

## **Developing Multilingual Oracies of 3-7 year-olds in Formal and Non-Formal Educational Settings in Luxembourg**

Luxembourg is a trilingual country and the EU member state with the highest percentage of resident foreigners. Currently, 60% of nursery children do not speak Luxembourgish as a first language. They learn Luxembourgish in the nursery, German in Year 1 and French from Year 2. A monoglossic perspective of language learning pervades this trilingual system. The system is particularly challenging for children with a migrant background. Large-scale studies continuously demonstrate that differences in educational achievement correlate with pupils' social and cultural backgrounds.

The government has put measures in place to improve language development and social inclusion in both the formal and non-formal sectors. These measures necessitate the training of staff. Based on social constructivist theories of language learning, our two professional development courses for teachers and educators address the need for innovative methods for developing multilingual oracies.

In the presentation, I will examine the children's and the practitioners' oracy practices in the projects "iTEO" and "multilingual oracies". The first study investigates collaborative storytelling of 4-7 year-olds on the iPad app iTEO, which allows users to record and edit oral language. The automatic playback materialises the language thereby providing opportunities for reflection. The second one aims at the development of multiple languages in 3-5 year-olds through the use of books, pictures and rhymes. Both qualitative studies are based on video-recordings from the researchers and the practitioners, on observations, interviews and the collection of material. The findings show the extent to which the 3-7 year-olds collaboratively construct texts in several languages, transform utterances, use translanguaging, assess their products and reflect on language use. The findings are of relevance to inclusive multilingual educational programmes.