm meeting in March 2003 owing to the urgent need to drive WPs 4 and 5 forward).

In summary, therefore, overall progress is moving forward to plan but slippage has occurred in the co-ordination of the joint activities of partners in WPs 4 and 5. This is presently not thought to be a threat to the project but is being monitored closely and any necessary steps will be taken after the steering group meeting in January.

2.4 Planned activities for the next period.

2.4.1 Overview

Principal events for Year 2 (months 13 to 24) are:

HERN Symposium at SRHE Annual Conference, University of Glasgow, 11 December 2002.

Seminar 4: *“Governance challenges for different nation institutions in managing change”*, 24/25 January 2003, Bulgaria

Seminar 5: *“Addressing inequalities of gender participation in institutional decision making systems”*, 14/15 March 2003, Sweden

Seminar 6: *“Legitimacy, quality and accountability for lifelong learning and higher education”*, 4/5 July 2003, Poland

Key events planned for the third year (months 25 to 36) of the project are:

Seminar 7: *“Key features of teaching and learning in the university of tomorrow”*, 23/24 January 2004, UK

Seminar 8: *“Distance education and the use of technology for tomorrow's knowledge society”*, 23/24 April 2004, Lithuania

Seminar 9: *“Guidance for employment and inclusion: the development of new competencies”*, 25/26 June 2004, Czech Republic

2.4.2 Objectives for Year 2

The following table lists the activities scheduled for Year 2. The first three activities have been carried over from Year 1 for the reasons described above.

<i>WP</i>	<i>Month</i>	<i>Activity</i>
4	12	electronic conference (with WP5) to establish common research methods parameters
5	12	agree research design according to methods outlined in the proposal - using questionnaire, focus groups and interview strategies - via electronic conference.
5	12	implement questionnaires, focus groups and interviews in selected HEIs.
6	12	partners will prepare a conference paper (e.g. SRHE, EUCEN, ESREA).
2	13	partners will circulate a brief guide to policy chapter for the policy document 'HE Reform, Society and Change EU enlargement, gender, CE, employment and citizenship'.
6	13	partners produce a 'brief guide to policy' chapter for the policy document 'HE Reform, Society and Change, EU enlargement, gender, CE, employment and citizenship'.
7	14	BG will liaise with partners over publicity, dates and plans for steering group meeting, seminar, presentations, research focus and follow up website discussion.
13	14	Organise and run Steering Group meetings to be hosted by BG in conjunction with seminar 4
5	14 -15	analyse data and compare results across each collaborator country.
4	15	establish electronic database of potential respondents.
5	15	hold disability steering committee at HERN seminar.
7	15	BG hosts a one day seminar and a HERN steering group meeting. Partners produce seminar papers and presentations for analytical discussion.
7	16	UK-SRHE provides time-limited website discussion to encourage broader perspectives on issues affecting governance reform across Europe.
13	16	manage the synthesis and distribution of the seminar and website discussions following seminar 4
5	16 -18	prepare interim policy reports for EC and associated networks.
4	16:	administer questionnaires, focus groups etc

8	17	S will liaise with partners over plans for steering group meeting, seminar presentations, analytical strategies and follow up website discussion
13	17	Organise and run Steering Group meetings to be hosted by S in conjunction with seminar 5
8	18	S hosts a steering group meeting and a one day seminar. Partners produce presentations and papers for analytical discussion.
4	18 -19	data analysis.
8	19	UK-SRHE produces time limited website discussion to explore further the relationship between institutional behaviour and influences on wider society.
13	19	manage the synthesis and distribution of the seminar and website discussions following seminar 5
5	19 -22	prepare final reports, including a training manual, and deliver conference papers to relevant conferences (e.g. ICCHP, FEDORA, SEDA, EALL).
4	21	conference papers on disability perspectives for society, teaching, learning and employment (e.g, SEDA, ATEE, FEDORA).
7	21	conference paper on the impact of HE reform on governance systems (e.g. EAIR, IMHE).
8	21	partners produce a conference paper "The position of women in HE and implications for wider society" (e.g. SRHE, EAIR, SEDA, IMHE).
9	21	PL and CZ will liaise with partners over publicity and plans for steering group meeting, seminar presentations, analytical strategies and follow up website discussion.
13	21	Organise and run Steering Group meetings to be hosted by PL in conjunction with seminar 6
9	22	PL will host the seminar and a steering group meeting. Partners will produce presentations and papers for analytical discussion.
9	23	UK-SRHE will produce a time-limited website discussion to explore further the influences and implications for quality in current HE reform activities.
13	23	manage the synthesis and distribution of the seminar and website discussions following seminar 6
5	24	establish an HE network strand to WCN Europe network.
9	24	partners will prepare a conference paper (e.g., SRHE, BAICE).

