

Project No: LE9803.01

Title: Promotion of Social Integration in Latvia “Support to the Implementation of the National Programme for Latvian language Training”

1. Location

Latvian Language Programme Unit, 11 MerieĶa Street, LV-1050, Riga;
Mrs Aija PriedĶte, Director

&

United Nations Development Programme in Latvia, 24 Skolas Street,
LV-1167, Riga;
Mr Mārtiņš Hildebrants, Project Manager

2. Objectives

The wider objective of the project is to promote social integration of Latvia's ethnic groups by strengthening the linguistic environment for minority school students and increasing the level of Latvian language proficiency among non-Latvian speaking adults. The strategy in addressing this issue will be through (a) enhancing the Latvian language teaching capacity in minority schools through teacher training and new materials development; (b) enhancing the capacity of minority school teachers to teach their subjects in Latvian; (c) providing language training opportunities for targeted groups of adults; and (d) promoting social integration of minority school students at the community level by supporting extra-curricular activities such as clubs and summer camps for youth of various ethnic groups.

Through providing Latvian language training, the programme also aims to expose its target groups to the basic principles of an open and democratic society.

National Programme for European Integration

Priority Theme: Consolidation of the Integration of Latvian Society

- ◆ Sub-priority 2, Measure 2.3 - Development of an integrated society based in common language and national interest
- ◆ Sub-priority 3, Measure 3.2 - The development of education programmes for informed and participative society

Accession Partnership Political Criteria

Take measures to facilitate naturalisation procedures to better integrate non-citizens including stateless children and enhance Latvian language training for non-Latvian speakers.

3. Description

The project focuses on the development of Latvian as a Second Language (LSL) training capacities, although it also includes activities to support operational delivery of language training to targeted groups of adults. The activities of the project are in direct support of the National Programme for Latvian Language Training - a ten-year national initiative to strengthen the teaching capacity of the minority school system in Latvia to provide quality education in the Latvian language. The capacity building efforts are focused on providing substantive training to teachers, as well as on developing new educational materials based on the LSL methodology. As the National Programme also seeks to promote social integration among non-Latvian speaking adults, activities are foreseen to provide

language training directly to targeted groups of adults via language courses, as well as to a wider audience via the media.

The project is designed to support the first four years (1996-2000) of the National Programme and has been divided into two phases. During the 1st phase (1996-1998) of the project 250 teachers have received training in Latvian as a second language methodology. The training was provided by using a multiplier system based on a core group of trainers (30 for schools and 10 for adults). The teachers trained during the 1st project phase will begin teaching students during the next two years. During the 2nd phase (1998-2000) training in LSL techniques will be provided by these trainers to approximately 650 additional Latvian language teachers in the minority school system. An additional 20 trainers will be trained during the 2nd phase specifically to train teachers of grades 1-4. In addition, the project will provide training to 4000 teachers of school subjects whose language of instruction is scheduled to change from Russian to Latvian in the coming years. In addition, 40 new trainers of methodology for subject teachers will be trained and will subsequently provide training in the new methodology to 250 subject teachers.

In order to strengthen the linguistic environment for minority groups outside the formal education system, the project will support a series of activities to promote integration at the community level. These activities include summer camps, youth clubs and other projects involving youth from Latvian and non-Latvian schools.

Approximately 100,000 copies of new modern teaching materials (books, training manuals, video and audio materials) will be produced to make Latvian language training available to all who desire it. The project will provide operational delivery of language training directly through courses to target adult professional groups (police, firemen, court and prison personnel, army recruits and others) as well as to a broader audience through instructional programming for television and radio. These media programmes will be part of a wider campaign to help promote attitudinal changes and create a favourable environment for non-Latvian speakers' learning the Latvian language outside the formal education system.

The Latvian Language Project Unit (LLPU), will continue to co-ordinate activities for the duration of the project and manage the financial resources contributed to the project by donors. The operational costs of the LLPU as the implementation of the project have been included in the project budget.

