



Inquiry Based Science Education (IBSME) in Serbia

Ruka u testu (*La main à la pâte*) is Serbian program aiming at renovating science education in elementary and low-secondary schools. It recommends that teachers implement *Inquiry Based Science Education (IBSME)*, which aims:

- at renovating science education in elementary schools, allowing exchanges and enhancing the development of good practices: teacher's training, evaluation, *on-line* projects and dissemination.
- to stimulate and support a Primary School education by experimentation, based on scientific method.

Led by the children in small groups, teacher provides the answers related to the initial hypotheses. This approach involves questioning the pupils about the real world, phenomenon or object.



Resources from *Ruka u testu*

- translated Books: *La main à la pâte*; *Seeds of science 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7*; *Teaching Science at School*; *Discovering the World at Nursery School*;
- Collaborative and interdisciplinary projects: *On the steps of Eratosthenes*, *European discoveries*, *Living with sun*, *Climate, my planet and me!*



- Free Pedagogical Kits for Primary Schools
- Many appendixes in Serbian Educational weekly journal *Prosvetni pregled* and three E-Bulletins with instructions for teachers;
- Exhibitions: *Sciences à l'école: quelle histoire!* *Nanomonde*; *Science festivals* in Belgrade, Novi Sad and Podgorica (Monte Negro);
- Website <http://rukautestu.vinca.rs>, the semi-mirror of the French website (www.inrp.fr/lamap), in use (in Serbian) from the end of 2008, on which teachers can find many important resources for the work in classes...;
- Training workshops for more than 3000 teachers



International relations

Member of EU-FP7-FIBONACCI consortium, as TC1 center for dissemination of IBSME method; The *Greenwave* network includes 50 schools from entire Serbia

Meetings: Four South – East European workshops for *Hands on* primary science education (2005-2008)

<http://rukautestu.vin.bg.ac.rs/handson4/>

Partners: Academy of Sciences and Arts; Serbian Physics Society; Serbian Ministry of Education; Serbian Ministry of Sciences, Technology and Development; Eurosciences; School publishing house *Zavod za udzbenike*; Weekly educational journal *Prosvetni pregled*; IAP and French Academy of Sciences; French Embassy in Serbia.

Lunched in 2001 by Stevan Jokić, laureate of *purKwa* prize in 2007, for the scientific literacy of the children of the planet, *Ruka u testu* has been in constant development since then, entering in a partnership with the VIN^A Institute (Belgrade).

In 2003, the Serbian Ministry of Education decided to put forward an optional course “*Hands on – Discovering the World*”, for children from 6 to 8 years old.

A rough estimation gives that in project is involved about 7-10% schools, i. e. 300 classes, 6000 to 8000 children and 300 teachers.

Contact: Stevan Jokić

Vinča Institute, 11001 Belgrade, Serbia

sjokic@vinca.rs

Phone: +381 11 245 50 41