



Award winning projects

Borders College wins International Award at 2012 SQA ceremony

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2013 Year of Citizens

Welcome

Welcome to our 21st edition of edUKation!

With spring in the air and summer on the horizon, this edition has an environmental flavour to it, as we bring you news of our new Corporate Social Responsibility Strategy. Read more about our commitments on page 3.

We have also themed our case studies to showcase some examples of what you are doing in the environmental world, including our cover story from Borders College, whose Gamekeeping course inspired an award winning partnership. See page 4 and 5 for the full story.

In March, our staff created something yummy for money as we took part in the Great Comic Relief Bake Off raising money for some great causes in the UK and Africa.

Looking forward to the next generation of funding, read the latest on Erasmus for All on page 6 and 7.

And finally, 2013 is the European Year of Citizens. Twenty years after the introduction of EU Citizenship, we look at how lifelong learning contributes to encouraging active participation in the European Union. Page 12 and 13.

With the final deadlines for the LLP on the horizon, the team are busy assessing all applications received for our closed actions. We would like to thank everyone who has applied for funding and we will be notifying you in the coming months if you have been successful.

The LLP Team



Deadlines

2013 application deadlines

The application deadlines for 2013 are as follows:

Grundtvig

Visits & Exchanges:
16 September 2013

In-Service Training:
30 April 2013
17 September 2013

Transversal

Study Visits for Participants:
15 October 2013

ECVET: Adding value to Leonardo Mobility

With the European Credit system for Vocational Education and Training (ECVET) you can gain recognition for your learners' achievements when they undertake a Leonardo placement. Until December 2013, our team of UK Experts can visit you for free so that you can discover how you can use ECVET to add value and build on what you may already do in your Leonardo Mobility projects.

Tip: Download our jargon-free guidance note on ECVET to find out more: www.ecvetexperts.org.uk/getting-started

Remember: This is the last year of funding opportunities under the Lifelong Learning Programme. The new generation of programmes will be launched in January 2014. See pages 6-7 for the latest news on the proposal.

CSR STRATEGY



Ecorys has recently undergone a 'refresh' of our Corporate Social Responsibility Strategy. As an employee-owned company, we take our wider impact on society and the environment very seriously. At the start of the year, we assessed our social and environmental impact in terms of

our work, our staff, our suppliers and our community and then prioritised areas for action.

In terms of our day to day operations, we know that we emit over 500 Tonnes of CO2 each year in the UK in the course of our work and that this has been growing in recent years as our international work (and air travel)

has increased. For 2013, we have therefore set a target of a 10% reduction in CO2 and we aim to achieve this through increased use of video conferencing, switching to renewable energy as well as carbon offsets. We also know that we used over a million sheets of paper in 2012 and again we think we can make a significant improvement here by switching to digital formats and raising awareness amongst staff of alternatives.

However, by far the most significant impact we have is through our work for clients and in the case of the Lifelong Learning Programme this involves thousands of projects with the 'multiplier' impacts of their activities. I therefore hope that through this edition, we can inspire even a small change through the projects we fund.

You should read the relevant sections of the 2013 Call for Proposals which contain important information to be considered when formulating your project application. The Call for Proposals is available on our websites in the 'how to apply' section.

From small beginnings to an award winner!

We are pleased to announce that our promoter Borders College has recently scooped the International Award at the 2012 Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) ceremony. Recognising the commitment of education and training providers and individuals, the ceremony celebrated the College's achievements in developing international links and partnerships through mobility projects for students.

Thanks to Leonardo's initial vocational training funding, the project, which started with just six gamekeeping students, has now permeated through into other college courses, including horse care, beauty therapy and childcare. Overall more than 250 students have had the opportunity to include an overseas placement as part of their course.

