

Capacity building in the field of Vocational education and training (CB VET)

November 2024

European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA)



CONTENT

1. CB VET action in Programme guide (PG) 2025 (short overview)



- 2. Novelties in CB VET in PG 2025
- 3. How to find coordinators/partners
- 4. Tips for applicants/successful applications



1. CB VET action – short overview



AIM

Capacity building projects are international cooperation projects based on multilateral partnerships between organisations active in the field of VET in:

- EU Member States
- Third countries associated to the Programme
- Third countries not associated to the Programme

They aim to support the

- Relevance
- Accessibility
- Responsiveness

of VET institutions and systems in third countries not associated to the Programme







OBJECTIVES



 Build capacity of VET providers to strengthen cooperation between private and public stakeholders in VET for demandoriented and opportunity-driven VET interventions;

Improve the quality and responsiveness of VET to economic and social developments to enhance the labour market relevance of skills provision;

 Align VET provision to local, regional and national development strategies.



THEMATIC AREAS – Focus on one or more

VET teachers/trainers professional development

Key competences, including entrepreneurship and citizenship

Public Private Dialogue, Partnerships in VET

Quality assurance mechanisms

Capacity Building in VET

Innovation in VET

Green and digital skills

for the twin transition

Work-based learning (for young people and/or adults)

Development of curricula and training modules

Skills matching with current and future job opportunities



ACTIVITIES

Building and strengthening the capacities of organisations active in the field of VET principally in the third countries not associated to the Programme covered by the action



For example:

- Creating and developing networks and exchanges of good practice between VET providers
- Creating tools, programmes and other materials to build the capacity of institutions from third countries not associated to the Programme
- Creating mechanisms to involve private sector (design and delivery of curricula, work-based experience)
- Developing and transferring pedagogical approaches, teaching and training materials and methods, including work based learning, virtual mobility, open educational resources and better exploitation of the ICT potential
- Developing and implementing international (virtual) exchange activities for staff primarily



REGIONAL PRIORITIES



If the application involves one or more ETF (European Training Foundation) partner countries, the proposal should provide evidence of responding to ETF recommendations formulated in the relevant Torino process⁴⁰² country reports⁴⁰³.

Western Balkans

- Priority will be given to projects that contribute to its Economic and Investment Plan⁴⁰⁴ and/or the European Training Foundation recommendations under the Torino process (see above);
- Mobility of learners (students) and staff (teachers, trainers, directors, managers etc.) will be privileged.

Neighbourhood East

 Priority will be given to projects that contribute to its Economic and Investment Plan⁴⁰⁵ and/or the European Training Foundation recommendations under the Torino process (see above).

South-Mediterranean countries

 Priority will be given to projects that contribute to its Economic and Investment Plan⁴⁰⁶ and/or the European Training Foundation recommendations under the Torino process (see above).



REGIONAL PRIORITIES



Sub-Saharan Africa

- Priority will be given to least developed countries; a special emphasis shall also be put on migration priority countries; no country will access more than 8% of funding foreseen for the Region;
- Priority will be given to projects that contribute to the EU-Africa Global Gateway Investment Package⁴⁰⁷;
- Priority will be given to projects that contribute to foster public-private dialogue between VET institutions and the private sector.

Latin America

- Priority will be given to regional projects (projects involving more than one eligible third country not associated to the Programme) or projects in lower and upper middle income countries;
- Priority will be given to projects that contribute to the EU-Latin America and Caribbean Global Gateway investment agenda.⁴⁰⁸

Caribbean

- Priority will be given to regional projects (projects involving more than one eligible third country not associated to the Programme) or projects in least developed, lower and upper middle income countries;
- Priority will be given to projects that contribute the EU-Latin America and Caribbean Global Gateway investment agenda.⁴⁰⁹



WHAT COUNTRIES CAN PARTICIPATE?



EU Member States (27 countries)



Third countries associated to the Programme (6 countries)

- North Macedonia, Iceland, Norway, Serbia, Lichtenstein and Türkiye

Third countries <u>not</u> associated to the Programme (102 countries)

- regions 1,2,3,9,10 and 11



WHAT INDICATIVE BUDGET EXISTS?

