

# Bulletin 16

Higher Education European Funding Services



heefs

April 2010

## Welcome

Welcome to issue 16 of our Bulletin. Set out in the panel on the right are the items covered in this edition. We also thought we might take this opportunity to provide readers with some information about the range of Programmes and Institutions we have been working with since our launch. Set out below is a brief summary which aims to give a flavour of our work. It is our intention to provide some information on the lessons learned from this involvement in a future edition of the bulletin.

## EU Programmes

We are supporting a number of UK HEIs in their involvement in a range of EU Programmes, including the Lifelong Learning Programme, Erasmus Mundus, Fundamental Rights & Citizenship Programme and the LIFE+ Programme.

## Institutions

The Institutions we are working with are spread across the UK. As reported in previous bulletins we have visited Institutions in every region of the UK. In addition, we have been working directly with Institutions in London, the South East, East Midlands, West Midlands, the Eastern region and Wales.

## Transnational partners

The Institutions we are working with have a wide range of partners, including HEIs, third sector organisations, local authorities, and private enterprises. Countries involved include the following:- Austria, Croatia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Russia, South Africa and Sweden.

## In this Issue

Programmes	Page
<b>Safer Internet Programme</b> Programme Summary	2
<b>Safer Internet Programme</b> Call for Proposals – Deadline 27 May 2010	4
<b>Progress Programme</b> Study on ‘Analysis of costs and benefits of active compared to passive labour market policy measures’ Call for Tenders – Deadline 9 June 2010	7
<b>Lifelong Learning Programme</b> Call for Proposals – Erasmus Charter 2011 Deadline 30 June 2010	8



## Safer Internet Programme Drug Prevention and Information Programme

## Programme Summary

### Background

The Safer Internet Programme is managed by the Directorate General Information Society and Media. Its overall aim is to promote safer use of the internet and other communication technologies, to educate users and to fight against illegal content and harmful conduct.

The Programme is operational for the period 2009 to 2013 and has an overall budget of €55m.

### Programme Objectives and Actions

It is implemented through annual work programmes which identify priorities for spending each year, on the following four objectives:-

- Ensuring public awareness
- Fighting against illegal content and tackling harmful conduct online
- Promoting a safer online environment
- Establishing a knowledge base

The Programme focuses on practical help for end-users, particularly children, parents, carers, teachers and educators by encouraging multi-stakeholder partnerships.

The activities supported under each of the objectives outlined above are as follows:-

#### **Action 1: Ensuring Public awareness**

Activities aimed at increasing public awareness about the opportunities and risks related to the use of online technologies, and means of staying safe online, including:-

- Raising public awareness and disseminating information on safer use of online technologies
- Providing contact points where parents and children can receive answers to questions about how to stay safe online, including advice on how to deal with both grooming and cyber bullying
- Encouraging the enhancement of efficient and cost effective awareness raising methods and tools
- Ensuring the exchange of best practice and cross-border cooperation at EU level
- Ensuring exchange of best practices and cooperation at international level

#### **Action 2: Fighting against illegal content and harmful conduct online**

Activities aimed to reduce the amount of illegal content circulated online and deal adequately with harmful conduct online, including:-

- Providing the public with, and promoting the existence of, contact points and hotlines for reporting online illegal content and harmful conduct
- Tackling harmful conduct online, in particular, grooming and cyber bullying
- Stimulating the application of technical solutions for dealing adequately with illegal content and harmful conduct online and informing end-users as to how this technology might be applied
- Promoting cooperation and exchange of information, experience and best practices between stakeholders at national and EU level
- Enhancing cooperation, exchange of information and experience in fighting online illegal content and harmful conduct at international level
- Engaging domain name registries where they are not yet engaged and strengthening existing cooperation

### Action 3: Promoting a safer online environment

Activities that aim to bring together stakeholders, including:-

- Enhancing cooperation, exchange of information, experience and best practices
- Encouraging stakeholders to develop and implement systems of self- and co-regulation
- Encouraging and assisting providers to develop labelling
- Stimulating the involvement of children in creating a safer online environment
- Increasing information about adequate tools for dealing with harmful content online
- Ensuring compatibility between the approach taken in the EU and internationally

### Action 4: Establishing a knowledge base

Activities that aim to establish a knowledge base for dealing adequately with existing and emerging uses of the online environment and relevant risks and consequences with a view to develop safety solutions, including:-

