

Higher Education European Funding Services Limited

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GuildHE

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Programmes	Type of Information				
	Summary	Workplan	Calls	Results	Dissemination
Lifelong Learning Programme					
PROGRESS			<p>Details of the three Calls for Tenders are provided as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a Study on Equality Bodies set up under certain EU Directives are provided on page 2 a Study on the role and impact of taxation policies are provided on page 3 Studies on sustainability issues – green jobs; trade and labour on page 4 & 5 		
CULTURE			Information about the availability of application forms for the forthcoming deadline is provided on page 6		
MEDIA					
Competitiveness & Innovation Programme			<p>Details of a Call for Proposals under the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme concerning Satellite Accounts for Cooperatives and Mutuels are provided on pages 7 & 8</p> <p>Details of a Call for Proposals under the ICT-Policy Support Programme entitled '3bis' are provided on pages 9 to 11</p>		
ESF					
Others			<p>Details of a Call for Tenders concerning the 'Identification of future skills needs in micro and craft (-type) enterprises up to 2020' are provided on pages 12 & 13</p> <p>Details of a Call for Tenders concerning the further implementation of the Adult Learning Action Plan are provided on pages 14 & 15</p> <p>Details of a Call for Proposals for social and demographic analysis entitled 'Enhancing Europe's Capacity to Tackle Demographic and Societal Change' are provided on pages 16 & 17</p> <p>Details of a Call for Proposals under the ICI Education Cooperation Programme for cooperation in higher education and training between the EU and Australia, Japan and the Republic of Korea are provided on pages 18 & 19</p> <p>Details of a Call for Proposals to develop networks of knowledge brokerage initiatives to support evidence based policy and practice in education and training are provided on pages 20 & 21</p> <p>Details of the next Call for Proposals under the LIFE+ Programme were provided in Bulletin 5. Details of an information event being organised by the LIFE+ National Contacts are provided on page 22</p>		

Study on Equality Bodies set up under Directives 2000/43/EC, 2004/113/EC and 2006/54/EC

Deadline: 14 August 2009

VT/2009/012

Background

PROGRESS is the EU's employment and social solidarity programme. It aims to tackle issues concerned with employment, social inclusion and protection, working conditions, non-discrimination and gender equality. PROGRESS will support research and analysis into issues identified by the Commission. This call for tenders concerns a study into the implementation of 3 Commission Directives concerned with the establishment of equality bodies in EU Member States.

Subject of the tender

The study has two aims:-

- To provide an objective basis for the assessment of the level of compliance of national legislation and practice with the Directives
- To identify best practice in view of their dissemination

The study will be required to give a complete and exhaustive review of each body created under the Directives, and must cover all 27 EU Member States and EFTA/EEA countries.

Technical Features

- Contact Duration will be 9 months
- Contractors must demonstrate the experience and ability to perform the administrative and financial management and the coordination of large scale contracts and research projects at European level
- The team must include experienced lawyers and/or academics specialised in Community law
- The maximum amount available is €400,000
- Tenders from groups of researchers are acceptable under certain circumstances

Selection Criteria

Tenders will be required to demonstrate that they have *economic and financial* and *technical and professional* capacity to carry out the project. The contract will be awarded to the bid offering the best price/quality ratio, taking account of the following criteria:-

- Approach (30%)
- Methodology (40%)
- Work organisation (30%)

Further Information

All documentation relating to the call can be obtained from the following link:-

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=625&langId=en&callId=214&furtherCalls=yes>

Study on the Role and Impact of Labour Taxation Policies**Deadline: 10 September 2009****VT/2009/037****Background**

The PROGRESS 2009 annual work plan stresses the need to develop evidence based policies, which requires better, context-related knowledge/analysis of social needs, expectations and concerns and an evaluation of the impact of EU policies. This call for tenders therefore, envisages a study that would pave the way to a better understanding of the impact on employment of the labour taxation policy approaches and their alternatives applied by Member States and relevant third countries. The aim is that the study will carry out a detailed review of labour taxation policies implemented over the medium term in Member States, in order to draw lessons for the further shaping of taxation policies in the European Employment Strategy and the European Economic Recovery Plan.