Region	Indicative budget in EUR
Western Balkans (Region 1)	8 500 000 EUR
Neighbourhood East (Region 2)	3 508 341 EUR
South-Mediterranean countries (Region 3)	4 677 788 EUR
Sub-Saharan Africa (Region 9)	8 072 432 EUR
Latin America (Region 10)	1 949 078 EUR
Caribbean (Region 11)	292 362 EUR
Total	27 000 000 EUR





Indicative budget for **each**region is published also in
FTOP portal



HORIZONTAL ASPECTS

Applicants are required to take into account



Inclusion and diversity



Environmental sustainability



Digital dimension



Common values, civic engagement and participation



Selection results 2022 - 2024

	2022	2023	2024
Submitted projects	121	162	299
Inadmissible projects	4	2	11
Ineligible projects	23	15	8
Evaluated projects	93	145	279
Projects reaching threshold and above (60 points and more)	58	87	209
Selected/signed contracts	58	62	72



EU GRANT PER REGION – CB VET

by both parties).

	_	2022		2023
Name of the region (firgures in euro)	Planned * (26.521.153)	Approved for selected projects (21.321.260)	Planned (27.116.244)	Proposed for selected projects (25.008.993,80)**
Western Balkans (Region 1)	7.701.141	6.265.836	8.028.496	5.467.866
Neighbourhood East (Region 2)	2.484.035	1.184.324	3.779.059	2.334.625
South-Mediterranean countries (Region 3)	4.140.058	4.137.988	4.198.955	4.342.475,80
Sub-Saharan Africa (Region 9)	8.573.369	7.317.646	8.695.335	8.638.378
Latin America (Region 10)	2.070.029	2.113.560	2.099.477	3.910.727
Caribbean (Region 11)	310.504	301.906	314.922	314.922

^{*2022:} Planned EU grant for Russian Federation was not used for Russian Federation **Proposed for acceptance (the exercise will be closed by the signature of the contracts



Running projects



2022: 58 projects selected of 120 submitted proposals

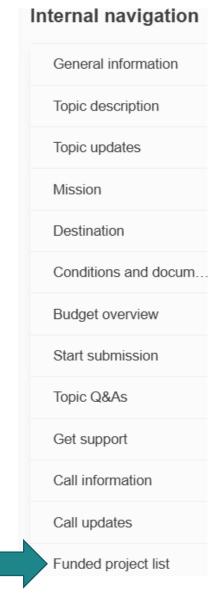
Funding & tenders (europa.eu)

2023: 68 projects selected of 162 submitted proposals

Funding & tenders (europa.eu)

2024: 72 proposals selected of 297 submitted proposals

• Funding & tenders (europa.eu) (Full list will be available in December 2024, at this moment 19 projects)





SELECTED PROJECT 2024 – EXAMPLE UKRAINIAN PARTNERS



- 2024- example Project selected with Ukrainian partner
- Project number: 101182786
- Title: Capacity Building Program for sustainable reconstruction (REBUILD)
- Ukrainian partner:

Lviv Applied College of Construction Architecture and Design (878669457)

participant | Ukraine

EU Contribution 22 153,28 €

Lviv High Vocational School of Design and Construction (878710682)

associatedPartner | Ukrain

EU Contribution 0,00 €

Keywords

Green and digital transition, social resilience and sustainability.

Abstract

The The Rebuild Project aims to improve and deepen VET vocational training by transferring knowledge from EU countries to non-Erasmus+ countries, located in the Neighbourhood East, on the topic of sustainable building reconstruction following extreme catastrophic events such as war or natural disasters. The project will start from the best practices currently widespread in the European Union and the objectives set as milestones for 2050 to create a training programme targeted on the needs of the target countries in order to increase the specific competence of construction trainers in those territories with regard to four main topics: 1) EU regulations & norms; 2) Economic dimension / how to deal with EU calls; 3) Re-building techniques; 4) Digitisation in building & construction. At the same time, through Rebuild it is intended to increase international cooperation between the different organisations, encouraging by exchanging best practices the green and digital transition.