3. List of Project Deliverables

3.1 Project deliverables completed during Year 1

<i>Deliverable</i>	<i>WP Nr</i>	<i>Outline description of deliverable</i>	<i>Month due</i>
1	1.1	Draft constitutional arrangements, design of project identity and publicity materials for the network	1
2	1.2	Common information, software, communication, internet and database protocols	2
3	1.3	Database of HE reform case studies and networks relevant to HERN partners	3
4	1.4	Project website	3
5	2.1	A one day seminar on the changing role of HE: contexts, histories and the development of lifelong learning (LLL) through Continuing Education (CE) and the first HERN steering group meeting.	3
6	2.2	Linked eForum and report of website discussion	5
7	3.1	A one-day seminar on The role of tomorrow's HE in fostering gender equity and employment and steering group meeting.	6
8	2.3	Conference paper on CE and training in context of HE Reform in Europe	7
9	3.2	Linked eForum and report of website discussion	8
10	4.1	mailbase of employment outcomes for disabled graduates	8
11	4.2	Conference in conjunction with WP 5	9
12	5.1	audit of policies for disabled students in HE and formation of HERN disability steering committee	9
13	3.3	Conference paper on HE, equity and employment	11
14	6.1	A one-day seminar on European enlargement and citizenship: the role of HE and steering group meeting.	11
15	6.2	Linked eForum and report of website discussion	12

3.2 Project deliverables due during Year 2

<i>Deliverable</i>	<i>WP Nr</i>	<i>Outline description of deliverable</i>	<i>Month due</i>
16	2.4	Contribution to brief guide to policy on HE, equity and employment	13

17	3.4	Contribution to brief guide to policy on HE, equity and employment	13
18	6.3	Conference paper on HE, equity and employment	13
19	6.4	Contribution to brief guide to policy on HE Reform, society and change, employment, access and citizenship	13
20	7.1	A one-day seminar on Governance challenges for different nation institutions in managing change and a steering group meeting.	15
21	7.2	Linked eForum and report of website discussion	16
22	8.1	A one-day seminar on Addressing inequalities of gender participation in institutional decision making systems and a steering group meeting.	17
23	5.2	brief 'guide to policy' report on strategies for supporting print disabled students in HE	18
24	8.2	Linked eForum and report of website discussion	18
25	4.3	conference paper on disability perspectives for society, teaching, learning and employment	21
26	7.3	Conference paper on the impact of HE reform on governance systems	21
27	8.3	Conference paper on 'The position of women in HE and implications for wider society'	21
28	9.1	A one-day seminar on Legitimacy, quality and accountability for lifelong learning and higher education and a steering group meeting.	21
29	5.3	conference papers on disability perspectives for society, teaching, learning and employment	22
31	5.4	training manual on applicability of print disabled student support in different HE contexts in Europ	22
32	5.5	scientific publication on new perspectives for social integration of visually impaired students in HE society	22
33	9.2	Linked eForum and report of website discussion	23
34	5.6	establishment of relevant HE strand to WCN Europe network	24
35	9.3	Conference paper on "Steering Change in HE, management implications and quality assurance'	24