- Encouraging a coordinated approach to investigations in relevant fields
- Providing updated information on children's use of online technologies
- Analysing statistics and trends from different Member States
- Promoting investigation of the online victimisation of children
- Promoting investigation of efficient ways to improve the safe use of online technologies
- Increasing knowledge of the effects of the use of current and emerging technologies on children

### Types of Projects

The Programme will support four types of projects, with the following characteristics:-

Type of Project	Duration	Grant rate	No of partners
Integrated Network	Up to 2 years	50-75%	3 - 4
Thematic Network	2 – 3 years	100%	At least 10
Targeted Projects	Up to 2 years	50-75%	3 - 8
Knowledge Enhancement Projects	Up to 2 years	100%	3 - 8

Annual work programmes direct the types of projects eligible for support under each of the actions.

### Target groups and eligible applicants

Participation in the Programme is open to all legal entities in the EU Member States; EFTA/EEA countries; accession and candidate countries; certain Western Balkan and EU neighbourhood countries and certain third countries.

### Opportunities for UK HEIs

Of particular interest to UK HEIs are the opportunities under 'Targeted Projects' to deliver pilot or best practice activities in areas of relevance to the Programme, including projects involving innovative uses of existing technologies. Opportunities also exist to undertake studies, surveys, assessments or investigations of a sociological, psychological, statistical, technical or other relevant nature within 'Knowledge Enhancement Projects'. It is also possible to apply for funds towards the running costs of large academic networks with an interest in a field relevant to the Programme.

There is an annual call for proposals under the programme, with application deadlines of May each year.

### Further Information

Information about the Programme can be found at:-

[http://ec.europa.eu/information\\_society/activities/sip/funding/projects/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/activities/sip/funding/projects/index_en.htm)

## Safer Internet Programme

## Call for Proposals

**Deadline: 27 May 2010**

**2010/C 48/07**

### Background

The overall aim of the Safer Internet Programme is to promote safer use of the internet and other communication technologies, to educate users and to fight against illegal content and harmful conduct. The work programme for 2010 identifies the priorities for the year and sets out how they will be delivered in terms of actions to be supported. The budget for this call is €3m.

### Programme Objectives and Actions for 2010

The Programme focuses on practical help for end-users, particularly children, parents, carers, teachers and educators by encouraging multi-stakeholder partnerships. As set out in the summary of the Programme, the following actions can be supported:-

#### **Action 1: Ensuring Public awareness**

Activities aimed at increasing public awareness about the opportunities and risks related to the use of online technologies, and means of staying safe online.

#### **Action 2: Fighting against illegal content and harmful conduct online**

Activities aimed to reduce the amount of illegal content circulated online and deal adequately with harmful conduct online.

#### **Action 3: Promoting a safer online environment**

Activities that aim to bring together stakeholders.

#### **Action 4: Establishing a knowledge base**

Activities that aim to establish a knowledge base for dealing adequately with existing and emerging uses of the online environment and risks and consequences with a view to developing safety solutions.

### Types of Projects

For 2010, the Safer Internet Programme is inviting applications for the following types of projects to meet the objectives of the 4 actions, as follows:-

Type of project	Characteristics	Duration	Grant rate	No of partners	Total Grant available	ACTION
Integrated networks	<b>Safer Internet Centres</b>  Awareness raising  Hotlines and helplines  And European coordination	Up to 2 years	Up to 50-75%   Up to 100%	3 - 4	€1m	Action 1  Action 2
Thematic Networks	Facilitating cooperation of law enforcement agencies in Europe and internationally	24 – 30 months	Up to 100%	At least 10	€0.4m	Action 2
	Stimulating and coordinating investigation into the use of new media by children	30 – 36 months	Up to 100%	At least 10	€0.5m	Action 4
Targeted Projects	Enhancing law enforcement agencies' analysis of illegal material within peer-to-peer networks	Up to 2 years	Up to 5- - 75%	3 – 8	€0.5m	Action 2
Knowledge enhancement projects	Internet addiction	Up to 2 years	Up to 100%	3 – 8	€0.6m	Action 4

The priorities for the sorts of activities to be supported under each of the Actions are set out in the Work Programme for 2010, which is available from:-

[http://ec.europa.eu/information\\_society/activities/sip/docs/prog\\_2009\\_2013/wp\\_10.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/activities/sip/docs/prog_2009_2013/wp_10.pdf)

### Opportunities for UK HEIs

The Work Programme for 2010 is quite specific in terms of the sorts of proposals it seeks to encourage. An analysis of the Programme suggests that opportunities for UK HEIs occur, in the main, in the following three area:-

**Targeted projects – Action 2: Enhancing law enforcement agencies' analysis of illegal material within peer-to-peer networks** – seeks proposals aimed at developing or enhancing technological tools for the specific needs of the police, aiming at identifying and facilitating the analysis of evidence material found in peer-to-peer networks.