The training activities will be carried out after a clear definition of the current framework, creating content and materials based on the real needs of the target countries. The training packages, divided into the four core topics, will be digitised and uploaded on a dedicated MOODLE platform. In addition, on-site visits of real cases and lectures by experts in the field are planned to expand and complement the online content.

The project positions itself as a catalyst for positive change, contributing to social resilience and sustainability both in individual European countries and in the wider Eastern neighbourhood. Rebuild aims to consolidate the positive impacts of the project beyond its operational phase by promoting the dissemination of knowledge and improving education and professional training in the construction sector. A sustainability plan and a Memorandum of Understanding are envisaged to guarantee the continuity and dissemination of the results achieved over time.

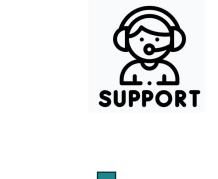


SELECTED PROJECT – UKRAINIAN PARTNERS IN FTOP - EXAMPLE

- 1. Projects and results
- 2. EU Funded projects

EU Contribution 0,00 €

- 3. Search for what you are interested for (e.g. project REBUILD):

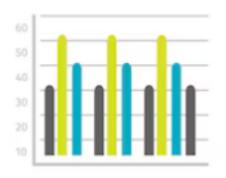








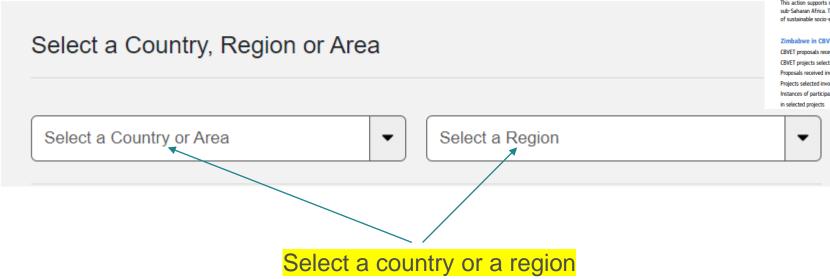
Country specific statistics - factsheets



2022 -2023: Country specific statistics also on CB VET for third countries <u>not</u> associated to the Erasmus+ programme: <u>LINK</u>

International factsheets

Presenting the impact of Erasmus+ in other countries across the globe.



example

Other Erasmus+ cooperation with Zimbabwe





1. CB VET action – Eligibility criteria



ADMISSIBILITY + ELIGIBILITY - EXAMPLES OF PROBLEMS

- Not correct application form
- Applicant from third countries NOT associated to Programme
- Not enough partners
- Not enough countries
- More organisations from EU+third countries associated to Programme THAN organisations from third countries NOT associated to Programme
- Attention not an eligibility criteria, but good to know:
 - Part B Description of the action max. 70 pages



Who can apply/participate?

APPLICANT/ COORDINATOR

PARTICIPANT (full partner, affiliated entity or associated partner)

EU Member States (27)





Third countries associated to the Programme (6)

Iceland
Liechtenstein
Norway
North Macedonia
Serbia
Türkiye

EU Member States (27)





Third countries associated to the Programme (6)



Third countries **not** associated to the **Programme**

in Regions 1, 2, 3, 9, 10 and 11 (see section "Eligible countries" in Part A of the <u>Erasmus+ Programme guide</u>)

Exception: Organisations from Belarus (Region 2) are not eligible



Minimum requirements to participate past calls (2022-2023)

