

Management Committee Meeting

COST Action IS0804

Language Impairment in a Multilingual Society: Linguistic Patterns and the Road to Assessment

Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities, Berlin, Germany
15 May, 2012

Present: Natasha Ringblom (SE), Belma Haznedar (TR), Philippe Prevost (FR), Kristine Jensen de Lopez (DK), Anne Baker (NL), Jelena Kuvac Krajevic (CR), Cornelia Hamann (DE), Kleantes Grohmann (CY), Ewa Haman (PL), Daniela Gatt (MT), Ianthi Tsimpli (GR), Petra Schulz (DE), Theo Marinis (UK), Zofia Wodniecka (PL), Chiara Levorato (IT), Seyhun Topbas (TR), Sandrine Ferre (FR, MC substitute), Hanne Gram Simonsen (NO, MC substitute), Arve Asbjornsen (NO), Melita Kovacevic (CR), Anna Gavarro (ES), Shula Chiat (UK), Naama Friedmann (IL), Ciara O'Toole (IE), Maria Kambanaros (CY), Elin Thordardottir, Maria Lobo (PT), Daniela Slancova (SK), Svetlana Kapalkova (SK), Esther Ruigendijk, Alain Peyraube (COST office), Ineta Dabasinskiene (LT), Ingrida Balčiūnienė (LT), Taima Valimaa (FI, MC substitute), Sari Kunnari (FI), Jasmina Vuksanovic (SB), Gisela Hakansson (SE), Joel Walters (IL), Pascale Engel de Abreu (LU), Sharon Armon Lotem (IL, Chair), Jan de Jong (NL, Vice-chair, Secretary), Alexandr Kornev (RU), Enkeleida Kapia (AL), Edith Kouba Hreich (LB), Camille Messarra (LB)

0. Welcome to participants

1. Adoption of agenda

The Agenda is adopted.

2. Minutes of last meeting

The Minutes are accepted.

3. Matters arising

4. Report from the COST Office – In the absence of a member of the COST office there are no news.

- News from the COST Office
- Status of Action, including participating countries –
- Budget status, budget planning and allocation process –

5. Action budget planning status

Budget report 2011

Turkey meeting	30 390.64 EUR
Berlin Meeting	4 613.36 EUR
Reading Meeting	1 303.86 EUR
Frankfurt Meeting (estimate)	2 000.00 EUR
Malta meeting (estimate)	57 210.00 EUR
<i>Subtotal Meeting (estimate)</i>	95 517.86 EUR
STSM (#21)	20 310.00 EUR
<i>Subtotal Science Expenditure (estimate)</i>	115 827.86 EUR
Secretarial Support	14 172.14 EUR
<i>Total Expenditure</i>	130 000.00EUR

Planned budget for 2012

Berlin meeting	50 000 EUR
Bangor dissemination event – international workshop for practitioners and ESR	3,000 EUR
Padua meeting	50 000 EUR
<i>Subtotal Meetings</i>	103 000 EUR
STSM	22 000 EUR
<i>Summer/Training School</i>	23 500 EUR
<i>Subtotal Science Expenditure</i>	148 500 EUR
Secretarial Support	16 500 EUR
<i>Total Expenditure</i>	165 000 EUR

Budget report 2012 (estimates)

Berlin meeting	61 220.00 EUR (estimate)
<i>Subtotal Meeting (estimate)</i>	61 220.00 EUR
STSM (10)	10 655.31 EUR
<i>Subtotal Science Expenditure (estimate)</i>	71 875.31 EUR
Secretarial Support	7 187.53 EUR
<i>Total Expenditure</i>	79 062.84 EUR

The budget is approved.

Money left from the budget of the Berlin meeting will be reallocated to support the dissemination event and the training school.

The Action has proved to be highly successful. The meeting in Malta attracted 91 participants: 78 - eligible for reimbursement and the rest (who are WG members)

covered the transportation and accommodation at their own expense. Their willingness to pay their own expenses further shows the importance of such meetings in promoting collaborative networking and achieving our aims.