Expected results and output

By the end of the project (1st and 2nd phase, i.e. January 2000), approximately 900 LSL teachers will have been trained to teach adults and minority school students. Approximately 5600 subject teachers in minority schools will have received Latvian language training to improve their capacity to teach their respective subjects in Latvian and an additional 250 teachers will have been trained in the new methodology. The capacity development will take place in a decentralized manner, so as to build local training and educational capacities throughout Latvia.

By the year 2000, virtually all of Latvia's 125,000 minority school students will have been reached by the project, either through contact with a trained LSL teacher, subject teacher and/or newly-developed educational materials. This impact will grow over time as students move through the school system and come into contact with additional teachers trained in the new methodology and by utilizing new educational materials. The extra-curricular activities aimed at promoting integration at the community level will have affected 1500 students directly through their participation in the activities, and it is hoped that the benefits of participation may "ripple" through the participants' circle of family and friends.

The language courses provided for target adult groups will reach approximately 5400 people, while the language instruction courses provided through radio and television could reach a much larger audience. The instruction course for television has a total of seven levels. Level One was viewed by approximately 35,000 viewers and statistics for subsequent levels will be tracked to determine the programme's reach.

Over the four-year life of the project, approximately 150,000 copies of new modern teaching materials (books, training manuals, video and audio materials) will have been produced to make Latvian language training available to all who desire it. The materials produced will be developed to complement other project activities. For example, a home-study workbook will be produced to accompany the television instruction programme, a teacher's handbook will be produced for use by teachers upon completion of training, and subject-specific "mini-dictionaries" will be produced for use by the targeted professional adult groups upon completion of their training.

4. Institutional Framework

Responsibilities for language education for school-age students and adults in Latvia are shared by many institutions:

The Ministry of Education and Science is responsible for teaching the Latvian language in educational institutions. The Ministry is also in charge of curriculum and teaching material development for both the Latvian language and minority language schools, but not for Latvian language training for adults.

The State Language Centre (SCL), established in early 1992, is responsible for activities such as the formulation of language policy, regulation of the use of Latvian in public life, protection of the Latvian language, and scientific research and co-ordination of research on the Latvian language.

Naturalization testing is administered by the Naturalization Board (NB) of the State Chancellery. The Board supervises 16 territorial units throughout Latvia

The Public Service Language Centre (PSLC) is a not-for-profit organization established in late 1994 helps to improve the English language skills of the public (civil) service. The PSLC has recently expanded its language programme beyond the training of civil servants in English and is also offering a limited number of courses in Latvian for non-Latvian speakers.

The University of Latvia (Faculty of Philologies and Faculty of Pedagogics), Riga Teacher Training and Educational Management Academy, and the institutions of higher education in Daugavpils, Liepaja and Rezekne are responsible for Latvian language teacher training and to a certain extent also for training of non-Latvian speaking students.

Numerous organizations are active in the area of adult education, including youth centres, cultural clubs and libraries run by the Government, local government institutions such as the Local Government Education Centre in Riga, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) which have increased considerably in both number and importance since the restoration of independence. Non-governmental organizations such as the Latvian Society of Knowledge are presently the main providers of Latvian language training, while the Latvian Adult Education Association, another important NGO, has started to build a network of adult education institutions. These organizations do not receive financial support from the Government.

The Latvian Language Programme Unit (LLPU) was established in 1997 to implement the UNDP Latvia multi-donor cost-shared project Promotion of Social Integration: Support to Implementation of

the National Programme for Latvian Language Training . The LLPU co-ordinates the implementation of the project based on decisions taken by the Project Steering Committee. The LLPU together with the Project Steering Committee are responsible for ensuring sustainability of the National Programme for Latvian Language Training after the end of the project.