**Thematic Network – Action 4: stimulating and coordinating investigation into the use of new media by children** – seeks a proposal for a network to bring together social scientists and experts engaged in the field of child safety online at EU level.

**Knowledge Enhancement Projects – Action 4: Internet addiction** – seeks proposals for quantitative and qualitative research into child internet addiction in Europe.

### Selection Criteria

All applicants will be required to demonstrate that they have the necessary technical and financial capacity to deliver the project. All proposals will be assessed against the following criteria:-

- Relevance and impact
- Quality of the technical part of the proposal
- Partnership, resources, management
- European added value

### Further Information

All information relating to this call can be found at:-

[http://ec.europa.eu/information\\_society/activities/sip/funding/projects/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/activities/sip/funding/projects/index_en.htm)

## Progress Programme

## Call for Tenders

### Study on 'Analysis of costs and benefits of active compared to passive labour market policy measures'

**Deadline: 9 June 2010**

**VT/2010/008**

#### Background

This call for tenders is issued in line with the Progress Programme 2010 work plan which was summarised in Bulletin 13, available to download from our website. Specifically the Commission is aiming to finance a study to analyse the use of active and passive labour market policies since the 1990s with special attention to the cyclical effects, costs and benefits of such measures and the policy responses to the current crisis.

#### Specific tasks to be undertaken

In terms of specific tasks, the successful contractor will be expected to do the following:-

- Re-state the economic and social rationale of active and passive measures on the basis of the economic literature
- Identify trends in public expenditure on active and passive measures, as a share of GDP as well as per participant and per person wanting to work
- Give insight into the origin of funding of labour market policies in the EU
- Review empirical and econometric pre-crisis evidence on the effectiveness and cost efficiency of different active and passive measures, using a set of criteria such as labour supply, labour demand, labour market adjustment, specific aspects of the quality of the jobs found and social equity
- Review active and passive measures in time of crisis (2008 and after)
- Draw policy conclusions on the comparison of active and passive labour market policies in the context of the new EU2020 strategy and the exit strategy from the crisis

#### Technical Features

The maximum price for the contract is €300,000

The maximum duration is 12 months

Tenders may be submitted by consortia

#### Selection Criteria

Tenders must provide evidence that they have the necessary financial and technical resources to fulfil the contract. This will include evidence of relevant expertise in the fields of labour market economics and employment and social policies of the EU Member States.

All proposals will be assessed for quality of the proposal (30% of the points) and for their methodological approach (70% of the points). The points awarded against the criteria will then be divided by the price, with the highest scoring bid being chosen.

#### Further Information

All documentation relating to this call for tenders can be found at:-

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=625&langId=en&callId=256&furtherCalls=yes>

## Erasmus University Charter 2011

Deadline: 30 June 2010

EAC/I9/10

**Background**

The Erasmus University Charter provides the general framework for the European cooperation activities a HEI may carry out within the Erasmus sub-programme of the Lifelong Learning Programme. The Charter is a pre-requisite for any HEI wishing to be involved in the mobility aspects of the Programme organised by the British Council and those actions managed centrally on behalf of the Commission by the EACEA.

**What does the Charter cover?**

Specifically, the Charter allows HEIs to apply for Erasmus funding to:

- Send its students for studies to HEIs abroad
- Receive students for studies from HEIs abroad
- Send its students for placements to enterprises and other organisations such as HEIs abroad
- Send its teaching staff to HEIs abroad
- Receive teaching staff from HEIs abroad
- Receive invited teaching staff from enterprises abroad
- Send its staff for training abroad
- Receive staff for training from HEIs abroad
- Organise Erasmus Intensive Language Courses (EILCs)
- Coordinate Erasmus Intensive Programmes (IPs)
- Coordinate Erasmus multilateral projects
- Coordinate Erasmus academic and structural networks
- Coordinate accompanying measures
- Organise preparatory visits

In addition, Charter holders may apply for the ECTS/DS label through a specific call for proposals. The Charter sets out the fundamental principles and the minimum requirements with which an HEI must comply when implementing its Erasmus activities.