The current meeting, with the amended budget, was able to expand its scope and attracted over 90 participants, 38 MC members were eligible for reimbursement and 25 WG members and poster presenters were eligible as well. The other participants attended the meeting at their own expense showing yet again the importance of such meetings in promoting collaborative networking and achieving our aims. We were very pleased that the amended budget made it possible to reimburse so many ESRs this time.

6. STSMs status, applications

In 2011 20 STSMs took place. Since the beginning of 2012 7 STSMs have already taken place and 4 more are planned for April-May 2012. Of the 31 STSMs 22 (71%) were by ESRs. STSMs are a very successful tool. STSM applications should follow the general guidelines of this Action: the cheapest transportation and the cheapest accommodation available.

New STSM deadline: June 10th, 2012, for STSMs from July 1st, 2012 till December 15th 2012.

STSMs can be used for preparing publications.

Estimated budget: 11000 EURO.

7. Publications, annual report

7.1 From the Annual Report (p.13):

- "78 new publications which are related to the action aimed at advancement and promotion of scientific knowledge in the field of BISLI were published by Action members since the last report. Some of these publications reflect previous collaborations of Action members, while others reflect individual initiatives. Twelve publications emerged directly from activities supported by the Action. Numerous papers were presented at conferences and other public events. It is often hard to distinguish presentations which resulted directly from COST networking through the Action from those which reflect previous networking among Action members since these activities are strongly (and naturally) related: the Action builds on collaboration that was already solid."

Please remember to update us with new publications related to the action's activities.

7.2

- COST would like to see joint publications (at least two different research groups from the Action) as soon as possible. This need not necessarily report new

work, and can be limited to a comparative work based on presentations which were done in the past years or any other kind of collaboration (e.g., a paper which was supported by an STSM). Multi-authored writing teams should be encouraged and we need not wait four years to publish the work which emerges from the action.

- We need to make a clear distinction between Action-related publications (which we had so far) and Action-supported publications (where at least some of the content or the possibility to write it together emerged from the Action's networking). Books and Special Issues of journals are valued by COST more than papers, but they clearly understand that papers often count more for promotion in academia.
- Members of the action who want to initiate a book or a special issue (better) should let the Chair know about it before approaching publishers and contact journals about dates. Please keep in mind that most publishers would want to know what the content is, so you might want to have an idea of which papers you expect to have in. Some possibilities raised at the SG meeting were Linguistic Approaches to Bilingualism (LAB), IJLCD, Journal of Communication Disorders as well as Multilingual Journal of Communication Disorders, AP, Bilingualism, JCL. Topics could be within a WG or across WGs. **We encourage initiative by everybody who wants to volunteer. One should approach the WG leaders who lead the particular topic.**

7.3 Reference to the Questionnaires – Laurie wrote on 26/12/11

1) The author of the reduced version currently on the Bi-Sli website for piloting would be "COST IS0804". This is the version that all translated versions would have to cite.

2) The versions in languages other than English, would have as authors, the people who translated and adapted the questionnaire for their country/language.

3) All versions would include an acknowledgement stating that this questionnaire represents an adaptation of Paradis' two questionnaires (with the relevant references) which was piloted in a long version and is being piloted in a short version within the action.

As for the name of the questionnaire, the three teams also agree that we don't want "SLI" in the title, as this questionnaire could be useful in all kinds of bilingual situations, and not just SLI, and having this in the title might scare parents/label kids unnecessarily. Here is my (Laurie's) personal suggestion: Questionnaire for Parents of Bilingual Children, which could be referred to as the **PaBiQ**.

7.4 Publications policy: See Minutes of Brussels and Malta

8 Evaluations – from the Annual Report (p.14)

" The main success of COST Action IS0804 is in bringing together a large variety of research experiences in different countries, with their individual histories, backgrounds and linguistic realities and at the same time keeping a general spirit of good cooperation. Working with colleagues from so many different areas (linguistics, psycho- and neurolinguistics, psychology, speech and language therapy) has opened our eyes to the key issues involved in both bilingualism, bilingual SLI, and the contribution that each discipline can make. We are now actively working towards policy changes — or additions to current policy. We also work more closely with clinicians so we can fruitfully cooperate further with them — and impart our knowledge to them. These exchanges are rich and valuable for better interventions with children with SLI. We have noted a growing scientific impact with opening of new centres for the study of bilingualism and language impairments in Europe, such as the centre in Bangor, Wales, and the centre in ZAS, Berlin.