Tasks to be undertaken

- Setting the scene on labour taxation
- Identification of labour tax reforms and their overall impact on the labour market
- Thematic analysis of reforms
- Policy recommendations

Technical Features

- Duration of contract is 12 months
- The maximum amount available is €300,000
- Tenders from groups of researchers are acceptable

Selection Criteria

Tenders will be required to demonstrate that they have *economic and financial* and *technical and professional* capacity to carry out the project. The contract will be awarded to the bid offering the best price/quality ratio, taking account of the following criteria:-

- Quality of the proposal (30%)
- Methodological approach (70%)

Further Information

All documentation relating to the call can be obtained from the following link:-

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=625&langId=en&callId=221&furtherCalls=yes>

Study on Sustainability issues – Green jobs: trade and labour**Deadline: 11 September 2009****VT/2009/038****Background**

Within the context of the PROGRESS Programme, this call for tenders relates to two studies:-

Lot 1:- A study on “Implications of environmental challenges for employment and employment policies within the EU and at international level (in particular climate change and the transition towards a low-carbon economy)”

Lot 2:- A study on “Trade and Labour – making effective use of trade sustainability impact assessments and monitoring mechanisms”

The call is for two Lots, separate tenders are required for each.

Scope of the studies

Lot 1:- This study will:-

- provide comprehensive quantitative and qualitative information on the effects of environmental (and energy) policies on employment and
- identify strategies for the maintenance of a desirable level of overall employment whilst ensuring that the most vulnerable groups will be able to cope with the challenges and opportunities

Tasks to be undertaken

- literature review
- identification of the most likely policy measures to reach 20/20/20 and 10% targets by 2020 and a projection of the employment effects
- assessment of employment policy responses to environmental challenges
- policy recommendations
- presentation of findings to workshops of experts

Lot 2:- This study will:-

- launch an action research study on the appropriate measures to better involve workers and employers’ organisation and local communities etc. in the assessment and monitoring of linkages between employment and international trade

Tasks to be undertaken

- analysis of dialogue and consultation mechanisms used during Trade Sustainability Impact Assessments (SIAs) exercises
- review of other experiences of dialogue and consultation with social partners aimed at assessing, anticipating and monitoring employment effects of international trade
- learning from a retrospective SIA-like exercise in Chile involving social partners and relevant public administrations
- prepare a final report

Technical Features

Maximum available is €400,000 for Lot 1 and €200,000 for Lot 2.

Duration of the contract for each of the Lots is 18 months.

For Lot 2 the inclusion of a partner organisation from Chile would be an advantage

Tenders from groups of researchers are acceptable

Selection Criteria

Tenders will be required to demonstrate that they have *economic and financial* and *technical and professional* capacity to carry out the project. The contract will be awarded to the bid offering the best price/quality ratio, taking account of the following criteria:-

- Quality of the proposal (35%)
- Methodological approach (65%)

Further Information

All documentation relating to the call can be obtained from the following link:-

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=625&langId=en&callId=220&furtherCalls=yes>

Interested?

If you are interested in submitting a tender in response to any of these calls under the PROGRESS Programme we may be able to offer some assistance, please contact us for an informal discussion about how we might be able to help:-

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Strands 1.1 and 1.2.1

Deadline: 1 October 2009

Announcement about Application Forms

Institutions planning to submit proposals for the 2009 round of applications for:-

- Strand 1.1 Multi-annual cooperation Projects
- Strand 1.2.1 Cooperation projects

should note that applications must be submitted via the electronic online submission tool of the Executive Agency (EACEA). It is envisaged that the form will be available in mid July 2009. Details can be found at:-

<http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/index.html>

**Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme
Satellite Accounts for Cooperatives and Mutuals****Deadline: 4 September 2009****ENT/CIP/B/N10S00****Background**

Within the framework of the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme of the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme, the Commission has announced this call for proposals for 'satellite accounts for cooperatives and mutuals'. The Commission has identified that one of the main problems that cooperatives and mutuals face in the EU is the lack of institutional visibility. This it perceives to be due to the peculiarities of national accounting systems that do not take into account their specific characteristics (different from those of the traditional capital companies).