Erasmus+ Programme
Guide

	At least 4 organisations	From minimum 3 countries
Scenario 1	2 organisations (coordinator+ full partner) + 2 organisations (full partners)	2 EU MSs + 1 eligible Third country not associated to the Programme
Scenario 2	2 organisations (coordinator+ full partner) + 2 organisations (full partners)	 2 Third countries associated to the Programme + 1 eligible Third country not associated to the Programme
Scenario 3	2 organisations (coordinator+ full partner) + 2 organisations (full partners)	 1 EU MS + 1 Third country associated to the Programme + 1 eligible Third country not associated to the Programme
NOT POSSIBLE	Number of organisations from EU MSs and Third countries associated to the Programme CAN NOT BE HIGHER than number of organisations from eligible Third country not associated to the Programme Example: 3 organisations from 2 EU MSs + 2 organisations from 1 Third country not associated to the Programme (not possible)	

ATTENTION: Affiliated entities and associated partners are not counted in these above requirements.



What types of organisations can participate?

Erasmus+ Programme Guide

Eligible participating organisations:

- Vocational education and training providers
- Other public or private organisations active in the field of VET or in the labour market (non-exhaustive list):
 - * VET providers;
 - * Companies, industry or sector representative organisations;
 - * National/regional qualification authorities;
 - * Employment services;
 - * Research institutes;
 - * Innovation agencies;
 - * Regional development authorities etc.



What types of organisations can participate?

Erasmus+ Programme Guide

ATTENTION: WHO CAN BE APPLICANT/COORDINATOR?

Any public and private organisation active in the VET field and legally established in an EU Member State or eligible third country associated to the Programme.

Organisations from third countries **not** associated to the Programme **cannot** be coordinators.

ATTENTION:

The consortium must include at least one VET provider at non-tertiary education level.



Call ID: ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CB-VET



2 or 3 years



Budget

Total EU grant per project: from 100.000 € to 400.000€

Total EU grant for all projects:

27 000 000 €

EU grant can cover maximum of 80% of a total budget of a project



Where to apply

Call ID:

Funding and Tenders opportunities portal

Call IDs:

- ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CB-VET-WB Capacity building in VET in Western Balkans
- ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CB-VET-NE Capacity building in VET in Neighbourhood East
- ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CB-VET-SMC Capacity building in VET in South Mediterranean Countries
- ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CB-VET-SSA Capacity building in VET in Sub-Saharan Africa
- . ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CB-VET-LA Capacity building in VET in Latin America
- ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CB-VET-CA Capacity building in VET in Caribbean

NEW



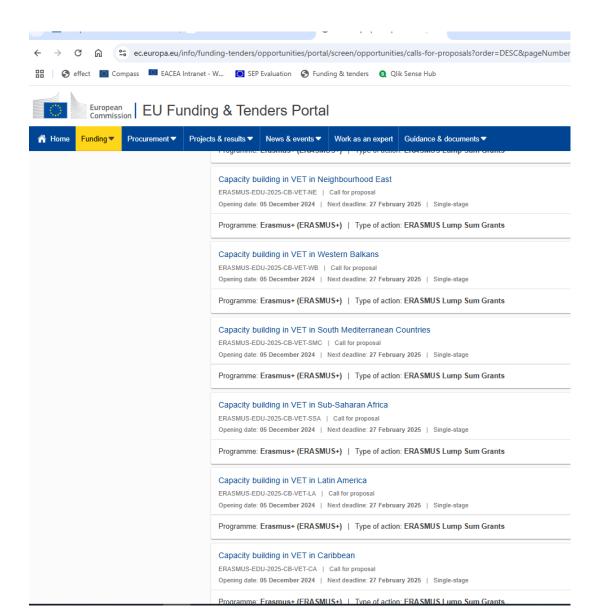
End of February (consult Programme Guide 2025 for exact date)

Venues of the activities: The activities must take place in the countries of the organisations participating in the project (exception: seats of EU institutions, or in EU MSs, third countries associated or not associated in duly justified cases – relevant events)

Financial mechanism: Lump sums Type II (no tables with costs, use actual costs)