Gamekeeper demand

Despite strong demand, (as reported recently by the BBC: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-20966700>) the gamekeeping course is rare, with Borders College being only one of three colleges that run the programme. Originally the project began as a way to meet this demand and give the college's gamekeeping students some practical work experience. Now over 50 gamekeeping students have benefitted from international work experience, as they visited partner countries to learn about new approaches to gamekeeping particularly around conservation in sporting estates. Students not only get work experience and learn different skills; they also get to work with different animals such as moose and wild boar.

Lynn Retallick, External Funding Manager, explains the impact the mobility has had on a students' employability:

"The differing skills and work practices experienced greatly increases the student's employability within the UK and Europe, demonstrating to prospective employers the depth of students knowledge, ability, good practice and transferable skills. Many of our students have never had the opportunity to leave Scotland so participating in our Leonardo mobility programme has opened up a world of possibilities for them both in terms of working opportunities but also personal development and confidence.

The Mobility programme provides beneficiaries with the opportunity to greatly improve their technical skills as well as their personal development, making a more positive and employable person. Employers see this programme as a real bonus, further developing all aspects of work skills and developing receptiveness to new ideas."

"One of our beauty students who went to Spain last June has now been offered and accepted a job with the host partner and is re-locating in April. One of many reasons being she loved the different lifestyle."



"All groups of students gained invaluable work experience within their relevant sectors, working under realistic pressure, often with new technologies and techniques and gaining new craft and technical transferable skills, some for large commercial organisations, but all gaining new experiences not normally available in Scotland."

Access placements

The college has also had some significant success with their Access placements which are specifically aimed at students with varying degrees of physical and/or learning difficulties. Overtime the college has established reciprocal links with organisations in Sweden who have provided work experience in a variety of settings such a zoo café and a sports arena. Lynn continues:

"For access students, many of whom have multiple disabilities, this opportunity provided many challenges from being in a new environment, coping with new people and language to currency and local travel as well as working in a professional placement. They developed life skills and confidence far above expectation. Personal development includes self-realisation, discovering they can do new things and coping with new situations. This was especially true for the Access students in terms of problem solving and behavioural development."

You can read more about student experiences in Eskilstuna, Sweden on their blog: <http://eskilstuna2011.blogspot.co.uk/>

Benefits for all

Lynn has also found that the benefits of a Mobility are far wider reaching that purely for the student on placement:

"For our partner organisations it has opened avenues for reciprocal arrangements, thus improving their delivery of vocational training. All organisations involved have had the opportunity to share best practice within their relevant sectors and disseminate through the networks and advisory groups within their countries.

Staff development is also an important outcome with participating staff having had the opportunity to work with European colleagues. The interaction and professional dialogue that has taken place has enabled them to assess where enhancements or improvements could be made to the delivery of the training they are responsible for."

Erasmus for All: Moving closer to the new programme

Debates at European level are still ongoing about the shape of the funding programme intended to replace the current Lifelong Learning and Youth in Action programmes in January 2014.

The three main players in deciding the programme – the Council of the European Union, the European Parliament and the European Commission – are attempting to reach agreement in order to start the legal process to introduce the new programme. In this article we cover the European-level decision-making process and look at what the change to a new programme means for Leonardo, Grundtvig and Transversal beneficiaries.

Background:

The Lifelong Learning and Youth in Action programmes are running from 2007 to 2013, and will be replaced in 2014 with a new funding programme currently known as Erasmus for All. Projects funded by the programmes will continue after this date, although applications for funding from 2014 will be made under the new programme.

European Decision-Making Process

The shape of the new programme will be decided by three institutions: the Council of the European Union, the European Parliament and the European Commission. All three must reach agreement in order for the programme to be given the green-light and be implemented in a formal legal process. An extra complication is the ongoing negotiation about the overall European Union budget for the period 2014 – 2020; this will affect the programme as only once the overall budget is agreed can budgets for individual elements such as funding programmes be finalised.



Current state of play

European Commission:

The European Commission created the original 'Erasmus for All' proposal for a more streamlined approach, bringing together several programmes in three 'Key Actions'.

Council of the European Union:

The Council are broadly supportive of the 'Erasmus for All' programme but want some amends to aid simplification and to support youth activities. This position has been accepted by the European Commission and forms the basis of negotiation with the Parliament.