“Satellite accounts are increasingly regarded as a tool needed to complement classical statistics for the provision of information. They analyse in detail overall demand for goods and services which might be associated with a given group of enterprises, observe their operational interface with the supply of goods and services within the same economy of reference (like agriculture, housing, banking etc.) and describe how this supply interacts with other economic activities. They measure the scope of a sector or of a given form of business and its performance within the economy, the value of goods and services produced and the employment generated. They evaluate the sector in terms of its contribution to GDP, jobs, capital investment and tax revenues, and its role in the balance of payments. Through this they permit the development of informed policies and strategies, and comparison across national borders”

For this reason the Commission has developed a “Manual for drawing up the satellite accounts of companies in the social economy: cooperatives and mutual societies” for use by statistical offices.

Specific Objectives of the Call

The main objective is to contribute to the availability of reliable statistics on cooperatives and mutuals at national and European levels. The development of such satellite accounts is the responsibility of the national statistical offices of Member States. The intention is that the funding made available through this call will assist national statistical offices to improve methods and data available, exchange experience and good practice and/or adapt and update already existing satellite accounts.

Funding is available to support actions carried out by statistical offices and partner organisation for the implementation of satellite accounts on the basis of the 'Manual', such as:-

- First establishment of satellite accounts, via adapting and improving methods and data availability (development of indicators, creation of basic satellite accounts, tables etc.)
- Updating, improving and or/adapting already existing satellite accounts
- Development of transnational cooperation and exchange of experience and good practices (joint projects, dissemination of results, publication, seminars)

Who can apply?

The guidelines state that 'educational and research centres' are eligible applicants. However, the national statistical offices or the services responsible for national accounting must be involved in all projects, either as individual applicant or as coordinator with other partners or as partner in a consortium coordinated by another organisation.

Technical Features

Scheduled start date for the action is January 2010

Maximum project duration is 12 months

Maximum grant available is €200,000

Maximum amount of grant per project is €65,500

Maximum grant rate is 95%

Selection Criteria

Applicants must be able to demonstrate that they have the financial and technical capacity to carry out the project. In addition they will be assessed against the following criteria:-

Relevance	(10%)
Visibility	(5%)
Impact	(30%)
Quality	(35%)
Budget and cost effectiveness	(20%)

Further Information

All information and documentation relating to this call can be obtained from:-

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/newsroom/cf/itemlongdetail.cfm?item_id=3225&lang=en

Interested?

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Background

The ICT-PSP Annual Work plan for 2009 was amended in June, to include a new Objective under Theme 3: ICT for government and governance (3.5 eParticipation, empower and involve citizens in transparent decision-making in the EU). A call for proposals for Pilot Type B projects (i.e. projects whose aim is to stimulate the uptake of innovative ICT based services and products) was opened on 5 June 2009. There is €7m available, intended to support several projects.

Scope of the Call

The overall aim of this new objective is to address with ICT based solutions the following policy making challenges:-

- Fighting the perceived democratic deficit
- Reconnecting citizens with politics and policy making and sustaining citizens' involvement
- Reducing the complexity of decision-making and legislation processes within the EU

Focus and outcomes

It is intended to support several pilots, each focusing on at least one of the following goals:-

- Enabling transparent decision and policy making by supporting the drafting of legislative texts for politicians and decision-makers. The piloted solutions should help improve the clarity and understanding of legislative texts and content for non-specialists and in a multi-lingual environment, thus facilitating citizens' participation in the process;
- Enhancing the direct participation of citizens and civil society in the decision-making process itself, and improving the access to relevant content and available options, thus enabling them to interact with decision-makers in real time and with concrete contributions;
- Involving citizens in the policy-making process by enhancing social networking capacities using new intermediation models, creating collaborative input to policy-making (e.g. data gathering, sharing collective knowledge, Web 2.0 technologies) thus enabling the provision of policy-making related services by citizens.

Conditions and characteristics

- The solutions proposed should clearly address an EU legislative, policy or decision-making process and contribute to improving the process concerned and to increasing the participation of the public. Attention should be given to solutions which are easy to use and understand by citizens (rather than for example, by ICT and other experts).
- The pilot should involve a significant number of citizens from several EU Member States. The needs of decision makers and citizens should be taken into account from an early stage of the pilot.

