

The Education System of the Czech Republic



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About Institution

National Institute for Education, Education Counselling Centre and Centre for Continuing Education of Teachers



- •Department: The Research Institute of Education in Prague (RIE)
- The Research Institute of Education in Prague (RIE) is a ministerial research institute of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MEYS) and is its directly managed establishment.
- RIE is responsible for curriculum development and curriculum reform.



The current activities of the RIE

- Curriculum reform support the creation, revision and innovation of curricular documents
- Project outcomes
- Pedagogical innovation in educational content methodological support for teachers
- Special long-term assignments
- Government assignments and international activities (CIDREE, PLA)

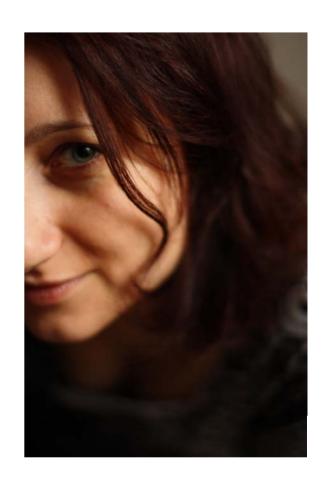


About me

- •Teacher of Mathematics and Biology in Secondary school (3 years)
- •Researcher in RIE, Department: Conception of curriculum (5 years)

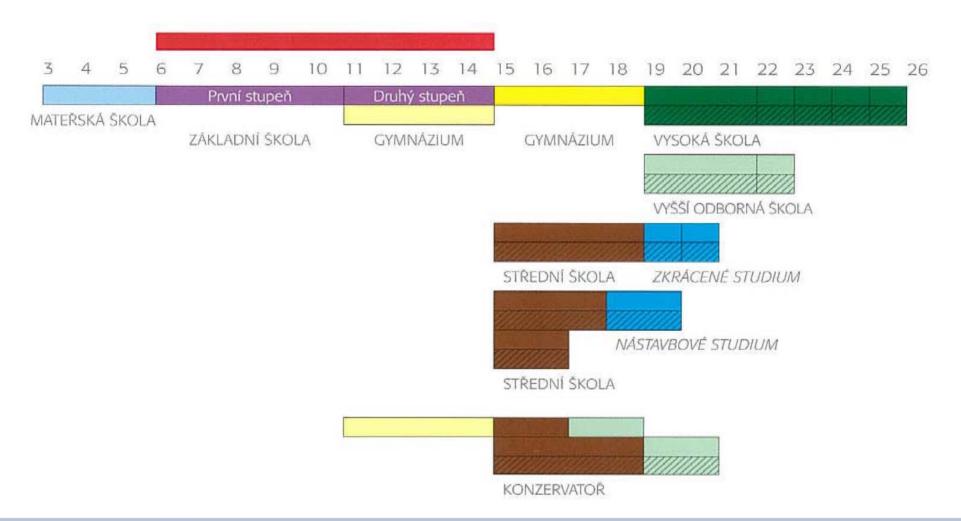
Main activities:

- Monitoring of curriculum reform
- Action research on quality education
- Support the development of literacy in education
- Member of the international working group: Peer Learning Activities in Maths, Science and Technologies (PLA MST) under the European Commission





The Education System of The Czech republic







Source: Eurydice, National summary sheet on the education system in the Czech Republic, Structures of education, vocational training and adult education systems in Europe.



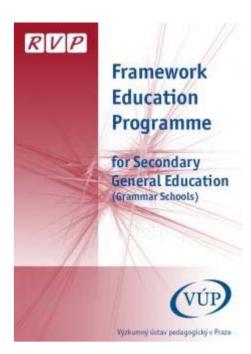
Curriculum reform in pre-primary, primary and secondary general education

Two-level curriculum conception:

- The state (national) level framework educational programmes (FEP) which define binding educational norms across various stages of education.
- The school level school educational programmes (SEP) which form the basis for education at the individual schools.

New education strategy of curriculum reform:

- developing of the key competencies
- learning in the context
- using of gained knowledge and skills in practical life





ESF project: Methodology II

Resource: Internet platform - Methodological portal <u>www.rvp.cz</u> Aims:

- Support for **implementing curriculum reform** in a school:
 - methodological support for teachers in developing school educational programs and their implementation into teaching
- Support for improving the quality of the teaching profession:
 - -systematic support for teachers in teaching methodology and didactics,
 - development of a learning community where teachers can share their experiences with each other,
 - -effective methods of the education for educators in lifelong learning.



