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(Announcements)

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

COMMISSION

CALL FOR PROPOSALS — EACEA/14/09

ICI Education Cooperation Programme — Cooperation in higher education and training between the EU and Australia, Japan and the Republic of Korea*(2009/C 136/09)***1. OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION**

The general objective is to enhance mutual understanding between peoples of the EU and the Partner Countries including broader knowledge of their languages, cultures and institutions; and to enhance the quality of Higher education and training by stimulating balanced partnerships between higher education and vocational training institutions in Europe and in Partner Countries.

2. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Submission of grant requests under this call is open to higher education institutions, to vocational education and training institutions and to consortia of higher education and/or vocational education and training institutions.

Eligible applicants must be from one of the Partner Countries and from one of the 27 countries of the European Union.

3. ELIGIBLE ACTIONS

This ICI-ECP call supports Joint Mobility projects focused on structured exchanges of students and faculty members; and on the joint development of joint, or shared curricula and joint study programmes.

All the mobility projects must address: development of innovative international curricula; student services, language and cultural preparation; organisational frameworks for student mobility and faculty members' mobility; evaluation; and sustainability and dissemination.

A consortium applying for an ICI-ECP Joint Mobility project must include at least 3 Higher Education and/or VET institutions from 3 different EU Member States and at least 2 institutions from the Partner Country.

The project duration is 3 years.

Activities must start between 1 November 2009 and 31 December 2009 and finish 31 October 2012.

4. AWARD CRITERIA

The following quality criteria will be applied to determine the overall quality score of each eligible proposal:

The significance of the project for the relationship between the EU and the Partner countries, (representing 25 % of the total score) will be determined by:

- The relevance of the proposal to the objectives of the Call;
- The added value of the programme of study in the proposed discipline and profession from the perspective of the relations between the EU and a Partner country.

Contribution to quality and excellence, (representing 25 % of the total score) as determined by:

- The likely project contribution to educational quality, excellence and innovation;
- The significance of the project towards improvement of teaching methods and students' further study/professional opportunities;
- The extent of an academic quality control system definition and its efficiency towards ensuring a contribution to academic excellence.

The quality of project implementation, (50 % of the total score) as determined by:

- Well defined cooperation mechanisms and administrative structure of a functioning partnership;
- The balance of the mobility scheme integration among the partner institutions; the balance of the proposed mobility flows;
- The soundness of the application of students selection mechanisms based on transparency, equality and merit principle, and common standards agreed by the partnership for joint application, selection admission and exams procedure.
- The soundness and clarity of the arrangements for academic credits and credit transfer and the extent of compatibility with ECTS;
- The quality of resources available for hosting foreign students and faculty members;
- The quality of a language plan;
- The quality of a monitoring system and evaluation plan;
- The quality of dissemination activities and
- The quality of a development and sustainability plan.

5. BUDGET

The budget available amounts to approximately EUR 2,8 million. Comparable funding will be provided by the Partner Countries in accordance with the rules applicable for each of them.

It is anticipated that three to four projects EU — Australia, one to two projects EU — Japan and three to four projects EU- Republic Korea will be funded in 2009.

6. DEADLINE

Applications must be submitted both to the EU (Agency) and to the implementing institutions in Australia (Australian Department of Education — DEEWR), Japan (Japan Student Services Organisation — JASSO) and in the Republic of Korea (Ministry of Education, Science and Technology — MEST).

The Applications on behalf of the EU lead institution must be sent to the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency no later than 15 September 2009.

The Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency
EU-ICI Call for Proposals 2009
Avenue du Bourget n° 1
Bour 02/23
1140 Bruxelles/Brussel
BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Applications on behalf of the EU lead institution must be submitted on the correct form, duly completed, signed by the person authorised to enter into legally binding commitments on behalf of the applicant organization and dated.

7. FURTHER INFORMATION

The Guidelines and the application forms are available on the following website:

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/extcoop/ici-ecp/index_en.htm

Applications must be submitted using the form provided and they have to include all the annexes and information requested.