- The ICT solutions should enable a wider group of people to voice their opinions, provide input and get involved in politics. All projects will contribute to improving the usability of web-based and other ICT tools in the field. Accessibility, multi-lingual and multi-cultural issues need to be taken into account as well as adapting the tool to be used by people who may have only limited knowledge of the subject area and low level IT skills.
- Proposals should demonstrate a clear understanding and definition of the institutional environment concerned and the civil society actors involved. The pilots must include and mobilise all relevant actors involved, including decision-makers, citizens, civil society groups and the private sector.
- Along with the technical pilot phase, the pilots will also have to identify and develop sustainable business models that would grant financial self-sustainability to the proposed strategy in the long term.
- The pilots will also have to address legal, administrative and protocol issues related to the real working and operational conditions.
- The pilots will have to produce an appropriate evaluation framework so as to allow service impact assessment and, in parallel, provide an analysis of the proposed solution in terms of the costs and benefits of implementation.
- The pilots should exploit the experience of other Commission-funded programmes or applications in particular projects financed under the eParticipation Preparatory Action¹.
- The proposals should provide an effective dissemination plan, especially in terms of the impact at European level, including networking and ways to attract a wider audience to participate. The pilots should also provide training material and modules, and operational manuals so as to guarantee better acceptance and adoption of the proposed solutions.

Expected impact

- High level of maturity in the use of ICTs in transparent, participatory and accountable decision-making.
- Demonstrated improvements in policy and decision-making.
- Enhanced citizen's capacity to participate in EU policy and decision-making through wide scale collaboration across the EU.

Pilot Type B Project Requirements

Pilot Type B projects aim at a first implementation of an ICT based innovative service addressing the needs of citizens, governments and businesses. The pilots should be carried out under realistic conditions. The emphasis is on fostering innovation in services, consequently the pilot may need to take-up completed R&D work, may extend already tested prototype services or may combine/integrate several partial solutions to realise a new innovative approach. The pilot should demonstrate the technical, organisational and legal feasibility of the service and evaluate the impact of these innovative ICT-based solutions in view of their wider deployment and use.

¹ This builds on the 2006-2008 Preparatory Action:
http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/activities/egovernment/implementation/prep_action/index_en.htm

Project should include all necessary stakeholders for deploying the service (e.g. service and content providers, industries including SMEs and end-user representatives etc.). In this case SMEs are considered important contributors to innovation. It is also considered important that the appropriate public authorities – operators or sustainers of the service are participating in the pilot.

Technical Features

Grant rate of up to 50% of eligible costs

Eligible costs include personnel, subcontracting, other specific direct costs and indirect costs, which are calculated as a flat rate of 30% of personnel costs

Project duration of 24-36 months in which there should be a 12 month operational phase

Maximum amount of grant to be requested €2 - €2.5m

Must involve at least 4 partners from 4 different countries

Further Information

All information relating to this call can be obtained from the following link:-

http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/activities/ict_psp/participating/calls/call_proposals_09_bis/index_en.htm

The Commission has also established a network of National Contact Points (NCPs) to offer advice to support organisations preparing proposals. In the UK the NCP is:-

Peter Walters
TUVNEL
BABT, Balfour House
Churchfield Road
Walton on Thames KT12 2TD
Tel: 01932 251 260
Fax: 01932 251 201
Email: pwalters@tuvnel.com

In addition the Commission is providing a ‘pre-proposal check’ service, whereby potential applicants can submit a brief summary of their proposal to be assessed for appropriateness. This service can be used at any time up to 3 weeks before the deadline.

Interested?

If you are interested in submitting a proposal in response to this call we may be able to offer some assistance, please contact us for an informal discussion about how we might be able to help:-

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Identification of future skill needs in micro and craft (-type) enterprises up to 2020**Deadline: 13 August 2009****ENTR/2009/005****Background**

The aim of this call is for tenders to award a contract for a study identifying, analysing and assessing the future skill needs of micro and craft (-type) enterprises up to 2020, of a representative sample of EU member States and other countries that participate in the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme.

The study should contribute to the needs of these businesses being more effectively accommodated in EU policy initiatives. The target audience will be policy makers, small businesses and crafts stakeholders as well as education and training institutes.

Description of Tasks**Objectives**

The main focus should be to analyse, in very concrete and practical terms, the tasks which have to be performed by employees and entrepreneurs alike and the skills needed to undertake those tasks. The Commission aims to identify both the required:-

- Technical skills and competences for the further development of craft and micro businesses
- Other appropriate (horizontal) skills, e.g. management, language and e-skills

Having identified the skill needs, the contractor will be expected to present options for skills development.

