Past EPS Education Activities

The European Commission has supported EPS activities in the field of physics education since 1998. A list of these activities and links to the resources developed can be found below.

**PATHWAY Project**

Pathway (2011-2013) was a project funded by the European Commission under FP7-Capacities to promote the effective widespread use of inquiry and problem based science teaching techniques (Inquiry Based Science Education - IBSE) in primary and secondary schools in Europe and beyond...

The Pathway project aimed to:
- support the adoption of inquiry teaching by demonstrating ways to reduce the constraints of IBSE for teachers and school organisations
- demonstrate and disseminate methods and best practice examples of both the effective introduction of IBSE into science classrooms and teacher training programmes
- deliver a set of guidelines for the educational community to further explore and exploit the unique benefits of the proposed approach in science teaching.

The Pathway project developed communities of practitioners of IBSE that will enable teachers to learn from each other, and encourage the uptake of IBSE through:
- the development a standard-based approach to teaching science by inquiry that outlines instructional models. These models will assist teachers to effectively organise their science instruction
- motivating teachers to adopt inquiry based techniques and activities in their classrooms
- access to a unique collection of open educational resources and teaching practices (linked with the science curricula) that have been reviewed for their ability to effectively promote inquiry based education and exploration beyond the limitations of the classroom.

**Related links**

More information: [www.pathway-project.eu](http://www.pathway-project.eu)
**Odysseus contest**

Odysseus (2011-2013) is a contest for young students. Under the guidance of their teachers, students will prepare projects revolving around one of three major themes in space science: Solar System, Spaceship (global cooperation) and Co-evolution of life.

Participation was open to teams of students (maximum 5 team members) between 14 to 18 years old. Each team will also include a teacher as a mentor. Each team will design and demonstrate an interactive project in one of the three themes.

The 3 winning teams were invited to the Awards Ceremony that take place in the Odysseus Conference at Space Expo premises.

**Learning with Atlas at CERN**

Learning with ATLAS@CERN (2008-2010) was financed by the European Commission. Using the opportunities offered by the CERN’s LHC, the project created an experimental laboratory for students, teachers and science museum visitors to improve science instruction. Learning with Atlas at CERN provides resources for teaching and learning in schools, universities and science centers & museums. It provides more challenging and authentic learning experiences.

**COSMOS**

The COSMOS project (2007-2009) was financed by the European Commission’s. It developed a virtual experimental laboratory for students and teachers to improve science instruction at schools and universities.

**Sky Watch**

The SKY WATCH project (2005-2006), financed by the European Commission introduced European youth to science and technology. Innovative teaching techniques and materials were developed as well a pan-European science contest.
D-Space

The Discovery Space project (D-Space, 2003-2007) was financed by the European Commission. It contributed to the access to and sharing of advanced tools, services and learning resources for schools, science parks and research centers. D-Space provided access to a network of remotely controlled robotic telescopes in real time. Users could observe our solar system, stars, galaxies, comets and many more objects and phenomena.

World Year of Physics

The WYP 2005 project (2005) was financed by the European Commission. The EPS coordinated a European network of 24 EPS Member Societies to develop and implement activities promoting physics in schools and to the general public. The year 2005 was chosen as the World Year of Physics because it marked the 100th anniversary of Albert Einstein's "miraculous year" in which he published three important papers describing ideas that have since influenced all of modern physics.

CEPS

The Consortium of European Physics Schools (CEPS, 2004) was financed by the European Commission. The partners in CEPS were the EPS, the SIF, the SFP and the DPG, the Italian Physical Society, the German Physical Society and the Directorate of the Les Houches School. CEPS created a forum to plan summer schools in physics to avoid overlap and create a repository of course materials.

PANS

NuPECC and the EPS collaborate in the Public Awareness of Nuclear Science initiative. The start up of the project was financed by the European Commission. Nuclear physics reaches from the smallest particles known to the stars, from philosophical questions to medical equipment. PANS provides information on an array of nuclear physics applications, prepared by leading scientists in the field.