5. Budget* (ECU)

	Investment	Institution building	Total Phare (=I+IB)	Recipient (state budget)	Other donors	TOTAL**
development of training capacities for minority schools and adults	247,500	n/a	247,500		2,142,100	2,389,600
training operations in adult education	82,500	n/a	82,500		701,660	784,160
mass media campaign	97,500	n/a	97,500		552,100	649,600
management and implementation expenses	72,500	n/a	72,500		502,860	575,360
TOTAL	500,000	n/a	500,000		3,898,720	4,398,720

* the programme for 1998-2000 has not yet been approved by the Steering Committee, thus above information reflects preliminary estimates

** In cases of co-financing only

6. Implementation Authority

Technical Implementation:

This will be the responsibility of the **Latvian Language Programme Unit**

Contractual & Financial Implementation:

This will be the responsibility of the CFCU, PAO - Valentīna Andrcjeva, State Secretary Ministry of Finance

7. Implementation Schedule

Design will be finalised during 4th quarter 1998, contracting will take place in the 1st quarter 1999 after which implementation will commence and continue until 3rd quarter 2000.

8. Equal opportunity

The direct target groups for the National Programme for Latvian Language Training include the Latvian as a Second Language teachers, subject teachers in minority schools and the non-Latvian speaking population. The participation in project activities is voluntary, however, the project implementing agency strongly encourages participation of all interested parties regardless of gender, age or ethnic background.

Statistically, the project benefits more women than men since the large majority of teachers in Latvia are women. Language learning is a very good means to convey other educational messages to the target groups. For example, the project strongly promotes gender equality through the materials it produces. The 8th and 9th grade text books for minority school students produced under the project expose students to non-traditional attitudes towards gender roles. The implementing agency will ensure continuation of such practices in the future. Similarly, the contents of training courses

conducted in the framework of the project expose participants to the basic principles of an open and democratic society, including gender equality.

9. Conditionality and Sequencing

As the National Programme for Latvian Language Training is an important national initiative intended to promote the social integration of non-Latvian ethnic groups, it will be an integral part of the Government's overall National Integration Strategy which is currently being developed. UNDP together with other participating donor partners, the Government of Latvia, and the European Commission have agreed that support for both of these initiatives from the international community should be coordinated into a common framework to the extent possible.

While the framework for supporting the future National Integration Strategy is yet to be determined, the support for the National Programme for Latvian Language Training has been agreed to be provided by a common framework with UNDP acting as custodian, or steward, of that framework. Therefore, the participating donors have agreed to support the project as a whole, thereby not complicating the coordination of donor assistance which would result if individual donors chose to support only specific components of the project. For this reason, the Phare contribution to the project has been distributed evenly across project components and activities, and in relative proportion to the anticipated contributions from other donors to the project.

While the specific contributions from other participating donors (eg, the Governments of Sweden, Finland, Norway, the Netherlands and Denmark) have yet to be finalised, UNDP has received indicative information that the level of contribution shall be approximately equivalent to the previous contributions. As the budget for the second phase of this project is larger than that for the first phase, it is anticipated that the Government of Latvia shall supply the balance of the financing requirements. Already in 1998, the Government has allocated approximately ECU 190,000 to the National Programme and has indicated it will seek significantly larger sums for the National Programme in subsequent years.

The Latvian Language Programme Unit has to continuously analyse and comment the regulations issued by the Ministry of Education and Science to ensure that requirements for minority school teachers are harmonized with the actual capacity and/or that provisions are made to build the capacity accordingly. Analysis of the current situation are to be completed by the LLPU in July 1998. In addition, continued support to the project is conditional upon observance of international standards as elaborated in the Labour Code, as well in the Law on Education which is still under consideration by the parliament, or Saeima.

Political and financial support by the Latvian Government to on-going as well as an extension of the National Programme of Latvian Language Training in order to further integrate the non-Latvian speaking population into the society (for example in the Integration Strategy which is to be worked out by June 1998).