In general the contractor will be required to:-

- Identify good practices carried out at regional and national level, of
 - Skills development and lifelong learning in micro and craft (-type) enterprises
 - Anticipation of skills needs for these enterprises
- Analyse recruitment difficulties as perceived by employers
- Elaborate ways to overcome existing or arising skills gaps and propose ways to better match skills supply and labour market demand, including an analysis of funding possibilities e.g. European funds
- Present recommendations

Technical Features

Maximum available €250,000

Duration of contract 13 months

Estimated start date – Autumn 2009

Selection Criteria

Tenders will be assessed for their financial and technical capacity to undertake the project. The contract will be awarded to the tender offering the best value for money on the basis of the ratio between the score awarded against the following criteria and the price.

Methodology	35%
Quality of the organisation of the team	25%
Overall understanding of the requirements	20%
Quality and value of the output	20%

Further Information

All information and documentation relating to this call can be obtained from:-
http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/newsroom/cf/itemlongdetail.cfm?item_id=3220&lang=en

Interested?

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Further Measures to implement the action plan on adult learning**Lot 1: updating the existing inventory on validation of non-formal learning****Lot 2: assessment of the impact of ongoing reforms in education and training on the adult learning sector****Deadline: 17 August 2009****EAC/15/2009****Background**

Tenders are called for each of the Lots. Any tenderer may submit tenders for either or both Lots, but separate submissions are required.

Lot 1 is concerned with updating the European Inventory on validation of non-formal and informal learning².

Lot 2 is concerned with exploiting and analysing the body of information on adult learning that has been generated since the Commission adopted its Action Plan 'It is always a good time to learn'³ in 2007.

Objectives**Lot 1 Overall Objectives**

- To develop and consolidate the Inventory into a multifaceted tool which will serve manifold purposes, in particular supporting the Open method of Coordination for European cooperation in education and training, in such fields as developing LLL strategies, enhancing attractiveness of VET, modernising HE and achieving the priorities of the Adult Learning Action Plan
- To further develop the content, format and presentation of the Inventory
- To provide information on validation with a view to valuing adults' learning outside formal systems and hence encouraging them to pursue further learning and qualifications
- To quality assure and update information currently contained in the Inventory (version 2007) and mould it into a tool for continuous monitoring of progress in the field of validation

Lot 2 Overall Objectives

- To give an overview of the situation in the field of adult learning in Europe 3 years after the adoption of the Adult Learning Action Plan, including the main reforms undertaken, developments introduced, changes in policy, governance, delivery and participation rates, etc.

² The Inventory can be viewed at http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/etv/information_resources

³ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2007:0558:FIN:EN:PDF>

- To analyse and condense the main sources of information generated on the subject of adult learning over the past few years and, in particular to distil from the progress made in implementing the 5 priority areas of the Action Plan
- To examine the correlation between the effectiveness of reforms and the existence of balanced and sustainable financing strategies
- To consider further possible action beyond 2010 in accordance with the updated strategy framework for education and training 2020⁴

Technical Features

	Lot 1	Lot 2
The maximum amount available	€150,000	€200,000
Duration of contract	12 months	8 months
Scheduled start date	November 2009	November 2009

Selection Criteria

Contractors will be required to demonstrate that they have the financial and technical capacity to undertake the work. The requirements for demonstration are set out in the tender documents. In addition tenders will be assessed against the following award criteria:-

Understanding the issues involved and results to be achieved	(25points)
Relevance and quality of methodology	(25points)
Feasibility of proposed approach to managing the task	(25points)
Appropriateness of the quality of skills and experience proposed	(25points)
Price (lowest priced offer receives maximum points)	(50 points)

Further Information

All tender documentation can be obtained from the following link:-

http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/calls/1509/index_en.html

Interested?

If you are interested in submitting a tender in response to this call we may be able to offer some assistance, please contact us for an informal discussion about how we might be able to help:-

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⁴ http://ec.europa.eu/education/lifelong-learning-policy/doc/com865_en.pdf

Enhancing Europe's Capacity to Tackle Demographic and Societal Change

Deadline: 11 September 2009

VP/2009/013

Background

In its Renewed Social Agenda⁵, the Commission highlighted the significance and implications of demographic change for society and the need to develop innovative policy responses. Through this call the Commission seeks to foster strong partnerships of researchers and civil society organisations to come together to establish structures for the collection and dissemination of information. The aim of the partnerships will be to contribute to better social policy making in the context of demographic change.

