Results of a Survey on the Use of the EPG

Elena Verdía and Marta Higueras, Instituto Cervantes (Spain)

The Instituto Cervantes launched a survey in 2013 on the use of the EPG in the Spanish language context. The main aim of this project was to measure the impact of the EPG, and to gather information about EPG use.

The survey was designed using Survey Monkey, and contained 19 questions covering three main aspects:
- the professional profile of the participants (8 questions),
- their knowledge and use of the EPG (6 questions)
- their opinion of the EPG (5 questions).

Teachers, coordinators, and supervisors from different educational institutions were invited to participate. 284 responses were received. Various kinds of organizations were evenly represented. Most of the participants were teacher, with more than 10 years of experience.

Preliminary results obtained from the data analysis point to a greater interest in the EPG among experienced professionals with more than 10 years of experience. 63% of the respondents had used the EPG for self-assessment and 35% used it to identify training needs. Although most users used the EPG for individual reasons, but 34% of respondents had shared their results.

The tool was generally perceived as clear and easy to use, suitable for identifying training needs and providing a global overview of the teaching profession by means of self-assessment. The survey also contributed to the dissemination of the EPG, making it more visible and better known among the teaching community the survey was aimed at. Details of these findings will be provided in a full analysis of results soon to be published.

The survey revealed a need for further dissemination of the EPG tool, especially in the case of trainee teachers and professionals working part-time. The results of research into the impact of the EPG should also be further disseminated, since the EPG seems to be in an initial stage of growth. Likewise, the role of the EPG as a common tool that could be shared among professionals should be encouraged. Finally, some improvements suggested by participants could be made as part of the further development of the Grid, for example though adding more descriptors and defining the existing ones more precisely.