



**LLAS - University of Southampton
(United Kingdom)**

www.llas.ac.uk/areastudies.html

Established in 2000 LLAS provides support for quality enhancement in languages, linguistics and area studies disciplines. Activities include conferences and seminars for teachers; pedagogic research; collaborative partnerships; materials development; staff development workshops and tools for awareness raising and public engagement with language learning. LLAS has led a number of EU-funded projects including the Language Café Project (www.languagecafe.eu) which devised a framework for setting up informal and sustainable community language learning groups for adults. This project received an award for social inclusion in languages by the European Commission in 2010. The project idea has proven to be highly sustainable as once initiated the cafés are self-managed by those who participate in them. Many of the original cafés from the project which completed in 2008. In addition the project ideas are being exploited and developed by individuals and groups not involved in the original project with new cafés having been set up around the world – South Korea, French West Indies, Brazil. Details of these can be found in the International Cafés section of the Language Café website. LLAS is hosted by Modern Languages at the University of Southampton which is one of the top 15 research universities in the UK and has achieved consistently high scores for its teaching and learning activities.