3.3 Project deliverables completed during Year 3

36	7.4	Contribution to brief guide to policy - on past and present systems and challenges for the future	25
37	8.4	Chapter for brief guide to policy on 'Internal management, gender and staff development in HE in the context of reform & EU enlargement'	25
38	9.4	Chapter for brief guide to policy - "Relations with the State and quality in HE"	25
39	5.7	Seminar paper on ways of supporting visually impaired students in HE society	27
40	10.1	A one-day seminar on Key features of teaching and learning in the university of tomorrow and a steering group meeting.	27
41	10.2	Linked eForum and report of website discussion	28
42	10.3	Conference paper on Key theoretical issues and strategies for changing pedagogic practice	29
43	11.1	A one-day seminar on Distance education and the use of technology for tomorrow's knowledge society and a steering group meeting.	30
44	11.2	Linked eForum and report of website discussion	31
45	12.1	A one-day seminar on Guidance for employment and inclusion: the development of new competencies and a steering group meeting.	32
46	11.3	Conference paper: Evaluating management of change strategies for ODL study programmes across Central and Eastern Europe	33
47	12.2	Linked eForum and report of website discussion	33
48	4.4	Contribution to guide to policy on disability perspectives for teaching, learning and change.	34
49	10.4	Chapter for brief guide to policy: Key issues and strategies for changing pedagogic practice in different EU contexts	36
50	11.4	Chapter for brief guide to policy: 'HE reform, teaching and learning, change and quality: student diversity, distance learning and guidance	36
51	12.3	Conference paper on Student diversity, distance learning and guidance	36

52	12.4	Chapter in brief guide to policy: HE Reform, teaching and learning, change and quality: student diversity, distance learning and guidance	36
53	12.5	Interactive CD ROM	36
54	13.1	Plan for future collaborations	36

4. Exploitation and dissemination of results

All partners have been aware of the value of dissemination and have made considerable efforts within their own organisations and countries to publicise the work of HERN. It is too early to identify specific benefits but it is clear that the presence of the network has been established. In the second year this will be developed and strengthened. The following is a brief list of the dissemination activities undertaken or targeted by partners (in addition to those that form part of the workpackages):

Conferences

ICCHP. A special workshop on “Studying at University” was organised at the International Conference on Computers Helping People with Special Needs (ICCHP). Also, several special thematic sessions were promoted concentrating on important aspects of the HERN project. Papers arising from the sessions are published in: Miesenberger, K., Klaus, J., Zagler, W.: COMPUTERS HELPING PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS, 8th International Conference, ICCHP 2002, Linz, Austria, July 2002, Proceedings

ICC. The International Computer Camps for Blind and Visually Handicapped People in 2002 allowed a good opportunity to disseminate information on HERN and especially on WP5.

NERA. NERA Congress “Education and Cultural Diversities”, 2002, March 7-9, Tallinn, Estonia;

“Learner Centered Universities for the New Millennium”, 2002, July, 4 – 6, Vilnius, Lithuania)

HERN project presentation by M. Frankowicz (JU HERN contact person) at the meeting of Deans of chemistry faculties, Poznan, February 2002

HERN project presentation by M. Frankowicz (JU HERN contact person) at the National Didactic Conference 'CHEMISTRY-2002', Krynica, June 2002

HERN project presentation by M. Frankowicz (JU HERN contact person) at the meeting of Polish University Accreditation Commission, Poznan, October 2002

Papers

Sebkova H., (2002); “Projekt HERN (Higher Education Research Network)”. AULA, 10, 1/2002, p.48.”

Tereseviciene, M., Zakarevicius, P., Zuzeviciute, V. "Features of Contemporary University. Continuing Education at Vytautas Magnus University", Proceedings of the Conference "Learner Centered Universities for the New Millennium, 2002, July, 4 – 6, Vilnius, Lithuania p. 469 – 473).

Buligina I., (2002); "The development of Latvian continuing education and training in the context of higher education reform" in the proceedings of the international conference "Lifelong Learning for all" (Riga, 8-9 November, 2002).

Other publications

The SRHE quarterly Journal "SRHE International News" regularly carries articles on the progress of HERN – especially reports of the seminars in Riga, Athens and Leiden as well as more general progress reports.

A report of the work undertaken within work package 6 has appeared in the monthly journal published by the Society for Research on the Education of Adults.

SRHE International News (June 2002) published the papers presented at Athens Seminar

Publishing a booklet about HERN activities in 2002 and plans for 2003 in English and Lithuanian languages.

Groove – SRHE has set up and run three eForums using the software platform "Groove" which is accessible to everyone who has internet access and is willing to install the necessary software (easily downloadable).

WWW – SRHE has established the main HERN project website at www.HEReform.Net.

