

What is ENTREE?

ENTREE – Enhancing Teacher REsilience in Europe – is an EU funded project aiming to help teachers in Europe to build their capacity for resilience in the face of the increasing demands of a rapidly changing school environment. In this context, resilience is understood to be the process by which teachers manage the challenges of their everyday teaching practice and provide quality education for all students. The specific focus on teacher resilience enhances the quality of teacher professional development in Europe.

Building on the theoretical framework of the recently finished Australian project Keeping Cool (www.keepingcool.edu.au), eight partners from five European countries and Australia are working jointly to create tools and methods to help teachers increase their capacity for resilience. Both online and face-to-face training materials will be created. A self-assessment tool will be developed and used to guide users to relevant training modules. The self-assessment tool will be delivered via the project website, which will also house project materials, resources, and the online training modules. In the long term, the ENTREE team envisage establishing teacher resilience training in teacher education programmes and further teacher education.

Teacher Resilience in a nutshell

Many countries report a lowering of teacher morale, rises in stress and burnout resulting in high levels of teacher attrition. This has significant

impact not only for teachers' health and wellbeing but also on student achievement and all parts of the school system since research has highlighted that the key factor of a good school is the quality of its teachers. Research has also shown that highly committed teachers are more likely to perform better academically than their peers who are not able to sustain their commitment.

“Resilience offers a useful lens which allows us to probe teachers' internal and external worlds to explore which factors, individually and in combination, influence their capacity to sustain their passion, enthusiasm and strong sense of fulfilment.” (Gu & Li, 2013: 288–289)

In the ENTREE project, teacher resilience refers to the process of, capacity for, or outcome of positive adaptation and ongoing professional commitment and growth in the face of challenging circumstances. Resilience is shaped by individual, situational and broader contextual characteristics that interrelate in dynamic ways to provide risk (challenging) or protective (supportive) factors. Individuals, drawing on personal, professional and social resources, not only “bounce back” but are able to thrive professionally and personally, experiencing job satisfaction, positive self-beliefs, personal wellbeing and an ongoing commitment to the profession.

ENTREE Partners

The project consortium unites researchers with different academic backgrounds from five European Countries (CZ, DE, IRL, MT, PT) and Australia. The Australian partners are already part

of two projects focused on enhancing teacher resilience – Keeping Cool (2009–2012) and BRiTE (Building Resilience in Teacher Education, 2013–2015).

The Institute of Education of RWTH Aachen University, headed by Prof. Dr. Marold Wosnitza, is the partner in charge of the project's coordination and management. It is one of the leading institutions in the teacher education programme at the University and focuses on teacher motivation and emotion, resilience and self-assessment.

The ENTREE team of the Faculty of Education of St. Patrick's College in Dublin is led by Prof. Dr. Mark Morgan. The Faculty is the largest institution with responsibility for the education and training of teachers in Ireland. It has a strong research profile, especially in the fields of teacher effectiveness, motivation of teachers and students and teachers' resilience.

Euroface Consulting (EC) is a regional consulting and training centre with much expertise and experience on using information technologies and developing E-Learning courses. In the project, EC is mainly responsible for the website development and the provision of online trainings.

The EuroCentre for Educational Resilience and Social and Emotional Health at the University of Malta aims to develop and promote social and emotional health and resilience in children as well as young people. Its director Prof. Cefai is one of the leading researchers on building resilience and emotional education in the classroom, school children and children in general.

The Center for Practical Teacher Training (ZfsL) Juelich is an institution of initial teacher training. One major aspect of the programme is concerned with stress, resilience, health-related issues and a sustainable work-life-balance of teachers. Dr. Matthias Henkel, head of the Department for

Secondary Higher Schools, leads the team at ZfsL for the ENTREE project.

ISPA (Higher Institute of Applied Psychology), located in Lisbon, is the oldest school of psychology in Portugal. Prof. Francisco Peixoto, vice-rector of ISPA, contributes to the project with his expertise in the area of motivational processes in learning, self-concept development in school contexts and social factors that influence learning.

Dr. Susan Beltman from Curtin University and Dr. Caroline Mansfield from Murdoch University support the ENTREE consortium as Third Country Partners. Both universities located in Perth, Australia are nationally and internationally known for their excellent teaching and high quality programmes. Under the leadership of Dr. Caroline Mansfield both researchers worked successfully in two highly recognized Projects on Teacher Resilience, namely Keeping Cool and BRiTE.

Kick-off-meeting in Aachen - The project starts!

Right after project started in December 2013 the partners of the ENTREE consortium were invited by Prof. Marold Wosnitza, coordinator of the project, to come together for a Kick-off-meeting in Aachen. Here the project team met for the first time. The team focused on the conceptualization of a theoretical framework defining "resilience" and its conditions. At this juncture they could benefit from the broad knowledge and experience of the ENTREE partners as well as build on the results of the previous Keeping Cool project, led by the Australian partners. Furthermore first ideas for the website and the self-assessment tool were presented and discussed. After four days of intensive exchange of ideas and opinions first steps in the main work packages already were initiated.



This project was funded with support from the European Commission.

