



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

**Regional Bureau  
for Science and Culture  
in Europe**

Mrs Milena Roganovic

ASPnet National Coordinator  
Ministry of Education and Science  
Department for International  
Cooperation and European  
Integration  
Vaka Djurovica, bb  
Podgorica, Montenegro

Venice, 22 June 2017

Ref.: UNESCOVENICE/SC/LB/2017/0231f

**Subject: Invitation to participate in UNESCO webinar on Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) and inquiry based science education (IBSE)**

Dear Mrs. Roganovic,

Addressing you in your capacity as the ASPnet National Coordinator for your country, the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe, Venice, is pleased to extend to you an invitation to participate in a webinar on Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) and Inquiry Based Science Education (IBSE) as a part of the project, *Ark of Inquiry: Inquiry Awards for Youth over Europe*.

This opportunity is being made available for not only ASPnet National Coordinators, but for all science teachers (primary and secondary) and other interested education professionals within your network and from other teacher networks in your country. The training will be offered at two different times to accommodate teachers' busy schedule at the beginning of the school year:

- Wednesday, 6 September at 15:00 CET
- Thursday, 7 September at 15:00 CET

The project *Ark of Inquiry: Inquiry Awards for Youth over Europe* (<http://www.arkofinquiry.eu/>) is an EU-funded research and development project. It is coordinated by the University of Tartu, Estonia in collaboration with a consortium of partners, including UNESCO, from 12 different European countries. Now in its fourth and final year of the project, UNESCO is committed to expanding the outreach of this project to interested participants from South-East European and Mediterranean countries.

The webinar is being organized in full consultation with the International Coordinator of the UNESCO Associated Schools Project (UNESCO ASPnet) and will provide participants with tools, training and access to inquiry activities that are ready to be immediately applied in their science classrooms. It is expected to last 1½ to 2 hours approximately and will cover the following:

- Introduction to the Ark of Inquiry project and the concepts of RRI and IBSE
- Presentation of the Ark of Inquiry learning model and its application in the classroom
- Participation in a demonstration online inquiry activity
- How to access the Ark of Inquiry portal (<http://arkportal.eu>), which has over 700 vetted inquiry activities covering a wide variety of STEM subjects

Since the webinar will be conducted in English, a working knowledge of the language is a prerequisite for participation in this online training. Interested science teachers who do not have a strong command of the English language may wish to consider partnering with English-language teachers at their school. Although present activities in the Ark of Inquiry portal are primarily in the consortium partners' languages (Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, Flemish, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian and Turkish), the project is always searching for new activities in additional languages to be added. This being the case, participation in the webinar from your country would be a great way for the project to gauge your country's interest in the topic and therefore look into opportunities for future collaboration and translation of additional inquiry activities.

While the resources presented in the webinar are geared towards primarily science teachers, other interested participants are also welcome to subscribe (teacher educators, teacher students, parents, pupils (ages 7-18), scientists and researchers in science centres and science museums, or other science professionals employed in a governmental or national agency). The Regional Bureau looks forward to welcoming you and members of your national education networks to this interesting webinar and thus to the growing Ark of Inquiry community.

To register for the webinar, the project kindly asks to fill in the online registration form at: <https://goo.gl/forms/LSmH63PepcLVhDBG3>. Registration for the webinar is open until 31 July 2017. Space is limited to 100 participants per session. Participants will be contacted to confirm registration for the selected webinar.

For any questions on this activity or the Ark of Inquiry project in general, you may contact Ms. Lauren Bohatka, Associate Project Officer ([l.bohatka@unesco.org](mailto:l.bohatka@unesco.org); +39 041 260 1555).

Thanking you for your continuous support as an ASPnet National Coordinator, we look forward to your participation in this interesting online opportunity.

With best regards,



Ana Luiza Thompson-Flores  
Director  
Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe, Venice (Italy)