The institution's application for a Charter includes an Erasmus Policy Statement (EPS) setting out the institution's overall Erasmus co-operation plan in coherence with the strategy defined in the mission statement of the institution and specifying the measures and actions the institution intends to introduce in order to fulfil the requirements of the Charter. The EPS should be published and given wide visibility.

Higher education institutions can apply for three different types of charters:

1. The Standard Erasmus University Charter is for institutions which wish to apply for Erasmus funding for transnational student mobility for studies, for transnational mobility activities for teachers and other staff and/or to apply for EILCs, Erasmus IPs, multilateral projects, networks, accompanying measures or preparatory visits.

2. The Extended Erasmus University Charter (Student Placements only) is for institutions which wish to apply only for Erasmus funding for transnational student mobility for placements.

3. The Extended Erasmus University Charter (Standard Charter and Student Placements) is for institutions which wish to apply for activities covered by both the Standard and the Extended University Charter (Student Placements only).

When awarding the EUC, the Commission informs the recipient institution as to whether its Charter refers to study activities or placements or both. The EUC is awarded for the entire duration of the Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP).

### **UK HEIs**

It is our understanding that most UK HEIs already hold the Charter, which once approved, lasts until the end of the academic year 2013/14. Lists of those Institutions awarded the Charter since 2007 can be found at [http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/llp/erasmus/erasmus\\_university\\_charter\\_en.php](http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/llp/erasmus/erasmus_university_charter_en.php). This call, therefore, is only of interest to those HEIs that do not already have the Charter or that wish to apply for an Extended Charter.

### **Further Information**

Full details of the Charter, its requirements and the application procedure can be found at:-

[http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/llp/funding/2011/call\\_erasmus\\_university\\_charter\\_en.php](http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/llp/funding/2011/call_erasmus_university_charter_en.php)

## Higher Education European Funding Services (HEEFS)

### Who we are

- A Non-profit making Registered Charitable Company, Limited by Guarantee
- Wholly owned and managed by the HE Sector. HEEFS is owned by Universities UK and GuildHE and has strong links with the HE Europe and International Units
- Hosted by Liverpool John Moores University
- Established in 1991 as the Higher Education European Social Fund Unit (HEESF) to manage the HE Sector's participation in national European Social Fund (ESF) Programmes
- As HEESF, the Company enabled 133 HEIs to mount 1750 projects with £207m support from the ESF
- Re-launched in 2009 as HEEFS, with a broader remit, to support UK HEIs to progress their internationalisation strategies through participation in a wide range of EU Programmes

### What we do

#### **Represent and act as a central resource for UK HEI participation in EU Programmes by:**

- acting as an observatory, monitoring and reporting on UK HEI participation
- representing UK HEIs at EU and national level, responding to consultations and informing policy

#### **Identify and promote EU funding opportunities and developments to HEIs by:**

- analysing EU Programmes, identifying opportunities and interpreting them in an HE context
- providing an e-bulletin summarising funding opportunities
- visiting HEIs to promote and explain opportunities
- organising events for HEIs to come together to consider opportunities in specific fields of interest

#### **HEEFS collaborates with HEIs to develop, deliver and manage effective EU funded projects by:**

- working with HEIs to map opportunities against Institutional objectives
- helping HEIs to fully prepare for an application round, interpreting call documentation and drawing up a work plan to meet deadlines
- providing professional and technical support throughout the application stage, tailored to the needs of individual HEIs
- working with successful HEIs, ensuring an effective management plan is in place, carrying out project evaluation and completing reports and claims
- providing its expertise to support HEIs delivering transnational collaborative partnerships

For further information about HEEFS, our role and services and the EU Programmes we support please visit our website. Our services range from assisting individual academics to develop proposals and submit applications, to supporting the development of Institutional strategies. We do not operate as a consultancy and have a range of options for recovering our costs, to suit the Institution concerned and the specific EU Programme regulations.

**Please feel free to contact us for an informal discussion about how we might be able to assist your Institution.**