Scope of the Call

Under this call, grant funding will be offered to two projects managed by partnerships which may involve not-for-profit research bodies, public institutions and civil society organisations. One grant will be awarded for each of the following two types of project:-

- **Awareness raising on demographic issues** – collection and dissemination of key facts and figures on demographic change across the EU, with the aim of reaching a wide non-specialist audience and promoting a well-informed public debate on its implications and appropriate policy responses among the general public in all Member States at all levels of government
- **Tools for developing comparable local surveys** – monitoring of social and living conditions at the local and regional level through the development of a framework for survey modules suitable for the collection of comparable data which will facilitate mutual learning

Technical Features

Maximum Grant available is €500,000 per project

Maximum grant rate is up to 80% of eligible costs

Maximum project duration is 36 months

Start date must be in 2009 (timetable envisages 1 December 2009 start)

Projects must include at least one partner (indicated in the application by signed letter)

Selection Criteria

Applicants must be able to demonstrate that they have the financial and operational capacity to carry out the project. For this call Universities will normally be considered as public bodies and will only be required to provide a declaration of their public status, this will be sufficient for the financial capacity check. With regard to operational capacity applicants will be required to provide CVs of relevant staff and a list of relevant projects already undertaken.

⁵ Renewed Social Agenda – Opportunities, Access and Solidarity in 21st Century Europe (COM2008/412)

All applications having successfully demonstrated financial and operational capacity will be assessed against the following award criteria:-

- Relevance of the activity and anticipated results in relation to the objectives of the call for proposals, in line with the corresponding legal base (30%)
- The quality of the methodology, tools and practical approaches proposed (20%)
- The clarity and consistency of the proposed work plan in relation to the objectives of the activity; clarity and coherence of the proposed budget, including value for money in terms of activities planned and the budget associated with them (20%)
- EU wide relevance of the proposal (10%)
- Sustainability of the proposal beyond the period covered by this grant and capacity to disseminate the results achieved (20%)

Further Information

All documentation relating to the call can be obtained from the following link:-

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=630&langId=en&callId=219&furtherCalls=yes>

Interested?

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**Industrialised Countries Instrument
Education Cooperation Programme (ICI-ECP)**

Call for Proposals

**Cooperation in higher education and training between the EU and
Australia, Japan and the Republic of Korea**

Deadline: 15 September 2009

EACEA/14/09

Background

The Industrialised Countries Instrument (ICI) promotes cooperation between the EU and 16 industrialised and other high income countries and territories in North America, the Asia Pacific region and the Gulf region. One of the actions supported by the ICI promotes “people-to-people links” with the aim of enhancing mutual understanding between cultures and facilitating knowledge exchange. This includes bilateral cooperation projects in higher education and vocational training, known as the ICI-ECP (Education Cooperation Programme), under which projects are jointly selected and funded by the Commission and each partner country.

This current call for proposals is for **ICI-ECP Joint Mobility Projects**. Funding is available for international curriculum development projects that involve short term mobility between the EU and partner countries. Each proposal must be based on a consortium of HEIs from the EU and one of the partner countries. The consortium must set up a framework for student mobility whereby students will typically spend one semester in the partner country and vice versa with full recognition of the study period abroad in the home HEI. Support will include mobility grants for students and staff, as well as flat rates/fixed amounts for administering the project.

Eligible activities

Projects should focus on

- the structured exchanges of students, and
- on the joint development of joint or shared curricula (i.e. combining existing modules, developing innovative curricula, applying new teaching methods etc.),
- joint study programmes (including the possibility of awarding joint or double degrees), and
- structured exchanges of staff

Eligible programmes of study can be at masters or undergraduate level and can include vocational education and training courses. They must, however, concentrate on only one level. Doctorate level study is not eligible for support.

