

Programme	LIFELONG LEARNING
Subprogramme	ERASMUS
Action Category	MULTILATERAL PROJECTS
Action	ERASMUS Virtual Campuses
Objectives and description of the action	<p>Virtual Campus projects support activities which are demonstrably embedded in a global strategy for the effective integration of ICT in the participating higher education institutions.</p> <p>European higher education institutions are at very different stages in the level of their effective integration of information and communication technology (ICT) in their education, training and research systems. There is no ideal 'one size fits all' model as reflected by the various situations of European higher education institutions as regard the development of virtual campuses.</p> <p>The Virtual Campuses action within Erasmus seeks to support the development / mainstreaming of innovative ICT-based content, services, pedagogies and practice for lifelong learning supported by sustainable organisational, educational and economic models in higher education institutions.</p> <p>Therefore, this action addresses fields of interests like</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • increasing virtual mobility as a complement or substitute to physical mobility in addition to any other type of independent mobility; • integration of the various opportunities offered by virtual campuses in the lifelong learning strategy of the HEIs and relevant transfer/share of experiences between traditional and open distance-learning HEIs. <p>Priority will be given to projects which aim at one or more of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing and disseminating strategies/approaches/networks of policy makers, professors, trainers and those responsible for teacher training, which can be replicated at European level, for establishing sustainable virtual campuses supportive of lifelong learning; • providing open educational resources, ensuring that organisational, technical and quality-related issues are addressed in order to share content and make it easily accessible at European level; • promoting cooperation and exchange of strategic experience among decision-makers in the area of virtual campus developments with the main focus on impact, added value and benefits of ICT use. <p>The action supports dissemination and deployment and building on existing assets. To engage in this process requires organisational maturity and willingness from the institutions to support the necessary change at all levels. Adequate technical infrastructure is a prerequisite.</p> <p>Proposals should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensure that full academic recognition is given to the students for studies and courses based on agreements for the evaluation, validation and recognition of competences acquired via virtual mobility; • ensure that the relevant aspects (organisational, pedagogical, research, economic) are adequately taken into consideration.
Who can benefit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Higher Education Institutions - Public Bodies - Enterprises - Associations, networks or consortia of higher education institutions or other organisations active in relation to higher education <p><i>Note:</i> This Action is open from 2010 to partner organisation from countries not participating in the Lifelong Learning Programme. These cannot be the coordinating organisation. See Part I of this Guide (section 1C) and – for the detailed administrative arrangements on how such organisations can participate – the website of the Executive Agency</p>
Who can apply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Higher education institutions holding a full duration Erasmus University Charter - Public bodies, enterprises, associations, networks or consortia of higher education institutions or other organisations active in relation to higher education.
PRIORITIES	The priorities for this Action can be found in the Lifelong Learning 2008-2010 General Call for Proposals.
HOW TO APPLY	Centralised, application to be sent to the Executive Agency
Please consult the relevant Agency website for further information.	
Selection Procedure:	COM
Application Form Code:	MP
<i>Please make sure you use the application form showing this code in the header.</i>	
Application Deadline(s):	26 February 2010
Duration	
Minimum Duration:	
Maximum Duration:	3 years
Comment on Duration:	Extension of the eligibility period by up to 6 months for multilateral projects is possible only in exceptional cases on request. The total grant will not change.

FINANCIAL PROVISIONS	
Please consult Part I of this Guide, Chapter 4 Financial Provisions for more information.	
Applicable Grant Table(s):	For daily staff cost rates: see Table 5a; daily rates may not exceed these published rates. For daily subsistence rates: see table 5b; daily rates may not exceed these published rates.
Maximum Grant €:	For participating organisations from "third" countries: see the website of the Executive Agency 150.000/year. However, maximum EU contribution to projects running for more than 2 years will be 300.000 € for the entire duration of the project
Comment on Funding:	Maximum EU contribution 75%
EVALUATION AND SELECTION PROCEDURES	
Please consult Part I of this Guide, chapter WHAT IS THE LIFECYCLE OF A PROJECT for further information about the evaluation and selection procedures	
Eligibility Criteria	
General eligibility rules:	
The general eligibility criteria for applications in the LLP Programme are outlined in Part I of this Guide, Chapter 3. Participating countries: please refer to Part I of this Guide, section "Which countries participate in the Programme?"	
Specific eligibility rules:	Applications must be submitted by bodies which are legal entities. At least one country must be an EU Member State.
Minimum number of Countries:	3
Minimum number of Partners:	3
Comment on participants:	
Award criteria	<p>1. Relevance The grant application and the results foreseen are clearly positioned in the specific, operational and broader objectives of the Programme. The objectives are clear, realistic and address a relevant issue / target group. Where relevant, at least one of the priority areas of the Call for Proposals for the action concerned is addressed.</p> <p>2. Quality of the Work Programme The organisation of the work is clear and appropriate to achieving the objectives; the work programme defines and distributes tasks / activities among the partners in such a way that the results will be achieved on time and to budget.</p> <p>3. Innovative Character The project will provide innovative solutions to clearly identified needs for clearly identified target groups. It will achieve this either by adapting and transferring innovative approaches which already exist in other countries or sectors, or by developing a brand new solution not yet available in any of the countries participating in the Lifelong Learning Programme.</p> <p>4. Quality of the Consortium The consortium includes all the skills, recognised expertise and competences required to carry out all aspects of the work programme, and there is an appropriate distribution of tasks across the partners.</p> <p>5. European Added Value The benefits of and need for European cooperation (as opposed to national, regional or local approaches) are clearly demonstrated.</p> <p>6. Cost-Benefit Ratio The grant application demonstrates value for money in terms of the activities planned relative to the budget foreseen.</p> <p>7. Impact The foreseeable impact on the approaches, target groups and systems concerned is clearly defined and measures are in place to ensure that the impact can be achieved. The results of the activities are likely to be significant.</p> <p>8. Quality of the Valorisation Plan (Dissemination and Exploitation of Results) The planned dissemination and exploitation activities will ensure optimal use of the results beyond the participants in the proposal, during and beyond the lifetime of the project.</p> <p>9. Where applicable: Participation of organisations from third countries Third country participation adds value to the grant application, the activities proposed for the third country partner(s) are appropriate and the budget required for this purpose represents good value for money</p>
CONTRACTING PROCEDURES	
Probable sending date of pre-information on the results of the selection process	June
Probable sending date of agreement to the beneficiaries	September
Probable starting date of the action	October