

Lifelong Learning Programme
Infodays

November 2010

Key Activity 1
Policy Cooperation and Innovation
Studies and Comparative Research



Education and Culture DG

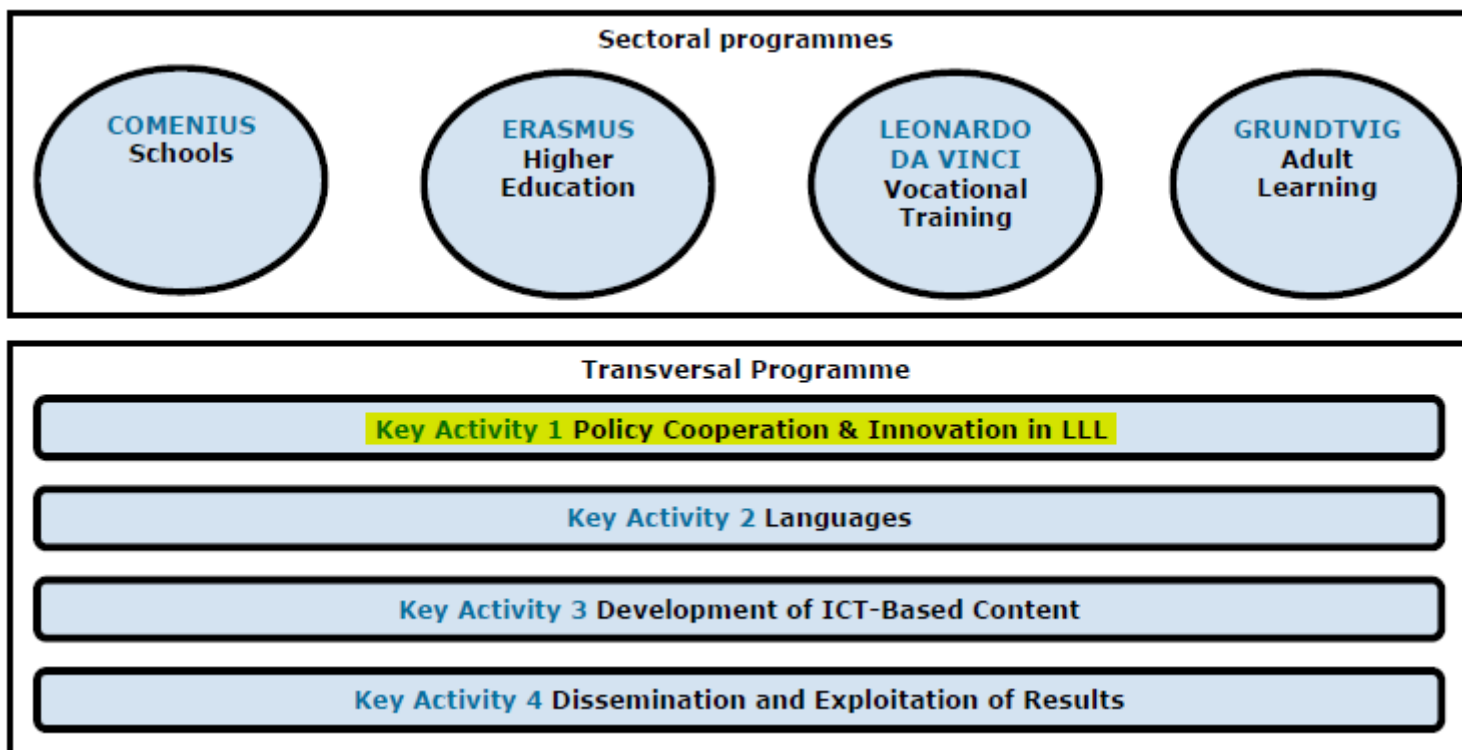
EAC
EA
Education, Audiovisual & Culture
Executive Agency



The LLP context

The *Action Studies and Comparative Research* is part of *Key Activity 1, Policy cooperation and innovation*, in the transversal part of the LLP Action programme in the field of lifelong learning.