Technical Features

- Applications must be submitted both in the EU and simultaneously to the relevant authorities in the partner country
- Maximum project duration is 36 months
- The project eligibility period is planned to start 1 November 2009 and finish 31 October 2012.
- Budget available for the EU applicants is €2.8m
- Funding from the EU is for the direct use of EU partners, the partner countries will provide funding for partner HEIs

- Estimates for the number of projects to be supported are as follows:-
 - EU- Australia 3-4
 - EU- Japan 1-2
 - EU- Rep of Korea 3-4
 - Total 7-10
- Consortium must consist of at least 3 HEIs or VET Institutions from 3 different EU Member States and at least 2 Institutions from the partner country (in Australia, applicants are encouraged to include members from different states and territories)

Funding Available

Funding for EU partners is available in 3 forms:-

1. flat rate/fixed amounts for administering the project
2. mobility grants to EU students
3. mobility grants to EU staff

The overall amount of funding on the EU side is as follows:-

All amounts in €	Funding for 3 EU Institutions	Funding for 4 or more EU Institutions
Flat rates for admin support	33,750	45,000
Student mobility grants	240,000	320,000
Staff mobility grants	45,000	60,000
Max total project funding	318,750	425,000

Selection Criteria

Applicant Institutions must be able to demonstrate that they have the financial and technical capacity to carry out the project. In addition each proposal will be assessed against the following selection criteria:-

- Significance of the project for the relationship between the EU and the partner country (25%)
- Contribution to quality and excellence (25%)
- The quality of the implementation (50%)

Further Information

Detailed guidance notes, application forms and all relevant documentation can be obtained from the following link:-

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/extcoop/ici-ecp/funding/2009/call_2009_en.htm

Interested?

If you are interested in submitting a proposal in response to this call we may be able to offer some assistance, please contact us for an informal discussion about how we might be able to help:-

Higher Education European Funding Services Limited
 Liverpool John Moores University
 Rodney House
 70 Mount Pleasant
 Liverpool L3 5UX

Tel: 0151 707 1378
 email: heefs@ljmu.ac.uk
 web: www.heefs.ac.uk

Evidence based policy and practice: call for proposals to develop networks of knowledge brokerage initiatives**Deadline: 25 September 2009****EAC/26/2009****Background**

The Commission is keen to see more evidence based policy development. This call will support international cooperation in the development of 'knowledge brokerage' mechanisms. These mechanisms are intended to strengthen the links between research, policy and practice. Their main role is to make the results of research understandable and accessible and to bring research to the attention of policy and decision-makers and practitioners.

Objectives and activities**Objectives**

- exchanging experience and good practice on the development of brokerage mechanisms
- joint testing of innovative knowledge brokerage initiatives
- development of a coherent infrastructure
- development of a framework for assessing research quality and for formulating policy and practical recommendations based on sound evidence
- creation and dissemination of concrete tools to share and disseminate knowledge (website, leaflets, video-based products, books, conferences, seminars)

Eligible activities

- cooperation projects, exchanges, mobilities
- actions aimed at the creation and improving of networks
- development, testing and transfer of innovative practices
- conferences and seminars
- awareness and dissemination actions
- studies and analyses
- creation and dissemination of concrete tool to share and diffuse knowledge (website, leaflets, video-based products, books, conferences, seminars)

Technical Features

Total budget available is €500,000

Intention is support several projects with grant of around €165,000

Grant rate is up to 75%

Projects must involve 6 partners from 6 eligible countries (EU27, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Turkey)

Maximum duration for projects is 12 months

Activities must start between December 2009 and February 2010 and must end before March 2011

Selection Criteria

Applicants must be able to demonstrate their financial and technical capacity to carry out the project and will be assessed against the following equally weighted award criteria:-

- relevance of the activities in relation to the objectives of the call (to bridge gaps between policy makers, practitioners, researchers, to disseminate and make understandable research results, to bring research to the attention of policy makers)
- creativity of the concrete mediation tools proposed
- quality of the methodology for accumulating evidence (interdisciplinary evidence, framework for choosing sound evidence)
- implications of a wide range of stakeholders at all levels, including researchers, policy and decision makers, practitioners, training providers
- potential results and consequences on policy and practice: the extent to which the activities will be fed back up to European, national, regional or local policy makers and practitioners
- clarity and consistency of the practical approach, the proposed work plan, clarity and coherence of the proposed budget

Further Information

All information relating to the call is available from the following link:-

http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/calls/2609/index_en.html

Interested?