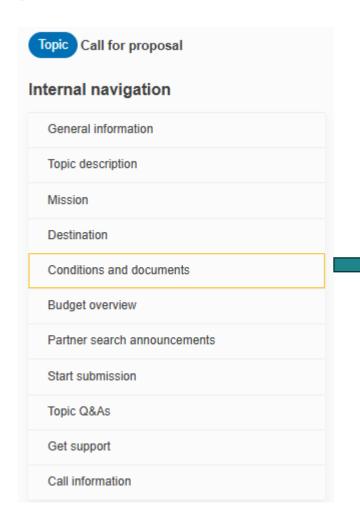
Call ID: ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CB-VET



FTOP PORTAL



Call ID: ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CB-VET



Application form templates

Standard application form (ERASMUS BB and LSII) [2]

Detailed budget table (ERASMUS LSII) [2

FTOP PORTAL



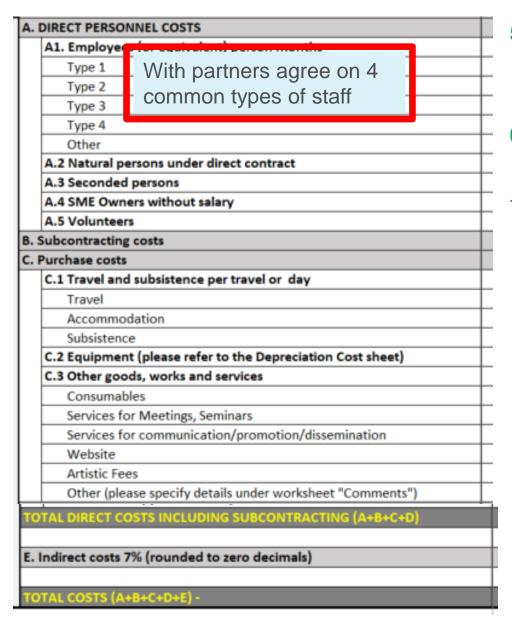
LUMP SUM - Type of costs, basic documents and rules

1. Programme Guide

(What are the funding rules? Check the financial conditions)

- 2. Annotated Model Grant Agreement
- 3. EU grant is maximum 80% of the estimated budget.

 Maximum EU grant: 400 000 EUR
- 4. 20% Contribution from sources other than the EU grant (own resources, financial contributions from third parties or income generated by the project)



- 5. Use actual costs for all type of costs (estimation)
- 6. No percentage limits (for costs categories A, B or C)
- 7. Recommendation:
 Prepare your total budget
 with all actual costs and
 then transfer it
 to work packages with
 lump sum system. You
 will do it with the help (if
 need be) of calculating an
 average amounts of
 actual costs



2. CB VET action – Novelties



What is new in the Programme guide 2025 (published 19/11/2024)?

Erasmus+ Programme Guide

- 1. Regional priorities
- 2. 24 or 36 months no other duration possible
- 3. Call ID for each region is different
- 4. Some guiding points of the "Award criteria"
- 5. New budget per region
- 6. Global Gateways investment agenda regions (Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, Caribbean)
- 7. Torino process regional reports replaced by country reports (Western Balkans, Neighbourhood East, South-Mediterranean countries)



3. How to find coordinator/partner





Finding coordinator/partner - Try different ways

- 1. If you already have contacts with VET providers in EU or third countries associated to the Erasmus+ Programme, get in touch with them to check if they plan to apply under this action.
- 2. Contact **European networks** of VET Providers (e.g. EVTA, EVBB, EfVET, EUproVET) and networks that represent higher education institutions also active in the field of VET (e.g. EURASHE, EUCEN).
- 3. Organisation active in **lifelong guidance**, **counselling**, **learning mobility and career management** contact the European network <u>Euroguidance</u>.
- 4. Involve other Ukrainian organizations make your project stronger.
- 5. As Ukrainina organisation think to involve other organizations from the same region 2 Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova it might be they have contacts to organizations from EU/third countries associated to the programme.