- ◆ Elaboration of a budget strategy for sustaining and enlarging the National Programme of Latvian Language Training and the Latvian Language Programme Unit after the end of the current project (mainly financed by international donors) in 1999.
- ◆ Amendments of the draft Language Law and the proposed amendments of the Labour Code so that they correspond to international standards.
- ◆ Continuous analysis and comments by the Latvian Language Programme Unit on regulations issued by the Ministry of Education and Science to ensure that requirements for minority school teacher are harmonised (realistic in comparison) with the actual capacity and/or that provisions are made to build the capacity accordingly. Analysis of the current situation are to be completed by the Latvian Language Programme Unit in May 1998

ANNEX 1		Programme name: and number:	Date of drafting: 23.04.98
LOGFRAME PLANNING MATRIX FOR <i>Promotion of Social Integration: Support to Implementation of the National Programme for Latvian Language Training</i>		Contracting period expires: 31.10.2000	Disbursement period expires: 31.10.2001
<i>Project Number LE9803.01</i>		Total:(ECU) 4,398,720	Phare contribution: (ECU): 500,000
Wider Objective (1996-2000)	Indicators of Achievement* (1996-2000)	How, When and By Whom Indicators Will Be Measured	Assumptions and Risks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> promote social integration through strengthening the linguistic environment for minority school students and increasing the level of Latvian language proficiency among non-Latvian speaking adults 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 125,000 of minority school students reached by trained Latvian language teachers and subject teachers 375,000 students and adults will have benefited from new materials (including audio-visual) increased naturalisation rates among adults increased inter-ethnic tolerance in schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LLPU (Latvian Language Programme Unit) records TV and radio rating tables Naturalisation Board data attitudinal surveys commissioned by LLPU consultations with minority school directors and teachers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a direct link between the training adults have received and the naturalisation rates a direct link between youth clubs and camps and increased integration of youth from various ethnic groups effective and sustained utilization of new teaching materials and methodology by trained teachers all minority schools which have benefited from the new text books pass them to the next grade
Immediate Objectives (1999-2000)	Indicators of Achievement* (1999-2000)	How, When and By Whom Indicators Will Be Measured	Assumptions and Risks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> enhance Latvian language teaching capacity through teacher training and materials development enhance the capacity of minority schools to teach subjects in Latvian increase the level of Latvian language proficiency among specific adult target groups promote inter-ethnic dialogue at community level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 650 Latvian language teachers trained in new methodology 100,000 copies of new teaching materials and aids provided to students and teachers 4,000 subject teachers received Latvian language training 250 subject teachers trained in new methodology 4,400 number of adults received Latvian language training 1,500 attended youth-camps, clubs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LLPU records 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> infrastructure availability of human resources and ability of teachers to assume additional responsibilities commitment of stakeholders to project objectives
Outputs (1999-2000)	Indicators of Achievement* (1999-2000)	How, When and By Whom Indicators Will Be Measured	Assumptions and Risks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Latvian language teaching and subject teaching methodology courses Latvian language courses for subject teachers in minority schools Latvian language courses for specific adult target groups training of trainer courses for subject teachers and Latvian language teachers materials development for minority school students and adults (including audio-visual) inter-ethnic youth clubs, camps and extra-curricular activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 32 methodology courses held 200 Latvian language courses held for subject teachers in minority schools 220 Latvian language courses held for specific adult target groups 2 training of trainers courses held 60 Latvian language and subject teacher trainers trained 100,000 copies of text books and other materials printed 120 (40 each) camps, clubs and extra-curricular activities financed 2 levels of TV film completed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LLPU records 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> infrastructure availability of human resources and ability of teachers to assume additional responsibilities commitment of stakeholders to project objectives
Inputs	Indicators of Achievement*	How, When and By Whom Indicators Will Be Measured	Assumptions and Risks