The different WGs had very productive meetings and have all decided on guidelines. WGs are now in the process of carrying out testing with the tasks agreed upon and the resulting findings will be discussed in future meetings. The parental questionnaires have already been a great success and are requested by both participating countries and those who have asked to share it. The crosslinguistic simultaneous assessment of lexical knowledge carries great promise and so does the bilingual norming of the CDIs. Although work is ongoing, it is anticipated that the findings will help to provide an equitable service for bilingual children and their families.

One of the MC members delivered the following observations: "I think this Action provides an excellent platform for researchers and clinicians to share ideas and advance their research and practical work with bilinguals. I can already see the socio-economic impacts of the work done by Action members in the arising attention given to BISLI in my country." This increase of attention for BISLI is felt widely.

The biggest drawback noted in previous years, the budget situation, has been resolved this year, to our great satisfaction, making it possible to plan future meetings and activities of the Action and support WG members who are often ESRs who want to attend the meetings. This made it possible to hold poster sessions at our meetings for ESRs to showcase their work and get feedback from more senior researchers. The increase budget further made it possible to make intensive use of STSMs which increase collaborations and training ESRs. We are thankful for the raise in our budget which will make it possible to arrange, this summer, a training school for ESRs and a dissemination event for end users, in addition to the bi-annual meetings and the STSMs.

A key difficulty in some countries remains finding bilingual children with diagnosed SLI, or getting permissions from local "authorities" to test these children. In many places the local speech therapy community is still inclined to shy away from research, but we are encouraging cooperation between therapists and researchers through dissemination activities. This very fact illustrates the need for an Action like IS0804."

Feedback - Alain Peyraube

Alain is positive about the meeting. He has attended WG's 1, 2 and 3. He stresses that COST wants books (rather than, or besides, journals) and recommends a series by Mouton de guyter.

9 Request for new members

In Turkey we agreed that while we receive requests for new MC members, no new requests are approved due to budget concerns and due to the fact that the action is now in its third year. These people are welcome to join the Action as WG members. This was reapproved in Malta. **The SG suggests keeping this decision and approving no more MC members.**

List of new WG members:

WG1

ALICE FLECKSTEIN (FR) - University of Tours
ALEXANDRA PEROVIC (UK) - University College London
BARBARA SCHULZ (DE) - Goethe University Frankfurt
Rogayah A Razak (Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia)
Iris Duinmeijer (University of Amsterdam)
Bibi Janssen (University of Amsterdam)

WG2

Ute Bohnacker (Uppsala University)

WG3

AGNĖ KALNINYTĖ (LT) - Vytautas Magnus University
EGLĖ KRIVICKAITĖ (LT) - Vytautas Magnus University
HANNE GRAM SIMONSEN (NO) - University of Oslo
These members are approved.

New applications to be approved in Padua should be sent to Natalia, the action secretary (bisli.org@gmail.com) up to two weeks before the meeting.

10 Promotion of gender balance and of Early Stage Researchers (ESR)

- Constant efforts will be made to achieve gender balance in recruitment of early-stage researchers. Gender balance will be considered in approving STSM applications.
- The Action will encourage the involvement of early-stage researchers (MAs, PhDs, postdoctoral fellows)

From Annual Report (p.12):

- "86% of the Action members and 87% of MC members are female, reflecting the nature of the field. Of the MC members 48 are female and 11 are male. Of the WG members and MC substitutes 118 are female and 17 are male. We are striving to recruit more male participants in order to achieve gender balance.
- 59% of the Action members are Early Stage Researchers (ESR). 32% of MC members are ESRs and 74% of WG members and MC substitutes are ESRs.
- ESRs are involved in the Action activities at all levels (as seen from their proportion among the Action's members)."

