DIVISION C / COMMISSION 1 / WORKING GROUP
NETWORK FOR ASTRONOMY SCHOOL EDUCATION - NASE

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TRIENNIAL REPORT 2015-2018

1. Introduction

The Network for Astronomy School Education, NASE, organizes courses for secondary and primary school teachers in different continents. The courses are given in the language of the country, and all the material is translated. A small group of two or three members of NASE visits the country and teaches the course in cooperation with local IAU members in the country (if there are any) and any teachers interested in astronomy. These people form a new local NASE working group and they repeat the course at least once per year. Of course, they are invited to cooperate with NASE in other courses and in the creation of materials. The local NASE working group cooperates with local institutions, e.g. the Ministry of Education, Universities and/or Observatories, Teachers Associations. The educational resources and course materials are in several languages: English, Spanish, Portuguese, Chinese Mandarin, Romanian, Indonesian, French and we are translating into other languages. The basic course is the same in all countries, except for the respective changes on latitude and longitude. Every course includes a special sessions on Cultural Astronomy and Astronomy in the City in order to showcase the uniqueness of each site. This part is prepared by local astronomers in cooperation with archeastronomy members of the IAU. Other monographic courses were created. We have courses of 4, 3 or 2 days related to more particular topics. Further information is available at http://www.naseprogram.org.

1.1. 2015-2017 Organized Courses

This WG organized 35 courses in the reported period 2015-2017 in 4 different continents: Africa, America, Asia and Europa:

104 Santiago de Chile (Chile) - January 8-11, 2018
103 Tunis (Tunisia) - November 14-17, 2017
102 Shizuishan (China) - November 2-3, 2017
101 Cluj (Rumania) - October 30-4, 2017
100 Guizhou (China) - October 16-20, 2017
99 Managua (Nicaragua) - July 24-26, 2017
98 Guatemala (Guatemala) - June 22-24, 2017
97 Jujuy (Argentina) - June 8-9, 2017
96 Foz de Iguacu (Brasil) - May 21-26, 2017
95 Salta (Argentina) - April 24-27, 2017
94 Tena (Ecuador) - March 6-10, 2017
93 San Luis Potosí (México) - October 28-30, 2016
The WG also organized several courses in cooperation: three workshops in Brazil and one in Argentina in 2017.

1.2. NASE publications

The publication of the books which support the courses is also a big goal, up to the moment of this report, the published material is:

- 14 steps to the Universe 2017, Ed. Rosa M. Ros and M. Kay Hemenway, 2nd edition
- 14 pasos hacia el Universo 2017, Ed. Rosa M. Ros and Beatriz García, 2nd edition
- Rosa M. Ros and Beatriz García, Sun and eclipses, 2017 (Ed. by CONICET, Argentina, in Spanish and English)

2. Closing remarks

NASE obtained certification in the IRAM-ISO 29990-2013 standards in Argentina in 2016, which concern "Learning services for non-formal education and training and basic requirements for learning service providers (LSP), in order to achieve compliance with certain goals and achieve concrete results that comply with an applicable standard worldwide. This certification must be obtained for each country. In this way Argentina is opening a way to the establishment of certification in other countries, although NASE can not establish this certification for all member countries because of the financial investment that this represents. All countries that are part of NASE are governed by the
same dynamics and structures, but to certify the quality standards, the chair of NASE has decided to certify first in the country where the program NASE is more widespread and where they have developed more courses (19 courses in the past 7 years), namely Argentina. In spite of that, the documentation can be very easily extended to other countries after changing a few specific details, and now is available in English, thanks to help from NASE-Honduras.

Rosa M. Ros
chair of Working Group