Finding coordinator/partner - Try different ways

- 6. Erasmus+ VET-related projects (2014-2020) on the <u>Erasmus+ Project Results Platform</u>. Please use the 'advanced search', selecting Erasmus+ Programme and within the different actions please focus on vocational education and training.
- 7. Use the section "Partner search announcements" https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/how-to-participate/partner-search in the Funding & Tenders Opportunities Portal (FTOP)
- 8. **Contact Ukrainian VET experts** you know it might they help you to find coordinator/partner.
- 9. CEDEFOP European Centre for Development of VET https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en, REFERNET is a network of institutions. It provide information on national vocational education and training (VET) systems and policies in the EU Member States, Iceland and Norway. https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/networks/refernet/national-partners



Finding coordinator/partner - Try different ways

- 10. <u>EPALE (Electronic Platform for Adult Learning in Europe)</u> platform and/or you could register to the <u>Community of European VET practitioners</u>.
- 11. The <u>Katapult Network</u> includes a network and matchmaking tool to build relationships with new partners. The direct link to the matchmaking tool is <u>here</u>. <u>How does it work?</u>
- 12. If you are a member of the European Training Foundation (ETF) Open Space, you may look for partners there. In particular, you may contact the Network run by the European Training Foundation (ETF) that includes numerous VET centers in Europe and ETF partner countries as well as the ETF Quality Assurance forum that involves more than 20 countries. In this context, you may consult the ETF regions and countries.
- 13. Contact **National Erasmus+ Office** (see the list <u>here</u>), which may have received requests for cooperation from potential CB VET applicants.



4. Tips for applicants/ successful application



TIPS FOR APPLICANTS

- Start today

- SUPPORT
- Strategy, create idea, own team, decide about coordinator and partners
- Check model of application from last year
 - PART B Description of the action see in FTOP portal
 - ANSWER EACH GUIDING POINT OF EACH OF THE 4 AWARD CRITERIA
 - Excel budget table see in FTOP portal
- Be inspired by successful projects check their project web pages and deliverables
- Improve your project and re-submitted it (if it was not selected last year)

What makes a good project?

- Consortium composition (including players in VET, world of work, decision makers)
- In line with policy documents and regional priorities (see Programme Guide)
- Clear needs analysis (for the region/countries, for your partners, for your participants)
- Realistic impact (explaining what will your project change in VET, concise objectives) and existence of recognition and validation of learning outcomes
- Balanced EU grant (rememeber: focus is on third countries not associated to Programme)
- Concrete outputs and deliverables (clearly supporting capacity in VET, rather quality than quantity)

Relevance

- Link to objectives, thematic areas and capacity building
 - Less is sometimes more (select less objective and thematic areas, but focus on them in all sections of your application)
 - Examples of capacity building activities are in PG (no need to invent new). Capacity building element must be very strong, it is not sufficient to do e.g. "2 new modules in some sector...".
 - Focus on partners, organisations, target groups, beneficiaries from third countries NOT associated to the Programme
 - To realistically reinforce capacity you need to know very well what objectives, thematic
 areas and capacity building activities are relevant for your partners, target groups, sector
 etc. in third countries NOT associated to the Programme (communicate intensively with
 these partners)

Relevance

Regional priorities

- Explicitly mention each policy document listed in the section "Regional priorities" and make a link/links between this document and your application
- Respond to each regional priority of your region (not only to one or two)
- Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, Caribbean
 - Global Gateway investment agenda NEW
- Western Balkans, Neighbourhood East, South-Mediterranean countries
 - Torino process regional reports replaced by country reports NEW
 - Focus on both: Economic and Investment plan and Torino process (country report)

EU values

- Link to EU values should not be artificial/declarative
- Discuss deeply with your partners from third countries NOT associated to the Programme



Local needs and context

- Needs analysis strong analysis NEW (participaiting organisations, final beneficiaries, target groups), analyse the situation
 - Mention documents, surveys, analysis, partners' experience etc.
 - Do not mention too general information that could be used for any application in any sector/country
 - Distinguish between target groups (VET teachers in agricultural schools) and final beneficiaries (e.g. VET teachers of consortium's partners)
- Feasibility in the local context
 - Show knowledge of a local context to prove application's feasibility

Coherence

- Needs, objectives, activities and deliverables are not a patchwork, but are coherent.
- As more organisations work on an application, someone should give it a final look of coherence.

