



European Union European Social Fund Investing in jobs and skills

ESF Funding for Education European Funds - Lifelong Learning Programme 2007-2013

European monies for education are available in 4 main funding packages; **Comenius** (largely for Teachers), **Erasmus** (which largely forms part of language based University degrees and tertiary education), **Leonardo da Vinci** (supporting Vocational Education other than tertiary education) and the **Grundtvig** programme which addresses all forms of adult education.

European Funding is perhaps the most complex of funding to access and whilst on the surface each strand of funding seems simple, the complexities of the applicant's and course requirements can run very deep. Not only this but the interpretation of the legislation can be different from country to country. Further complications arise with each countries application process and deadlines, making it very difficult for Educational organisations to administer.

Many of our partners offer courses eligible for some of these funds, please contact us for more advice.

Comenius

The programme covers pre-school and school education up to the end of upper secondary education, and the institutions and organisations providing such education.

Its two specific objectives are to:

- develop understanding among young people and educational staff of the diversity of European cultures and its value;
- help young people acquire the basic life-skills and competences necessary for their personal development, for future employment and for active European citizenship;

In this context, the programme pursues the following operational objectives:

- better mobility, especially quality and volume;
- better partnerships between schools in different Member States, especially the quality and volume, so as to involve at least 3 million pupils during the period of the programme;
- encouragement for learning foreign languages;
- the development of innovative ICT-based content, services, pedagogies and practices;
- better teacher training in terms of quality and the European dimension;
- support in improving pedagogical approaches and school management.



Education and Culture Lifelong learning programme COMENIUS

The following actions may be supported by the Comenius programme:

- mobility such as exchanges of pupils and staff, school mobility, training courses for teachers, etc.;
- partnerships, such as "Comenius school partnerships" of schools for joint learning projects or "Comenius-Regio partnerships" of organisations responsible for school education, with a view to fostering inter-regional - and particularly border region - cooperation;
- multilateral projects on disseminating and promoting best practices, exchanging experience or developing new courses or course content;



- multilateral networks aimed at developing education, disseminating good practice and innovation, supporting partnerships and projects, and developing needs analysis;
- accompanying measures.

The mobility and partnership actions account for at least 80% of the Comenius budget.

For further information, please check the website of the Directorate-General for Education and Culture: Comenius Programme

Erasmus

The Erasmus programme addresses formal higher education and vocational education and training at tertiary level, whatever the length of the course or qualification may be and including doctoral studies. Unlike the previous programmes, vocational education and training at tertiary level comes under Erasmus now and not Leonardo da Vinci.

The two specific objectives are to:

- support the achievement of a European Area of Higher Education;
- reinforce the contribution of higher education and advanced vocational education to the process of innovation.

To this end, the programme pursues operational objectives which should endeavour to improve, strengthen and develop:

- mobility (including quality). It should reach 3 million individuals by 2012;
- the volume of cooperation (including quality) between higher education institutions and between higher education institutions and enterprises;
- the transparency and compatibility of qualifications gained;
- innovative practices and their transfer between countries;
- the development of innovative ICT-based content, services, pedagogies and practices.

The following actions may be supported by the Erasmus programme:

- the mobility of students (studies, training, placements), teaching staff, other staff in higher education institutions and staff of enterprises for the purposes of training or teaching, Erasmus intensive programmes organised on a multilateral basis, as well as support to the home and host institutions to ensure the quality of the mobility arrangements. Mobility actions account for at least 80% of the budget for this programme;
- multilateral projects focusing on innovation, experimentation and the exchange of good practices;
- multilateral networks such as "Erasmus thematic networks" run by consortia of higher education institutions and representing a discipline or a cross-disciplinary field;
- accompanying measures.

For further information, please check the website of the Directorate-General for Education and Culture: Erasmus programme



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Leonardo da Vinci

The Leonardo da Vinci programme addresses vocational education and training, other than at tertiary level.

Its specific objectives are to:

- support participants in training in the acquisition and the use of knowledge, skills and qualifications to facilitate personal development, employability and participation in the European labour market;
- support improvements in quality and innovation;
- enhance the attractiveness of vocational education and training and mobility.



To this end, the programme pursues operational objectives which seek to develop and strengthen:

- mobility (including quality) in this field and that of continuing training, including placements in enterprises numbering 80 000 per year by the end of the programme;
- the volume of cooperation (including quality) between the different actors;
- the development of innovative practices and their transfer between countries;
- the transparency and recognition of qualifications and competences, including those acquired through non-formal and informal learning;
- language learning;
- the development of innovative ICT-based content, services, pedagogies and practices.

The following actions may be supported by the Leonardo da Vinci programme:

- mobility, including the preparation thereof;
- partnerships focusing on themes of mutual interest;
- multilateral projects, in particular those aimed at improving training systems through the transfer of innovation in order to adapt to national needs or through the development of innovation and good practice;
- thematic networks of experts and organisations working on specific issues related to vocational education and training;
- accompanying measures.

The mobility and partnership actions account for at least 60% of the budget for this programme.

For further information, please check the website of the Directorate-General for Education and Culture: Leonardo da Vinci programme

Grundtvig

The Grundtvig programme addresses all forms of adult education.

It aims to:

- respond to the educational challenge of an ageing population in Europe;
- help provide adults with pathways to improving their knowledge and competences.

Its operational objectives are as follows:

- improve the quality and accessibility of mobility with a view to supporting 7 000 individuals per year by the end of the programme;
- improve cooperation (quality and volume);
- support and find alternatives for underprivileged and vulnerable persons, such as older people and those who have left education without basic qualifications;
- support the development of innovative practices and their transfer between countries;
- support the development of innovative ICT-based content, services, pedagogies and practices;
- improve pedagogical approaches and the management of adult education organisations.

The following actions may be supported by the Grundtvig programme:

- the mobility of individuals, including adequate preparation, supervision and support;
- the "Grundtvig learning partnerships" focusing on themes of mutual interest;
- multilateral projects aimed at improving adult education systems through the development and transfer of innovation and good practice;
- the "Grundtvig networks", thematic networks of experts and organisations;
- accompanying measures.

The mobility and partnership actions account for at least 55% of the budget for the Grundtvig programme.

For further information, please check the website of the Directorate-General for Education and Culture: Grundtvig programme