

# Trainers' Digest



***ETUI-REHS EDUCATION 's  
information bulletin about EU  
training programmes***

## **New Integrated Lifelong Learning Programme (2007-2013)**

Following an extensive process of consultation, the European Commission has adopted a new generation of education and training programmes for the period 2007-2013. These will succeed the current Leonardo, Socrates, e-learning, Jean Monnet and Tempus programmes and will go under the title of "Integrated action programme in the field of lifelong learning".

The overall budget agreed for the period 2007-2013 is € 7 billion.

## **Objectives**

The overall policy objective is to contribute, through lifelong learning, to the development of the Community as an advanced knowledge society, with sustainable economic development, more and better jobs and greater social cohesion. The aim is to foster interchange, cooperation and mobility between education and training systems within the EU, so that they become an internationally-recognised reference for quality.

The objectives assigned relate to the contribution of the programme in terms of quality, innovation and accessibility of education and training provision; they set targets in terms of creativity, competitiveness, employability, personal fulfilment, social inclusion and European citizenship; they highlight priorities in the areas of language learning and equal access for citizens of all ages and conditions.

Within the sectoral programmes a series of operational objectives have been set, some of which are similar, so as to underline the consistency of the Integrated Programme as a whole.

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We welcome any suggestions you may have to help us improve this newsletter

## What's new?

1. A simpler more flexible and decentralised programme
2. More focus on European policy debates (Lisbon, Copenhagen, Bologna process)
3. No more sub-committees in the Programme Committee – only one Committee
4. Decentralised funds, with 80% of the funds being administered by the national agencies
5. A new decentralised selection procedure
6. The Western Balkans and Switzerland may participate in the future
7. A clearer separation of tasks between the Commission, the national agencies and the Member State authorities

## Structure

The Integrated Programme comprises four specific sectoral programmes: Comenius, for pre-school and school education; Erasmus, for university level and advanced vocational education; Leonardo, for vocational education and training; Grundtvig, for adult education.

It includes a new "Transversal programme" with four Key Activities, focusing respectively on: policy development, language learning, information and communication technologies, and dissemination.

The Integrated Programme also incorporates the former "Jean Monnet" activity, which aims to support the development of bodies and institutions active in the field of European integration.

## Types of funded activities

- mobility of workers, students and trainers in lifelong learning systems in Europe
- multilateral projects designed to improve national education and training systems; unilateral and national projects; networks
- surveys, statistics, actions to support transparency and recognition of qualifications, actions to support cooperation in quality assurance
- operating grants for organisations active in the fields covered by the Integrated Programme
- accompanying measures

## Eligible applicants and countries

Social partners, vocational training centres, research bodies, companies and small and medium enterprises from the 27 EU Member States, Turkey and EFTA countries.

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## Priorities of the Call 2007 Leonardo and Trade Unions

Trade unions will be particularly interested in the specific priorities of the Leonardo da Vinci sub-programme.

The 2007 Leonardo Call for Proposals will be implemented through:

- *mobility projects*
- *partnerships*

and

- *multilateral projects for transfer and development of innovation and networks*
- *thematic networks*
- *accompanying measures.*

More specifically, within the field of transfer and development of innovation and networks, the following priorities are identified:

### **1. Quality of VET systems and practices**

The focus is on quality assurance procedures in initial training and continuing vocational training; quality indicators; partnerships between the main VET (vocational education and training) actors, such as training bodies, social partners, municipalities and regions, business and industry, particularly in relation to the identification of skills needs and of the needs of disadvantaged learners

### **2. Teachers and trainers in VET**

### **3. Innovative e-learning**

The focus is on: ICT-supported learning; appropriate training and learning materials, including for less qualified workers; e-learning training tools for quality management in VET.

### **4. European credit transfer for VET**

### **5. Validation of non-formal and informal learning**

Projects can be related to the exchange of experiences and good practices in the validation of non-formal and informal learning; development of high quality, cost efficient validation methodologies; improvement of standards for validation of non-formal and informal learning.

Accompanying measures will support communication and thematic monitoring of projects.

The most interesting area for project proposals from trade unions, particularly in the field of trade union education, might be the "transfer and development of innovation and networks" (for example, a project aiming to adapt an educational multimedia database developed in certain countries for the benefit of schools and training centres or universities in other countries).

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Details on the *duration* of activities, *partnership arrangements*, the *EU contribution* and *other requirements* are specified in the Call for Proposals and the Guide on use of the Programme.

## Information and advice

The online library of ETUI-REHS Education's EU Information Service will give updated details about the future calls for proposals at:

[http://education.etui-rehs.org/etuco/en/eu\\_information/library/default.cfm](http://education.etui-rehs.org/etuco/en/eu_information/library/default.cfm)

If you need a special assistance in preparing your project proposal, or suggestions abouton search oflooking for partners, please contact us at here: [spennell@etui-rehs.org](mailto:spennell@etui-rehs.org)

The Call for Proposals, including funding, eligibility rules, application packages and relevant contact details for further information, are also posted at the following EC web address of the EC:

[http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/newprog/index\\_en.html](http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/newprog/index_en.html)