Definition

The programme entered into force on 1st January 2007 (Decision n° 1720/2006/CE of 15 November 2006).

The *Action Studies and Comparative Research* is specified in article 5, paragraph 1, indent f of the Decision, which stipulates:

“Observation and analysis of policies and systems in the field of lifelong learning, the establishment and regular improvement of reference material, including surveys, statistics, analyses and indicators, action to support transparency and recognition of qualifications and prior learning, and action to support cooperation in quality assurance”. The Action focuses on priority issues which are defined in relation to the needs identified in the Education and Training 2020 process. These are published in the 2011 Call for Proposals of the programme”.





General priorities

- To support the **Education and Training 2020 process** through studies and comparative research in education and training fields at European level, which are to support policy development;
- To aim at innovation and to achieve concrete breakthrough results in their research;
- To contribute to **evidence-based policy-making** by producing state-of-the-art scientific knowledge on specific sectors of education and training;
- To promote the creation of research consortia and cooperation between European research institutes and researchers in the field.





Distinctiveness

- It is not a technical action with a vertical specified dimension, but an action with a transversal approach dealing with various topics and subject areas. These should be in close relationship with the priorities of the European Commission and the Council.
- These are adopted by the Commission in the form of priority themes renewed every 3 years and called «matters of common interest». They are part of the 2011 Call.
- The priority themes define both the content of the research by means of specific issues being addressed and hence give a clear direction to the project undertaking.





Action Specific Priorities

1. Provision and demand for adult learning;
2. Acquisition of key competences in education and training throughout lifelong learning;
3. Social inclusion in education and training, including the integration of migrants;
4. Attractiveness of vocational education and training;
5. Measuring competences and anticipating future skills.





Provision and demand for adult learning

Studies should notably focus on comparative or in-depth country analyses of organisational, management and funding models designed to create a high quality and efficient adult learning system (formal, non-formal and informal), supported by guidance, validation, electronic learning platforms and other key features, thereby providing concrete ways to enable adults to learn and improve their qualifications over their entire life course.





Acquisition of key competences in education and training throughout lifelong learning

Studies should notably focus on:

- measures to improve literacy, maths and science attainment and gender balance as well as transversal competences (learning to learn and creative skills);
- measures and methodologies for assessment and evaluation of key competences.





Social inclusion in education and training, including the integration of migrants

Studies should notably focus on:

- the effectiveness of measures to reduce early leaving from education and training;
- the role of early childhood education and care in social inclusion (participation, pedagogical approaches etc.);
- measures to improve the participation of under-represented groups (social, economic, ethnic...) in higher education;
- the role of adult learning in alleviating social marginalisation and exclusion.





Attractiveness of vocational education and training

Studies should notably focus on:

- Comparative analysis of initiatives concerning tertiary VET programmes;
- Comparative analysis of factors of quality of initial and continuing VET programmes which have proven to have the potential for substantial image change of VET.





Measuring competences and anticipating future skills

Comparative analysis of future skills' needs in the economy and in the society; responsiveness of education and training systems to those needs; quality of transitions between education and training and the labour market; improving understanding of the links between compulsory education, further education, higher education; adult education and working life.





Previous Studies

- Studies selected under this action:

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/llp/results_projects/project_compendia_en.php

- Studies selected by DG EAC:

http://ec.europa.eu/education/more-information/moreinformation139_en.htm

- Calls to tender selected by DG EAC & EACEA:

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/education_culture/calls/tenders_en.html

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/about/call_tenders/call_tenders_en.php

- Eurydice Network Studies:

<http://www.eurydice.org>





Big ambitions - limited means

In terms of budget it is a small Action:

- After restructuration of the LLP budget, the total budget is now limited to 2.5 million Euros.
- 0,002 % of the total 2011 budget for LLP (total budget of 1.136.530.000 billion euros).