Methodology

The ways/methods how you address the needs identified

Work plan

 NEW
 — How are qualitative and quantitative indicators used for activities and deliverables (e.g. it is not sufficient to mention usage of social media, but include also qualitative and quantitative indicators).

Selection of participants

Take into account inclusion and diversity and present them in your project.



Recognition and validation

- Mention explicitly the names of European transparency and recognition tools you/your partners will use
- Describe how you/your partners will use them

Quality control measures

- Examples of potential deliverables/activities
 - Quality management plan
 - Quality criteria, tools
 - Involvement of beneficiaries, target groups
 - External quality evaluator (optional)



Cost-effectiveness

- NEW Budget is balanced
 - main aim of CB VET application is NOT to improve VET in EU and third countries associated to the Programme, this should be also visible in the budget distribution

Mobility activities

 In case you have mobility in your project follow "Protection, health and safety of participants" in part A of the Programme Guide as well to other requirements and recommendations applicable to KA1 Mobility projects.

Innovation

- consider all 3 elements:
 - *State-of-the-art methods, techniques
 - *Previous similar initiatives carried out by participating countries
 - *Innovative results



Quality of partnership and cooperation arrangements

Configuration

- Mix of partners (not all the same type, or only 2 types)
- Complementary partners (organisations with different role e.g. covering VET, industrial sector, private companies etc.)
- o Do partners represent target group, sector, theme?

Commitment

 NEW - Specifically of partners from third countries NOT associated to the Programme

Collaboration

 Not only with participating organisations, but also with other relevant stakeholders (you name them and describe how you will collaborate – coordinate and communicate - with them)



Impact

Impact

- NEW short, medium and long term effects on participants and participating organisations
- Outside the organisations and individuals directly participate in the project – mention all levels local, regional, national and/or international
- NEW impact indicators

Dissemination

- Present your dissemination plan (Who, How, Why, When etc.)
- Dissemination within participating organisations
- Dissemination outside participating organisations
- See also the section "COMMUNICATING PROJECTS AND THEIR RESULTS TO MAXIMISE IMPACT" in the Programme guide



Impact

Exploitation

- How outcomes will be used by project partners
- How outcomes will be used by other stakeholders
- How outcomes will be used within a project lifetime
- How outcomes will be used after project lifetime

Open access

- See section "ERASMUS+ OPEN ACCESS REQUIREMENT FOR EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS" in the Programme guide
- See in "Part D Glossary of terms" (last part of the Programme guide)
 the words e.g. "Open Educational Resources (OER), Open licence)
- Deliverables should be freely accessible
- Deliverables should be under open licence

Sustainability

- Sustainability plan
- Producing impact after end of EU funding
- Engage private sector



SUCCESSFUL PROJECT



- √ Be coherent: avoid contradictions and "cut and paste" style applications
- √ Be concrete: use examples, justify your claims, provide evidence
- ✓ **Be clear**: read the questions carefully, provide information in the correct order as indicated in the form
- ✓ **Be explicit:** take nothing for granted; don't assume that experts have prior knowledge; avoid abbreviations or explain them
- ✓ Be realistic: the application is the basis of your project to be; it is also the cornerstone of the commitment you will sign
- ✓ Remain focused: concentrate exclusively on what is asked of you
- ✓ Eligibility: make sure you have followed all instructions and that the proposal meets all mandatory requirements
- √ Keep it simple: use short sentences, vary the length if you wish to make it more interesting but keep it simple and focused.



Key Resources

- <u>Erasmus+ Programme Guide</u> 2025 NEW published 19/11/2024 (CB VET action on the pages 327 337)
- <u>Funding & Tender Opportunities Portal</u> see running projects, finding partners
- <u>Funding & Tender Opportunities Portal</u> Application/submission available from 5/12/2024
- <u>Recordings</u> World Wide Webinar 2024 (24/10/2024) event before publication of Programme guide 2025



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