11 Non-COST country participations:

7 non-COST countries (8 institutions) have already joined the action

Country	Institution	Non-Cost MC member
AL	Center for Albanian Studies	Dr Enkeleida Kapia
US	Arizona State University	Dr Maria Adelaida Restrepo
US	University of Minnesota	Prof. Kathryn Kohnert
LB	Saint Joseph University-Speech Therapy Institute (ISO)	Ms Camille Messarra
RU	St.Petersburg State Pediatric Medical Institut	Prof. Alexandr Kornev
ZA	Stellenbosch University	Frenette Southwood
CA	University of Alberta	Dr Johanne Paradis
India	The Promise Foundation	Dr. Sonali Nag

Expressed interest:

Dr. Linda Hand, Speech Science Program, Dept of Psychology, The University of Auckland, New Zealand.

12 Web news (Kleanthes)

Our website www.bi-sli.org is constantly updated with useful information. Kleanthes is doing his best to act as webmaster. The webpage includes information about both past and future activities as well as separate pages with FAQ for parents and clinicians in several of the Action languages:

- Catalan (Clinicians& Educators and Parents)
- French (Clinicians& Educators and Parents)
- Norwegian (Parents only)
- Polish (Clinicians& Educators and Parents)
- Russian (Clinicians and Educators only)
- Slovak (Parents only)

- Hebrew (Clinicians & Educators only)
- German

We thus repeat our previous appeal to everyone and ask for volunteers who are willing to commit themselves to translate the FAQ into other COST languages. This is an important step towards dissemination of the knowledge accumulated by the Action.

- The 'news box' on the homepage now features 'biSLI Activities', so far with links to the training course at the LOT summer school in July and the international workshop in Bangor right after.
- The biSLI Facebook group is up and running (<http://www.facebook.com/groups/bisli>) and, thanks to Jan, very active. ☺
- The Forum is also up and running — but not active.
- Kleanthes is also working with the IT specialists from Slovakia to put the questionnaires online but this will take a bit longer.
- 'Affiliated researchers' category for people involved in Bi-SLI in less definite way including everybody who got STSM. This could be also good for students who are involved in some work directly related to Bi-SLI but for a limited period of time – WG leaders will make the lists. – Ewa coordinates it

13 Progress report of working groups - The WGs have all achieved the goal of approaching a methodological agreement by the end of the second year. Scientific reports of the WG leader will be part of the general discussion on May 16.

14 Long-term planning

14.3 September 19-21, 2012 – Padua (Chiara Levorato) –

Padova is a city of 250.000 people, with 50.000 students, an old university, an old city center. It is half an hour from Venice.

Travel: there are two possible airports: Venice airport 'Marco Polo' and Treviso airport. In both cases there is a bus that leaves from the airport and, with few Euros (4 or 5), arrives at Padova in 45 minutes.

14.4 13-15 February 2013 - Lisbon (Joao Costa)

14.5 Training school (July 9-13, 2012), Utrecht, the Netherlands

The Action training school will take place within LOT summer school (July 2-13). This will make it accessible to the Action members as well as other ESRs who will be attending the LOT summer school.

The registration fee for one week is 250 euros. Lodging costs an additional 290 euro for one week.

We are able to support ESRs who want to join the training school covering the registration fee and some of the lodging cost. The exact sum depends on the number of applications we receive.

Priority is given to ESRs from the Action.

Four courses are offered:

Zofia Wodniecka
Cognitive processes in bilinguals

Sharon Armon-Lotem
Challenges to Language Acquisition: Bilingual Specific Language Impairment

Patrick Rebuschat
Implicit Learning and Second Language Acquisition

Theo Marinis & Vicky Chondrogianni
Masterclass - Designing sentence processing studies for children

The Action will reimburse the teachers from the Action (trainers in COST terms) under the general COST rules. 20K EUR were allocated for reimbursement of ESRs who register to the training school. Please encourage registration.

14.6 Bangor (21 July 2012) - dissemination event – international workshop for practitioners and ESR. There is a link on the Action webpage.