WWW – A Lithuanian HERN project home page was developed on the basis of VMU server FirstClass; it is available in English and Lithuanian languages; address: <http://www.vdu.lt>

Other dissemination

The Lithuanian FM5 National Agency was informed about activities; presentation of main ideas is being published a compendium of projects that are carried out in Lithuania. CD – ROM and in the format of a book (in Lithuanian).

Contacts have been established with the co-ordinator of a new research proposal being developed within Framework 6 with a view to co-operation and continuation of the current work through the possibility of participation in the new project;

On the basis of the work carried out within the HERN-project, Dr B.J. Hake has acted as a consultant for a potential LEONARDO-project on citizenship issues and vocational education in accession countries, and has advised the Instituut Publiek en Politiek, Amsterdam, with regard to participation in a European project on citizenship questions;

The research assistant who was responsible for the co-ordination and management of the HERN activities on behalf of ESREA/Centre for Learning in Organisations/ Leiden University will devote his dissertation to the theme of the

social responsibilities of institutions of higher in their regions. This work will be undertaken in co-operation with the Centre for Higher Education Studies at the University for Twente, The Netherlands. This study will comprise a comparative study in a number of European countries and can be regarded as a positive example of successful spin-off from the HERN-project .

Dissemination will also take place at Leiden University in the context of the ERASMUS mobility programme.

M. Frankowicz has been included in the Bologna Promoter Group of EUA (October 2002). It will give additional opportunities to pass HERN results directly to academic decision makers.

Two Leonardo da Vinci pilot project pre-proposals based on HERN contacts and activities were prepared and submitted (by persons from JU HERN team):

Including Disabled in Open Labour Market (IDOL); coordinator I. Bialek

Gender Education Spreading in Society (GENESIS); coordinator M. Radkiewicz

The progress of HERN accompanied structural changes in educational strategy of JU. A new Rector's Commission for the Development of Didactics has been created where HERN progress was reported and, from October 2002, a new post of a specialist in education strategy has been created in JU central administration (Department of Education) who will join the HERN team in 2nd project year. In November 2002 a Regional Educational Forum of HEIs from Southern Poland will be launched (initiative of JU Rector); it will give new opportunities to disseminate HERN outcomes.

The SRHE, as an international NGO, has been in a unique position for disseminating information regarding HERN activities. The Society has promoted the HERN project by publishing a significant amount of information emanating from the seminars in SRHE News and International News. These have been disseminated worldwide to the membership which includes individuals and institutions.

Future conferences to which HERN may contribute

ICCHP. It is planned that the next ICCHP in 2004 will be used as a major event for the dissemination of the results of the HERN work.

ICC. In 2003 ICC will be used as a means for dissemination again. A HERN workshop is planned for this event.

EU-LUXOR A conference on education and vocational integration for blind and visually handicapped people will be held in Bolzano from the 23rd till the 25th of April 2003. *i³s³* will contribute a section of this conference and include HERN into the presentation.

“Praktikerforum 2003” This Austrian national event focuses on quality assurance and controlling of quality in inclusion of people with disabilities. HERN will be one aspect of ensuring the quality in HE.

EAIR Forum: "Building bridges and enhancing experience", Limerick, 24-27 August 2003. There are 6 tracks: all of them are related to HERN activities, 3 of them look as if taken from our WPs:

EAIE. 15th EAIE Conference, Vienna, 10-13 September 2003.

ESREA. It is intended that the results of the work undertaken for work package 6 will be disseminated more widely within the ESREA research network on active citizenship. This will probably take the form of a paper presented to this ESREA network's next European seminar at the University of Leuven, September 2003.

SRHE: The SRHE is including a symposium on the HERN network at the annual conference in December 2002 which will provide key individuals within the HE domain to review and discuss the issues arising.

Future papers and other dissemination activities

Dr Ineta Kristovska is preparing a paper on Lifelong learning issues for presentation in the HERN symposium at the SHRE conference in December 2002.

Dr Hanna Westberg has prepared a paper on gender and employability issues for presentation in the HERN symposium at the SHRE conference in December 2002.

Dr Barry Hake is preparing a paper on citizenship issues for presentation in the HERN symposium at the SHRE conference in December 2002.

The paper by Dr P. Schedler, presented at the HERN-seminar 2, Greece, April 2002, was reported in the international journal of the Society for Research on Higher Education and has been revised version and submitted for publication in the journal *Lifelong Learning in Europe*.

