

# **Kit for Science – Geography**

## **Population and People in Europe**

### **Process**

#### **Getting started**

Each partner

- introduces the concept of population and what causes growth or decline in population (birth rate, death rate, immigration and emigration).
- Discusses what affects each of these factors: asylum and forced migration; free population mobility within for example Schengen countries in Europe (Stalkers guide to international migration)
- introduces the idea of population census and why information is gathered and in which form information is collected (online, paper, questionnaire, face-to-face).

#### **Collecting and sorting information**

Each partner

- Researches population information for their country, the local area or region: age/sex of the population, recent changes, growing or declining in population - spreadsheet and graphs or charts drawn to express the data visually. Maps could be scanned and used for the presentation.
- Explores, discusses and describes regional population for their own region: population, economy, social, welfare and other indicators
- gathers local information on housing, local environment and activities (employment, leisure, culture etc.) from their local region.
- gathers information in their region about their region: doing field visits, visiting (or contacting) local tourist offices or other agencies or internet research– the resources may include photographs, multimedia, statistics and aspects of the people and their activities
- brainstorms and discusses which aspects are attractive and unattractive to people who might want to come to their region.
- produces a presentation and a description about these different aspects of their region in groups

#### **Exchanging information:**

Both partners

- will share the information they gathered with the other partner (web site or email)

- compare and contrast their own region with the partner region (online via email, chat, videoconferencing or forum)

### **Outcome**

Powerpoint presentation or presentation on a web site to document the results of the research. Shared file archive on the regions and their population.

### **Options and Follow up:**

Each partner can:

- consider the future of their region and also the contrasting region in Europe that they have studied.
- comment on the significance for population of the regions and Europe as a whole – (e.g. age, size of the workforce, where people are located, movements of specific groups of people in Europe), gather newspaper cuttings and other resources, classes can write news stories about the changes in population
- other regions can be investigated, like mountains, coastal, plains, islands, the north can be compared with south or east and west of Europe

### **Similar projects:**

Nation Master <http://www.nationmaster.com/>

- massive central data source and a useful way to graphically compare nations
- data from sources as the CIA World Factbook, United Nations, World Health Organization, World Bank, World Resources Institute, UNESCO, UNICEF and OECD.

City Population <http://www.citypopulation.de/>

- Cities and agglomerations of Europe  
<http://www.citypopulation.de/Europe.html>
- statistics and maps about the population of the major city areas of the world.
- interactive maps of location and population of the administrative areas and major cities of most countries, population growth and population density

EUROGEO European Maps <http://www.eurogeo.org/flash/maps/index.html>

- interactive maps of regions of Europe at NUTS 1 level
- to select areas and to compare and contrast a range of population, economic and other indicators.
- European overview and allows regions to be investigated in depth
- [http://www.eurogeo.org/eurogeo\\_project/index\\_project.htm](http://www.eurogeo.org/eurogeo_project/index_project.htm)  
Interactive handbook providing guidance on how to use the maps and teach about Citizenship in Geography.

Population Connection <http://www.populationeducation.org/index.jsp>

- teaching materials and tools which include free selected activities and facts and background information
- Environmental Connections, People and Society, Population Dynamics, population growth patterns, demographics, and forecasting.

Facing the Future: People and the planet <http://www.facingthefuture.org/>

Pupils can

- understand global issues and sustainability in a way that shows the connections between population, environment, consumption, poverty and conflict
- Develop a global perspective
- Learn critical thinking skills Be inspired to take personal action (Stalkers guide to international migration <http://pstalker.com/migration/index.htm>)

United Nations Population Information Network <http://www.un.org/popin/>

- Population Information Network (POPIN) strives to make international, regional and national population information, particularly information available from United Nations sources, easily

World Wind <http://worldwind.arc.nasa.gov/>

- zoom from satellite altitude into any place on Earth,
- download the viewer and probably update your Windows ActiveX files.
- experience Earth terrain in visually-rich 3D
- big drawback is that a high specification computer and fast broadband connection are required.

### **Some other interesting sites include**

All islands have limits

[http://enough\\_already.tripod.com/](http://enough_already.tripod.com/)

Overpopulation.net

<http://www.overpopulation.net/>

eMap catalogues (set of interactive maps)

<http://dma.jrc.it/Catalog/catalog.asp>

Humanities Interactive

[http://www.humanities-interactive.org/a\\_base\\_UD.html](http://www.humanities-interactive.org/a_base_UD.html)

Migrants and asylum seekers in selected European countries (Flash)

<http://edition.cnn.com/interactive/specials/0103/immigration.numbers/immigration.by.the.nos.swf>

Atlas of population and the environment (Flash e-book)  
[http://atlas.aas.org/flash/AAAS\\_atlas\\_v.1\\_chromatope.swf](http://atlas.aas.org/flash/AAAS_atlas_v.1_chromatope.swf)

Big Picture, small world (Flash)  
[http://www.bigpicturesmallworld.com/movies/bigpicture\\_9\\_14\\_2002B.swf](http://www.bigpicturesmallworld.com/movies/bigpicture_9_14_2002B.swf)

Walking around europa (Flash) games about Europe  
<http://www.europa.learningtogether.net/>

Juicy Geography  
<http://www.juicygeography.co.uk/index.htm>

Interactive Games  
<http://www.juicygeography.co.uk/interactivegames.htm>

Karl Donert, UK pedagogical advisor, has prepared this project kit.