14.7 Final conference –Krakow - May 27-29 (Zofia Wodniecka)

We anticipate 100-120 participants from the Action, and 200 practitioners. We want to invite several discussants from within and outside the Action who have contributed significantly to the field.

14.8 The action encourages members to assemble workshops and symposia at relevant conferences and venues presenting some of the Action's findings.

Potential venues for the upcoming years:

- 2013 LSA (Workshop)
- ISB in Singapore, June 2013
- GALA 2013
- IASCL in Amsterdam 2014

15 Place and date of next meeting Padua (Italy):

September 19-21, 2012

16 AOB

16.3 Status of questionnaires – May 16

16.4 Report of the assessment committee – May 16

16.5 Meeting in Padua

A. Organization of the meeting in Padua

- 3 full days (4 nights / 6 meals). Save on accommodation.
- Practitioner's event?
- Parallel sessions with WGs splitting into subgroups, following the model of Cyprus and Turkey

B. The participants' accommodation will be reimbursed based on the tariff negotiated by the local organizer.

17 Closing

Appendix I

List of poster presenters:

	Authors	Title
1.	Akpınar, Deniz, Natalia Gagarina, Indra Kraft, Julia Lomako, Nathalie Topaj, Duygu Yelegen	Advantages and disadvantages of bilingual language acquisition in Russian-German and Turkish-German preschool children
2.	Balčiūnienė Ingrida, Agnė Kalninytė (Vytautas Magnus University, Kaunas, Lithuania)	Narrative Skills in Lithuanian TD Mono- and Bilingual 5-6-year Ages
3.	Balija Maja, Gordana Hrzica, Jelena Kuvac Kraljevic, Melita Kovacevic (University of Zagreb)	Comprehension and production of relative clauses in Croatian school-aged children with specific language impairment
4.	Bibi Janssen (University of Amsterdam)	Frequency effects on the acquisition of Polish and Russian gender morphology
5.	Blom Elma (University of Amsterdam) Johanne Paradis (University of Alberta)	Second language children can help us understand Language Impairment
6.	Contemori Carla (University of Reading) Maria Garraffa (University of Edinburgh)	The production of subject relative clauses in preschool age children: a possible marker for language impairment"
7.	Dabašinskienė Ineta (Vytautas Magnus University, Kaunas, Lithuania) Natalia Gagarina (Center for General Linguistics, Berlin, Germany) Reili Argus (Tallinn University, Tallinn, Estonia) Irena Urankar (Maribor Adult Education Center, Maribor, Slovenia)	FREPY – Friendly Resources for Playful Speech Therapy: Goals and Results
8.	Eisenbeiss, Sonja	s- and PP-Possessives in L1-German and L1-English
9.	Fleckstein Alice, Philippe Prévost, Laurice Tuller and Rasha Zebib (University of Tours).	Sentence repetition and computational complexity in French: A way of distinguishing bilingual children with typical and atypical development
10.	Jensen de López, Kristine & Hanne Bruun Knudsen & Line Engel Clasen. Institut of Communication & Psychology, Cognitive Psychology Unit, Aalborg University, Denmark	The relationship between Working Memory and Relative Clause Comprehension and Production by TD monolingual And bilingual Faorese children
11.	Karpava Sviatlana & Kleanthes K. Grohmann (University of Cyprus)	Enclisis vs Proclisis in Bilingual Acquisition of Cypriot Greek
12.	Knudsen, Hanne Bruun, Line Engel Clasen & Kristine Jensen de López,. Institut of Communication & Psychology, Cognitive Psychology Unit, Aalborg University, Denmark	Assessing the Relationship between typically developing Danish children's Narrative abilities and their Working Memory abilities on the Odd---One---Out task
13.	Kořak, Joanna, Anna Marzecova, Jadwiga Wrońska, Zofia Wodniecka, Marta Białecka-Pikul	How is executive function related to theory of mind?
14.	Łuniewska, Magdalena, University of Warsaw, Barbara Pomiechowska, Birkbeck College Frenette Southwood, Stellenbosch University Daniela Slančová, University of Prešov Svetlana Kapalková, Comenius University in Bratislava Pinar Ege, Ankara University Ozlem Unal, Ankara University Ewa Haman, University of Warsaw	Measuring the age of acquisition of words for new cross-linguistic lexical tasks: results of on-line study for Afrikaans, Polish, Slovak and Turkish.

