

NIK NEWSLETTER #1

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Introduction

Dear partners,

Although we decided in Alkmaar, not to produce a NIK Newsletter, we got the impression at Clusius College, that such a Newsletter could contribute to a better promotion of the NIK project. That is why we have made the first “Nieuwsbrief”, Dutch for Newsletter. We know how difficult it is to make your project known. We will discuss it also in Tartu in September. We hope that this Newsletter will help to promote it. For your convenience, we have translated it also in English. If you like, you can translate it in your own language and spread it in your organization and also send it to other organizations; the potential members of your Community of Practice. See also IO 01, to be discussed in Tartu.

It is a BIG Challenge: To bring our project in the floodlight. To be sure that as many as possible people know what we are doing. To make it possible that people talk with enthusiasm about our project. That is what we want.

But that is not as easy as ABC. How can we realize that? How can we reach our target group? This Newsletter may help, as one of the tools we have. In the coming period we will try to use also other tools to get your attention.

About which project we talk? Since December last year our organization participates in an international project, called “Newcomers in the Kitchen”, or for short NIK. It is an international project, with the objective to support and to improve the integration of emigrants and refugees in our countries. By cooking together, you can get familiar with each other’s culinary and cultural traditions. And that supports a better integration.

NIK has partners from several European countries: Netherlands, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Estonia, Italy and Belgium. Together we want to develop attractive learning materials and practical cooking events to support this integration. We also will develop games and other attractive learning materials.

NIK also developed a logo. You will recognise people with different colours, together, hand in hand, coming from everywhere from the globe. This globe can also be seen as a plate, complete with a fork and a knife. This is related to eating together. We hope that you recognize our ideas and objectives in this NIK logo.



The first NIK meeting was in Alkmaar in The Netherlands in February. The first day was in the monumental Townhall and the second day in Clusius College, a VET school with Food Processing as specialization. We had a lot to discuss. How can we make the project more concrete? So far it was only paperwork. What will be the role of each partner? Which administrative obligations we have?

But also: How can we make from this collection of 16 strangers, a real group. The two intensive days contributed to these challenges. Despite the polar cold outside!

Since that meeting in February, we work now on a number of supporting documents. These are about setting up Communities of Practice, and about how to make attractive learning materials. Our next meeting in Estonia is in preparation. Some organizations make already their preparations for planning their intercultural cooking events, as planned for the schoolyear 2019-2020.

Did we make you curious? Do you want to know more about NIK: Have a look at the NIK website: www.newcomerskitchen.eu. Or contact the local contact person for NIK. (Newsletter #2 will be ready at the end of September)

Hans Blankestijn