Presentations given at HERN-seminar 3, Leiden, 13-14 September 2002, are being revised with a view to publication as a volume of edited papers (eds: Dr B.J. Hake and Dr P. Schedler) in the course of 2003. This volume may be published in the series disseminated by the ESREA research network on active citizenship;

A reworked version of the paper by Dr B.J. Hake presented at the HERN-seminar 1, Riga, January 2002 will be submitted for publication to the scientific journals;

Managerial Report

5. Management and coordination aspects

HERN has completed 3 workpackages, 4 are in progress and 6 remain, for 3 of which planning is well advanced. As has been said earlier, the project is broadly on target. This section will summarise the key co-ordination points arising from Year 1.

Project organisation. The project structure is very complicated with each partner being involved in several elements, all to varying extents. The work itself is also very varied, drawing on each partners knowledge and research across the several domains. The task for the co-ordinator is to maintain an overview in sufficient detail to be able to monitor progress without being swamped in the detail. This is difficult and

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2	UK	Society for Research into Higher Education (SRHE)	Professor Heather Eggins <u>Address:</u> SRHE 76 Portland Place London W1B 1NT UK <u>Tel:</u> +44 020 7637 2766 <u>Fax:</u> +44 020 7637 2781 <u>Email:</u> srheoffice@srhe.ac.uk
3	CZ	Centre for Higher Education	Dr. Helena Sebkova <u>Address:</u> U Luzickeho seminare 90/13 118 00 Praha 1 CZECH REPUBLIC <u>Tel:</u> +42 2 57011311 <u>Fax:</u> +42 2 57011318 <u>Email:</u> sebkova@csvgv.cz
4	LT	Centre of Educational Research, Vytautas Dagnus University (VDU)	Vaiva Zuzeviciute <u>Address:</u> Donelaicio str. 60-507 LT-3000 Kaunas LITHUANIA <u>Tel:</u> 370 7 323166 <u>Fax:</u> 370 7 323166/ 370 7 203858 <u>Email:</u> vaiva_zuzeviciute@ft.vdu.lt
5	BG	Bureau for Educational Services (BES)	Dr. Nikolay Popov <u>Address:</u> Galabetz street 2-A 1505 – Sofia BULGARIA <u>Tel:</u> +359 2 7354240 +359 2 449847 <u>Fax:</u> +359 2 722321 +359 2 449847 <u>Email:</u> npopov@fnpp.uni-sofia.bg

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8	AT	Johannes Kepler University (JKU)	Prof. Klaus Miesenberger <u>Address:</u> University of Linz Altenbergerstrasse 69 A-4040 Linz AUSTRIA <u>Tel:</u> +43 732 2468 9232 <u>Fax:</u> +43 732 2468 9322 <u>Email:</u> k.miesenberger@aib.uni-linz.ac.at
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6. Annexes

6.1 Partner Reports.

Reports from partners are appended:

- SRHE – Society for Research into Higher Education, London, UK
- CZ – Centre for Higher Education Studies, Prague, Czech Republic
- LT – Vytautas Magnus University, Kaunas, Lithuania
- BG – Bureau for Educational Services, Sofia, Bulgaria
- GR – National and Capodestrian University of Athens, Athens, Greece
- SE - Kungliga Tekniska Hoegskolan (RIT.LL), Stockholm, Sweden
- AT – Johannes Kepler University, Linz, Austria
- NL – ESREA, University of Leiden, Netherlands
- LV – Continuing Education Development Foundation, Riga, Latvia
- PL – Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland

6.2 Deliverables.

Deliverables 8 to 15 are attached to this report, Deliverables 1 to 7 were attached to the previous report submitted at 6 months.

- 8 Conference paper on CE and training in context of HE Reform in Europe
- 9 Linked eForum and report of website discussion
- 10 mailbase of employment outcomes for disabled graduates
- 11 Conference in conjunction with WP 5
- 12 audit of policies for disabled students in HE and formation of HERN disability steering committee
- 13 Conference paper on HE, equity and employment
- 14 A one-day seminar on European enlargement and citizenship: the role of HE and steering group meeting.
- 15 Linked eForum and report of website discussion