Methodological portal www.rvp.cz

The portal has two levels for searching information:

- •1st by modules:
 - -content section: **Digital teaching materials**, **Articles** and **Links**
 - -part of the community: Wiki, Forums, Blogs and Digifolio
 - –educational part: E-learning
- •2nd according to types of education:
 - Preschool Education, Elementary
 Education, Secondary Education,
 Special Education, Language Learning,
 Vocational Education, Basic Art
 Education





Actual numbers and statistics

- Articles 4 591
- DUM 6 885
- Links 1 499
- Pages on the wiki 3 363
- Entries to the discussions 16 833

Panel

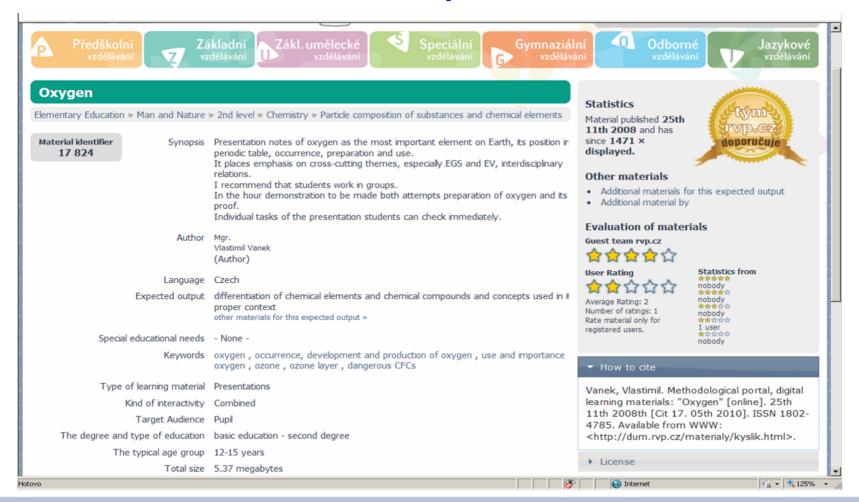
- 1 029 posts in blogs
- Portfolio of 417users
- Comments on posts 5 611
- 10 740 users
- cca 8 000 unique visitors daily







The support for MST by Methodological portal www.rvp.cz





Project: Support of literacy

Support of:

- Reading literacy
- Mathematical literacy
 - Science literacy
 - Financial literacy
 - ICT literacy

Work in teams with experts:

•from the Ministry, Universities, institutions and education organizations, the Czech School Inspectorate, Center for Education Results, Institute for Information in Education and schools at all levels of education.





Project: Support of literacy

Aims:

- Curriculum level to define concepts, relationship to key elements of the curriculum and appropriately implement them in the curriculum.
- Analytical level analyzing curriculum considering the concept of the literacy, analyzing data of international researches PISA, TIMSS, PIRLS
- **Methodological level** to provide teachers with effective methodological support to develop the literacy of their students.

Products:

•to publish manuals and methodological materials, to organize of seminars and conferences



Peer Learning Activities in Maths, Science and Technologies (PLA MST)

- Produce "clear and visible outputs" that can be easily disseminated and that provide Member States with practical and useful tools for their policy work.
- Focus on two priorities: "It will focus on contributing to policies to improve attainment levels of **low-achievers** in basic skills, including numeracy and **stimulating greater interest** in maths, science and technology" (paragraph 19 of the mandate).



EUROPEAN COMMISSION



Peer Learning Activities in Maths, Science and Technologies (PLA MST)

PLA meetings

-Helsinki and Tallinn (26. 9. – 29. 9. 2011). The PLA provide the participants with the opportunity to study concrete examples of policies that have been implemented in the host countries and their impact on students' attainments in MST.





Cooperation with DZS and European Schoolnet

About institutions:

- European Schoolnet network of 30 Ministries of Education in Europe and beyond, http://europeanschoolnet.org
- DZS The Centre for International Services of the Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, http://www.dzs.cz/





Cooperation on:

- Project **SPICE** (2010 2011)
- •Internet platform **SCIENTIX** (2010 2012)



Project SPICE (2010 – 2011)



Aims:

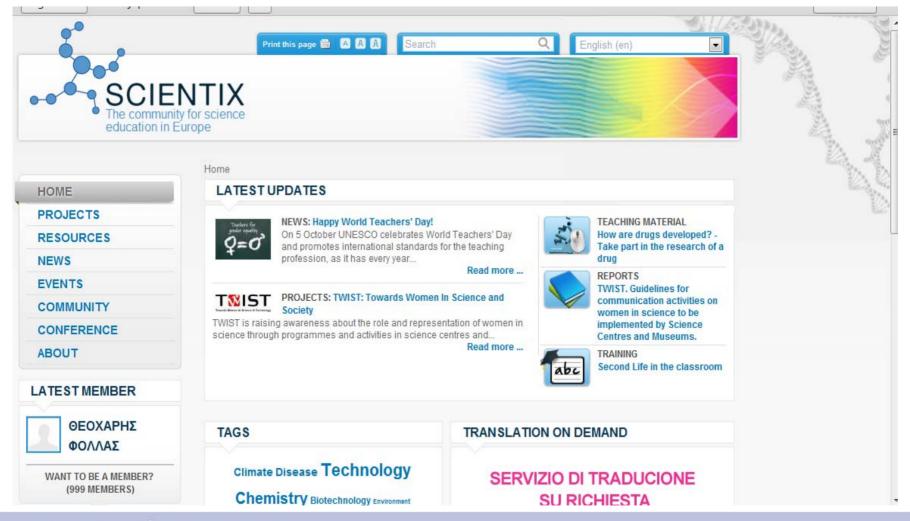
- To collect, analyze, validate and disseminate innovative pedagogical initiatives, in MST labelled as **Good Practices** (GP) especially those GP based on inquiry-based learning, mostly ICT-based GP
- Enhancing pupil motivation for science studies (at primary and secondary level)