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • national & international experts for teacher training; materials development and mass media product development • Latvian language teacher trainers • Latvian language teachers for adults and minority school subject teachers • youth camp, club and extra-curricular activity facilitators • Latvian Language Programme Unit staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23 international experts • 100 national experts • 40 Latvian language teacher trainers • 440 Latvian language teachers • 120 youth club, camp and extra-curricular activity facilitators • 7 LLPU staff members and 5 regional coordinators 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • project budget • LLPU records 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all funds available on time • required expertise readily available
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Annex 2

Detailed cost breakdown LE 9803.01

	Institution building	Investment	Total Phare (=I+IB)	Recipient* (state budget)	Other donors	TOTAL**
Training of trainers		30,000	30,000		248,400	278,400
Training of LSL teachers		50,000	50,000		506,800	556,800
Training of subject teachers		50,000	50,000		506,800	556,800
Development of school materials		15,000	15,000		124,200	139,200
Development of adult materials		30,000	30,000		248,400	278,400
Printing of school materials		35,000	35,000		289,800	324,800
Printing of adult materials		20,000	20,000		119,200	139,200
Courses for young adults		30,000	30,000		266,960	296,960
Courses for specific adult target groups		35,000	35,000		336,200	371,200
TV language instruction film		50,000	50,000		298,000	348,000
Audio/video/ internet materials		10,000	10,000		82,800	92,800
Public/media campaigns		20,000	20,000		72,800	92,800
Inter-ethnic youth clubs, camps and extra-curricular activities, as well as related mass media activities		70,000	70,000		394,000	464,000
LLPU staff and facilities		50,000	50,000		367,600	417,600
Monitoring and Evaluation activities		5,000	5,000		36,760	41,760
TOTAL		500,000	500,000		3,898,720	4,398,720

* the programme for 1998-2000 has not yet been approved by the Steering Committee, thus above information reflects preliminary estimates

** In cases of co-financing only

Annex 3

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE OF THE PROGRAMME LE 9803.01					Date of Drafting	April 1998	
					Planning Period	31.10.98-31.10.00	
Programme Title							
Projects Sub-Projects	Implementation Schedule (Semesters)					Budget Allocation Cost Estimate	
P L A N N E D							
	I Oct 98-Mar 99	II Apr 99-Sep 99	III Oct 99-Mar 00	IV Apr 00-Sep 00			
Support to the Implementation of the National Programme for Latvian Language Training	D + C + I	I	I	I	500,000		
Total Programme					500 000 ECU		
Legend							
D	=	Design of sub-project					
C	=	Tendering and contracting					
I	=	Contract implementation and payment					

Annex 4

COMMITMENT (CONTRACT) SCHEDULE					Date of Drafting	April 1998	
LE 9803.01					Planning Period	31.10.98- 31.10.00	
Programme Title							
Projects Sub-Projects	Expected Contractual Commitments (Semesters)				Budget Allocation Cost Estimate		
	P L A N N E D						
	I Oct 98-Mar 99	II Apr 99-Sep 99	III Oct 99-Mar 00	IV Apr 00-Sep 00			
Support to the Implementation of the National Programme for Latvian Language Training	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000		
Total Programme	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500 000 ECU		

ANNEX 5

LE 9803.01

Relation of project with previous Phare activities and with ongoing project financed from other sources (national, bilateral or multilateral funding)

The current project is a continuation of Phase II of a project initiated in December 1996 Promotion of Social Integration: Support to Implementation of a National Programme for Latvian Language Training.

The overall objective of both Phases is to enhance social integration in Latvia by supporting the implementation of the first four years of the National Programme for Latvian Language Training. An important objective of the project is the development of a significant core of Latvian as a second language (LSL) teachers within the educational system and providing the necessary materials to allow effective delivery of language training. The learner-oriented approach to teaching Latvian as a second language shall benefit not only the students, but also the teachers involved, as the concept of LSL represents a first step towards introducing modern pedagogical techniques into the Latvian educational system.

The total budget of Phase I was USD 320,000 (ECU 2,988,160). Phare contributed ECU 500,000 to the Phase I from its 1996 budget.