PARALLEL WORKSHOPS

Descriptions in English

14:30 – 16:00	
Workshop 1 (in Greek) Building ΧΩΔ02 Room 007	**Workshop 2 (in Greek)** Building ΧΩΔ02 Room 008
Improving learning outcomes for all students: school level practices Dr. Andreas Kythreotis Dr. Costas Michael Dr. Georgia Pashiardi Maria Chatzipieri	**From theory to practice in school improvement:** **Making the connections by drawing on successful school practices** Dr. Panayiotis Antoniou Andreas Tsolakis George Siambis Tonia Skordi George Koxenoglou Andrie Michael
Workshop 3 (in Greek) Building ΧΩΔ02 Room 009	**Workshop 4 (in English)** Building ΧΩΔ02 Room 110
The role of the Advisory and Research Team in supporting school stakeholders to use the dynamic approach to school improvement: **A professional development program** Prof. Leonidas Kyriakides Dr. Dona Papastylianou	**Developing theoretically driven and empirically based educational policies: Needs and challenges** Dr. Charalambos Y. Charalambous Dr. Demetris Demetriou

Dr. Andreas Kythreotis, Inspector of Elementary Education

Dr. Costas Michael, Headteacher 3rd Elementary School of Lakatamia, Ayios Georgios

Dr. Georgia Pashiardi, Headteacher Ayios Demetrios Elementary School

Maria Chatzipieri, Headteacher 6th Elementary School of Lakatamia - Ayios Stylianos

The main purpose of this workshop is to examine good practices on educational policy that focus on the role of the school units for improving the quality of teaching aiming to help all types of students. Initially, there will be a presentation of crucial factors of educational policy referring to actions on the school level. Those factors were found to be significant through the investigation of two evidence-based programs of educational effectiveness and school improvement. Adjoining to the presentation of the factors, the cases of two elementary schools will be presented, as interventions for the improvement of their students' learning outcomes occurred. The school units had an active role in the process, as they were encouraged by the research team to design and applicate their own policies on specific issues related to their school unit. Next, there will be a discussion intending to give the chance to participants to exchange knowledge, experiences, and opinions. At the end of the workshop, it is expected from the participants to enrich their knowledge on practices that refer to issues of educational policy that can prove beneficial for the improvement of learning outcomes in their school units.

Workshop 2
From theory to practice in school improvement:
Making the connections by drawing on successful school practices

Dr. Panayiotis Antoniou, Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge

Andreas Tsolakis, Headteacher, 3rd Elementary School of Ayios Dometios (2015-2016)

George Siambis, Headteacher, 3rd Elementary School of Ayios Dometios (2016-2017)

Tonia Skordi, Teacher, 3rd Elementary School of Ayios Dometios

George Koxenoglou, Headteacher, 2nd Elementary School of Kaimakli (KB)

Andrie Michael, Headteacher, 2nd Elementary School of Dali

This workshop brings together theory and practice in relation to school improvement approaches that promote both quality and equity in schools. The participants will have the chance to discuss the experiences of school headteahers and teachers that have successfully implemented the Dynamic Approach to School Improvement in their schools during the last year in Cyprus and to reflect on the facilitators and barriers that they have encountered, such as time constraints and resistance to change. They will also have the chance to develop a practical framework, drawing on theory driven and evidence based approaches, that they could put forward in their efforts to initiate change and improve the quality of teaching and student outcomes in their schools.

Workshop 3

The role of the Advisory and Research Team in supporting school stakeholders to use the dynamic approach to school improvement:

A professional development program

Dr. Leonidas Kyriakides, Department of Education, University of Cyprus

Dr. Dona Papastylianou, Department of Philosophy-Pedagogy-Psychology, Section of Psychology, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

This workshop will present the dynamic approach to school improvement (DASI) and will attempt to link it with the systemic approach in order to facilitate its effective implementation at schools taking into account teachers' personal and social needs. More specifically, this workshop will focus on the skills that an advisory and research team should have in supporting schools to implement DASI and the use of these skills for professional development purposes.

Workshop 4

Developing theoretically driven and empirically based educational policies: Needs and challenges

Dr. Charalambos Y. Charalambous, Department of Education, University of Cyprus

Dr. Demetris Demetriou, Open University Cyprus

In this workshop participants will have the opportunity to discuss the importance and the benefits of developing educational policies that are theoretically driven and informed by relevant research findings. Several reasons (e.g., educational, social, and political) necessitate developing such policies both within and outside Europe. Because often times this approach of developing educational policies is hard to materialize, the workshop participants will be encouraged to reflect on attempts undertaken within their countries to develop such policies and propose practical and realistic measures that contribute toward making this approach more feasible. Toward this end, we will reflect on the main challenges associated with developing such policies. Such challenges include that educational research is not always realistic and authentic or grounded in actual educational needs and challenges; research findings are not always accessible and comprehensible by educational policymakers; and educational systems might be resistant to change thus failing to adopt/adapt educational research findings.