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(Announcements)

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

COMMISSION

Call for proposals EACEA/06/09**'Under the Lifelong Learning' Programme****Award of grants for actions to develop and implement the European Qualifications Framework (Eqf), including national and sectoral qualifications frameworks****(Text with EEA relevance)***(2009/C 98/08)***1. OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION**

The objective of this call for proposals is to award grants to approximately 6-8 proposals, with participants from the maximum number of countries and sectors, to organise actions to facilitate consortia that will contribute to a successful and enduring implementation of the EQF, as an overarching framework to facilitate mobility and lifelong learning, through:

- support to the development, promotion and application of the learning outcomes approach for all qualifications at all levels,
- support to the development and implementation of overarching National Qualifications Frameworks (NQFs) based on learning outcomes at all levels,
- support the referencing of national qualifications levels to the EQF in a transparent and credible way supporting mutual trust between countries and sectors.

2. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

The submission of applications for grants under this call is open especially to consortia of European, national, regional and sectoral organisations, including, for example, ministries, qualifications authorities, sectoral associations, social partners and other key stakeholders with an interest and role in qualifications systems. Applicants should also be sufficiently representative in terms of the sector, labour market or education and training system(s) that their project is intended to benefit.

Applications for funding may only be made by consortia consisting of organisations drawn from at least 7 different eligible countries.

Applications may be submitted by organisations (including all partner organisations) established in one of the following countries:

- the 27 EU Member States,

- the three EFTA-EEA countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway),
- Turkey.

At least three countries of the partnership must be EU Member States.

3. ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

The activities eligible under this call, which will be carried out by consortia, may include projects which produce networks through which the mutual exchange of experiences produces concrete outcomes and enduring (that is, beyond the life of the project) solutions. The project's intended concrete outcomes and proposed solutions must be precisely formulated and made explicit in the application.

Activities could include, for example:

- surveys and research in the chosen field to identify issues, challenges and barriers,
- workshops and seminars to examine the challenges, and to propose solutions to these,
- establishing specialised working groups and networks to progress solutions,
- drafting guidance and other information tools/manuals to assist experts and stakeholders in interpreting and applying the EQF; providing translations as appropriate,
- promoting awareness of the project's activities and disseminating results to relevant stakeholders.

Activities must start between 1 January 2010 and 31 March 2010. The maximum duration of projects is 24 months.

4. AWARD CRITERIA

Eligible applications will be assessed on the basis of the following criteria:

1. Relevance (15 %).
2. Methodological quality (15 %).
3. Quality of the work programme (10 %).
4. Quality of the Partnership (20 %).
5. The Cost-Benefit Ratio (10 %).
6. Dissemination (15 %).
7. Impact (15 %).

5. BUDGET

The total budget earmarked for the co-financing of projects under this call amounts to EUR 2 million. Grants will amount to between EUR 200 000 and EUR 300 000 per project.

The Community financial contribution will not exceed 75 % of the total eligible costs.

The Agency reserves the right not to distribute all the funds available.

6. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION

Applications must be despatched, date as postmark, to the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency, no later than 14 August 2009 to:

Education, Audiovisual & Culture Executive Agency
Life Long Learning Programme, Key Activity 1 — EQF
Call for Proposals EACEA/06/09
Avenue du Bourget 1 (BOU2 2/145)
B-1140 Brussels

Proposals will only be accepted if electronically completed in full using the official application form and signed in original by the person who is authorised to enter into legally binding commitments on behalf of the applicant organisation.

Applications sent by fax or only by e-mail will not be accepted.

7. FURTHER INFORMATION

Detailed guidelines of the call for proposals and the application form are available on the following website:

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/llp/funding/2009/index_en.htm

Applications must be submitted using the form provided and contain all the annexes and information required.