- **Total budget:**

2009 => 3.75 million
2010 => 3.9 million
2011 => 2.5 million

- **Average budget of a project:**

2008 => 796,000 €
2009 => 804,575 €
2010 => 819,037 €

- **Selected projects:**

7 in 2008 => 1 out of 5
6 in 2009 => 1 out of 7
6 in 2010 => 1 out of 5



Key Information



Selection & management of projects	Executive Agency
Deadline	31 March 2011
Max. duration	2 years
Partnership requirements	At least 6 partners from 6 different LLP countries & at least one EU Member State
Max. Community amount	max 250,000€/ year
Max. Community contribution	75 %
Expected number of projects funded	5
Information on the selection	July 2010
Projects' starting date	Between 1/11/2011 – 1/01/2012
3rd country participation	Not foreseen





Selection Process

Commission Procedure

- Formal criteria: eligibility and exclusion criteria
- Quality criteria: selection and award criteria
- Each application is evaluated by two experts





Eligibility

- Legal Bodies
- At least 6 partners from 6 different countries participating in LLP; one must be an EU Member State
- Official language of the EU (and language of the consortium)
- The eForm is obligatory
- Eligibility of costs
- Consult General Call for Proposals for full detail





Award Criteria

1. Relevance
2. Quality of the Work Programme
3. Innovative character
4. Quality of the consortium
5. European added value
6. The cost-benefit ratio
7. Impact
8. Quality of the valorisation plan





Relevance

The grant application and the results foreseen are clearly positioned in the specific, operational and broader objectives of the Programme. The objectives are clear, realistic and address a relevant issue / target group. Where the priorities are given in the LLP General Call for Proposals 2011-2013 for the action concerned, at least one of them must be satisfactorily addressed.





Quality of the Work Programme

The organisation of the work is clear and appropriate to achieving the objectives; the work programme defines and distributes tasks / activities among the partners in such a way that the results will be achieved on time and to budget.





Innovative character

The project will provide innovative solutions to clearly identified needs for clearly identified target groups. It will achieve this either by adapting and transferring innovative approaches which already exist in other countries or sectors, or by developing a brand new solution not yet available in any of the countries participating in the Lifelong Learning Programme.





Quality of the consortium

The consortium includes all the skills, recognised expertise and competences required to carry out all aspects of the work programme, and there is an appropriate distribution of tasks across the partners.





European added value

The benefits of and need for European cooperation (as opposed to national, regional or local approaches) are clearly demonstrated.





The cost-benefit ratio

The grant application demonstrates value for money in terms of the activities planned relative to the budget foreseen. The budget has to be as realistic as possible and has to be justified in due detail.





Impact

The foreseeable impact on the approaches, target groups and systems concerned is clearly defined and measures are in place to ensure that the impact can be achieved. The results of the activities are likely to be significant.





Quality of the valorisation plan

The foreseeable impact on the approaches, target groups and systems concerned is clearly defined and measures are in place to ensure that the impact can be achieved. The results of the activities are likely to be significant.





Please note:

Third country participation is **not foreseen** for KA1 Studies & Comparative Research, so you cannot include any activity or budget item related to 3rd country participation in your application. Such activities are by definition ineligible for funding.





Some guidance

- Coherence: research/analysis, research/methodology/approach, research/expertise; budget/management/implementation, resources/partnership; results & outcomes/policy relevance, ambitions/resources, competences/results.
- Educational context: identifying the need for the research/analysis/study, the relevance & possible impact of the foreseen policy recommendations.
- Evidence based: ex-ante needs analysis required, including recent studies & developments in the field; scientific quality of the outcomes & policy recommendations.
- Rigorous planning: which activities, who, when, why/to what effect, for how long, and with which resources.
- Explicit: do not take for granted any information: if it is not in the application it cannot be taken into account.





Where is what?

- **Call 2011**

G:\LLP\1_KA1SCR\1_Selection\2011_Call\5_Documents
\5_Call\CALL_2011_EAC-49-10_Call_Page_DGEAC.mht

- **EACEA**

[http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/llp/funding/2011/index_en.
php](http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/llp/funding/2011/index_en.php)

- **Questions**

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**Thank you & good
luck with your
project**