15.	Marinis Theo (University of Reading) Ewa Haman, Natalia Banasik (University of Warsaw)	The performance of English-Polish bilingual typically developing children on the English and the Polish version of the SASIT
16.	MAVIŞ, İlknur, GAGARINA, Natalia, Müge TUNÇER1 & Özlem ÜNAL, Duygu YELEGEN, Deniz AKPINAR (Anadolu University-DİLKOM - ESKİŞEHİR/TURKEY, The Centre for General Linguistics- ZAS –BERLIN/GERMANY)	Administering the Tell (BabyBirds /BabyGoats)& Retell (Cat/Dog)Stories to Turkish-German Bilingual children living in Germany
17.	Nenonen, Olga	Phonological processing in bilingual Russian-Finnish children with TD and SLI
18.	Oz, Hadar (Bar-Ilan University)	BIPAQ: Bilingual Parent's Questionnaire - Predicting Language Development
19.	Reichenbach, Katrin (FU Berlin/ ZAS Berlin), Antje Skerra (ZAS, Berlin), Natalia Gagarina (ZAS Berlin).	A cue to SLI identification: Macrostructure in elicited narratives of sequential bilingual Russian-German speaking and monolingual German-speaking children
20.	Roch Maja (University of Padova, Italy) Andrea Junyent (SISA Trieste, Italy) Chiara Levorato (University of Padova, Italy).	The linguistic profile of monolingual and bilingual children with and without language difficulties
21.	Scheidnes Maureen	Measures of Clausal Embedding in the Identification Of SLI in Bilingual Children
22.	Topbas Seyhun, Ozlem CANGOKCE-YASAR, Pinar EGE ((Anadolu University-DİLKOM - ESKİŞEHİR/TURKEY)	Case Contrasting Elicitation Tasks adapted to Turkish
23.	Topbaş Seyhun, Selcuk Guven, Duygu Özge, Ozgur Aydın, Zeynep Emeksiz, Belma Haznedar, Ayse Aydın, Deniz Kazanoglu ((Anadolu University-DİLKOM - ESKİŞEHİR/TURKEY)	Sentence Repetition Test: Development of the Turkish Version

Appendix II

List of STSMs:

Beneficiary	Date	Host institute	Total
1. MS JOANNA KOLAK	11-23/03/ 2012	University of Reading (UK)	Recruiting Bilingual children and Collecting Data
2. MS CORINNA KOCH	13-20/03/2012	Umea University (SE)	Investigating exhaustive wh-questions in Swedish: Adaption of Items, and the Coding scheme
3. DR ENKELEIDA KAPIA	18-28/03/2012	Aristotele University (GR)	Syntax and Narratives in Albanian-Greek Bilinguals
4. MS ANGELA GRIMM	19-24/03/2012	University of Tours (FR)	Phonological complexity and nonword repetition: A cross-linguistic perspective
5. DR BELMA HAZNEDAR	25-31/03/2012	Johann Wolfgang Goethe-University Frankfurt (DE)	Exhaustive Wh-questions in Turkish
6. DR LAURICE ANNE TULLER	27/03-04/04/2012	Institut Supérieur d`Orthophonie Université Saint Joseph (LB)	Arabic-French bilingual children in France and in Lebanon
7. DR JASMINA VUKSANOVIC	02-13/04/2012	University of Luxembourg – EMACS (LX)	The implementation of executive functions tests for future comparative studies of bilinguals
8. MS GORDANA HRZICA	16-26/04-2012	University of Reading (UK)	Verbal morphology on line task for morphologically complex language
9. Theodoros Marinis	20-27/05/2012	University of Warsaw	Polish-English Sentence Repetition
10. Ms Ágnes Lukács	21-25/05/2012	University of Cyprus	Methodological and Theoretical Issues in Executive Functions (WG4) and Adaptation of Lexical and Nar