Two levels:

- 1. Policy level --> Science education experts panel
- 2. Teachers level --> Science and maths teachers panel



Internet platform SCIENTIX http://www.scientix.eu





MEYS – current and future MST initiatives

- National priority: raising pupils' motivation in studying MST subjects
- Based on EU document Education and Training 2020 strategy which underlines the importance of an efficient and equitable education of high duality for enhancing employability and allowing Europe to retain a strong global role.





1. EU money to schools (2010-2012)

- Grant initiative (ESF funds)
- Currently aimed only at elementary schools (excluding elementary schools in the capital city).
- It supports various innovative curricular approaches in different areas of teaching including MST.
- Schools can apply for a grant directly to MEYS and the grant can be used f. ex. for equipment, teacher training or production of new learning materials.
- A similar grant scheme is being prepared for secondary schools and should be launched soon
- Websites about programme: http://www.eupenizeskolam.cz/









2. Support for Technology and Science Fields

- The system of project activities is divided into three main pillars and it is focused on
 - professional support of teaching and popularization of science,
 - publicity and communication,
 - the training of future teachers.
- The envisaged outputs of the project include among other things a proposal for systemic support of technology and science fields, background materials, analyses and methodologies, conferences, seminars, workshops, popularization lectures and pilot activities in individual regions.
- New web: www.generacey.cz





3. Summer schools/courses of MST for pupils and MST teachers

- Initiatives of individual universities and other institutions.
- Various institutions universities, Academy of Sciences of the Czech republic, NGOs etc throughout the country organize summer schools or training courses for primary and secondary school pupils and teachers.
- The main aim of these activities is to enhance pupils' interest to study these subjects and to give MST teachers training on inquiry-based teaching. Some of the courses are aimed

particularly at girls.



Some examples as cooperation with Universities:

- Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, Charles University in Prague
 http://ksvi.mff.cuni.cz/skola/
 summer schools for ICT teachers teaching at secondary schools
- Faculty of Science, Palacký University Olomouc
 http://kdf.mff.cuni.cz/veletrh/2011/en/ Physics Teachers' Inventions Fair,
- Faculty of Information Technology, Brno University of Technology
 http://www.fit.vutbr.cz/holky/en/summerschool/index.html.en (English) IT summer school for girls
- The Institute of Chemical Technology, Prague
 http://www.vscht.cz/homepage/tisk/stredni_skoly/ls (only in Czech) summer school for chemistry teachers (secondary school teachers)
 http://www.vscht.cz/homepage/tisk/stredni_skoly/POPUCH project POPUCH popularizes chemistry for secondary schools pupils



Cooperation of School and Research

Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic

 Project Open Science II – the systematic integration of talented secondary-school students in scientific-research activities, this project includes also training courses for teachers

http://otevrenaveda.avcr.cz/index-en.html
(in English) -

http://otevrenaveda.avcr.cz/educationalactivities/ (in English)





Some another examples

Project 3V

-The aim of this project (run by NGO Tereza) is to make methodological materials for inquiry-based STEM teaching and learning + piloting of the used learning material in pilot schools http://www.projekt3v.cz/informace-o-projektu.html (in Czech)

Project Heuréka

–A Czech project lasting for more than 12 years concentrated on physics education for age group 12-15, Heuréka puts together teachers from different types of schools, future teachers, people from universities and other people interested in physics education – seminars, conferences http://kdf.mff.cuni.cz/heureka/en/



4. Industry-school partnerships - Project "Science is the Future"

- The aim is to increase the attractiveness of science and technology for elementary and secondary school pupils through a cooperation of companies and schools and show pupils that a career in this field has a future. (Successful initiative of the Irish School of Business Partnership Schools Business Business schools)
- The Czech project is at its beginning
 - 2 companies (Bayer and IBM) and 2 pilot schools. The projects is open to any other companies or schools that are interested to join it (one to one – 1 school : 1 company)
 - the project is aimed at primary schools (8th grade) and secondary schools (3rd grade)
 - the project has got 4 modules: working skills (excursion, cv workshops and science in practice), mentoring, part-time jobs for pupils, teacher training
- Project coordination: civic association AISIS.
- More info: http://www.vedamabudoucnost.cz/index.php/home



Thank you for your attention