If you are interested in submitting a proposal in response to this call we may be able to offer some assistance, please contact us for an informal discussion about how we might be able to help:-

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Deadline: 15 September 2009**Notification of Information Event & Support from National Contact Point**

As mentioned in Bulletin 5, the 2009 Call for Proposals for the LIFE+ Programme has been announced. All information relating to the call is available from:-

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/funding/lifeplus.htm>

The LIFE+ Programme is managed entirely by the European Commission's DG Environment. Support is made available, however, in each Member State by National Contact Points (NCP). In the UK the NCP is as follows:-

Tom Hudson
Beta Technology Ltd
Area 1B, Barclay Court,
Doncaster Carr
Doncaster DN4 5HZ
Tom.hudson@betatechnology.co.uk
www.betaeurope.co.uk

The role of the NCP in the UK was explained in full at a LIFE+ Information Event held in London on Friday 26 June 2009. Any HEIs considering submitting a proposal to the LIFE+ Programme may, therefore, be interested in the following information.

National Contact Point Role

- Helpline for applicants
- Provide guidance on the Programme and processes
- Pre-screening of proposals
- Collect proposals and forward to the Commission
- Check for eligibility

NCP Support

Beta Technology will be holding an information event at Doncaster Racing College on 8 July 2009. The event is aimed at applicants for the 2009 call and will cover issues, such as how to complete the forms, project costing and addressing the evaluation criteria. *Email Tom Hudson to reserve a place.*

In addition, Beta Technology will offer advice on 'project ideas'. In order to use this service potential applicants are asked to complete a 'Project Concept Form' which is available to download from the website www.betaeurope.co.uk.

The deadline for the submission of applications is 15 September 2009. Applications are to be submitted to Beta Technology who will then send them on to the Commission to be entered into the Europe wide selection process. Beta Technology offers a pre-screening and eligibility check for applications. In order to benefit from this service, applications must reach Beta Technology before 14 August 2009.

Support from Higher Education European Funding Services (HEEFS)

In 2008, the Executive Boards of Universities UK and GuildHE decided that the company formerly known as HE ESF Services Limited, should be renamed Higher Education European Funding Services Limited. This change of name reflects the company's change of role which has been widened to cover support to HEIs interested in participating in a variety of EU programmes, such as the **Lifelong Learning Programme**, **PROGRESS**, the **Competitiveness and Innovation Programme**, **Culture** and **MEDIA Programmes** as well as the **Structural Funds**. With regard to these Programmes, HEEFS will offer support to UK HEIs in the following ways:-

- Information
- Support for applicant HEIs
- Support for projects

Information

- i. Analysis of annual workplans to identify relevant calls for proposals;
- ii. Regular monitoring of the Commission's website so that when the relevant calls are announced during the year, they can be identified and HEIs notified;
- iii. When calls are made they will be highlighted in the 'HEEFS Bulletin' which will be circulated to the HEEFS mailing list and placed on HEEFS website.

Support for applicant HEIs

HEEFS will offer support and advice to any HEI interested in submitting a proposal or a tender against any of the calls made by the Commission. Support may take the form, for example, of:-

- Interpretation and explanation of the call documentation;
- Identification of opportunities and assistance with project design to meet requirements;
- Assistance with the preparation of a project proposal or a tender;
- Advice on costing for a project

Support for projects

HEEFS will offer support to any HEI that is successful in the application process. Support may take the form, for example, of:-

- Assisting the HEI to ensure that it is able to comply with contract requirements;
- Assistance with completion and submission of interim and final claims/reports;
- Where appropriate, management of elements of a project, (e.g. managing a network or providing management support);
- Assistance with dissemination of project outcomes via HEEFS contacts network.

The **Information** element of HEEFS support will be provided free of charge to all interested HEIs. HEEFS will however, seek to recover its costs in relation to **Support for applicant HEIs** and **Support for projects** through a levy charged on the funds awarded to HEIs or by building its own costs into overall project costs. As rules governing Programmes differ, details will be negotiated with individual HEIs on a case by case basis.

Interested?

Anyone working in a UK HEI who would like support to submit a proposal under any of the EU Programmes listed above should contact HEEFS for an informal discussion.

Higher Education European Funding Services Limited

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Rodney House

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