European Parliament:

The Parliament have not yet formalised their position on the programme but the draft report from their Culture and Education Committee rejects the programme name and retains the current sectoral approach amongst other amends.

What happens next?

The European Parliament needs to vote on the programme proposals in order to establish its formal position. Behind-the-scenes negotiations between the three bodies mentioned above are ongoing to try and come up with a workable compromise which would allow the formal process of establishing the programme to begin. In the meantime the Council and the Parliament are debating (quite vigorously!) the EU's overall budget but cannot reach agreement.

You can find out more about the budgetary negotiations for 2014 onwards on the European Council's website at www.consilium.europa.eu/special-reports/mff?lang=en



What does this mean for UK beneficiaries?

Until the end of 2013 there's no change for UK organisations and individuals benefitting from the Leonardo, Grundtvig and Transversal programmes. Ecorys will continue to run the National Agency for these programmes and will be managing application deadlines and funding awards as usual. The main difference is that some programme actions are now closing as deadlines pass, since there will be no further deadlines under the LLP. Please check our websites for the latest news, and see page 3 for further information on the funding opportunities that are still available.

For Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) currently accessing funding under Erasmus, a Call has been published for a new Erasmus Charter for Higher Education. All HEIs must apply for and be awarded an ECHE to access funds under the new programme. Please see www.britishcouncil.org/erasmus-charter.htm for full details on how to apply.

We will continue to keep you informed about the progress of the new programme via our websites, blog, twitter and facebook. Until the plans for the new programme progress, we won't have any detailed information on how you can apply for funding, although we will always give you as much information as we can. If there's anything you want to know, just ask and we'll do our best to help!

Enhancing the skills and employability of UK Apprenticeships



The Leonardo programme has funded over 28,000 work placements since 2007, an increasing number of which are for apprentices. One of the main benefits of European placements for apprentices is improving their employability.

These periods spent abroad boosts the skills and employability of the individual apprentices and also bring benefits to UK employers, filling skills gaps and enabling organisations to learn from international best practice.

Benefits and impact

There are a wide range of benefits for both the apprentices and the organisations taking part in the Leonardo Mobility projects.

The Leonardo Mobility Apprentices survey* conducted by the UK National Agency, Ecorys, in 2012 reveals the main benefits for apprentices on European placements:

- 78% say it improved their soft skills (communication, team working, inter-cultural skills, problem solving etc.)
- 77% say that their practical and vocational skills had been improved
- 75% say that involvement enhanced their CV and chance of employment.

*Survey results based on 88 respondents.

“The Leonardo mobilities have been seen to have a profound effect on the lives of many beneficiaries either in terms of directly improving their employability and skills set or by achieving positive soft outcomes and giving people the chance to participate in an opportunity not otherwise available to them.”

Shelby Smart, Filton College

The improvement of soft skills is a key outcome for individuals taking part in European work placements. It complements the practical experience and skills gained by individuals towards their apprenticeships. This mix of skills is desirable for today's labour market where statistics show that there is a current lack of people possessing the right mix of skills required by employers.

For organisations themselves, their involvement in European Mobility has a positive impact on the delivery of apprenticeship training within their organisation through:

- Improving the quality of training
- Helping the training provision to stand out from the competition
- Aiding the acquisition of functional skills



“Inclusion of mobility provides us with a competitive edge within our region as we are the only provider who are able to offer this additional aspect within the apprenticeship framework.”

James Willis, Qualitek Engineering

The impact the experience has had for apprentices in the UK is far reaching, supporting organisations to enhance the employability and skills of our future workforces.

Morthyng Group Ltd (comprising of Morthyng Vocational College and Morthyng Ltd), delivers a wide range of programmes including foundation learning, apprenticeships and commercial training, and has over 15 years experience of taking part in Leonardo Mobility.

Morthyng believe that working in another country provides new challenges that boost learners' skills, knowledge and understanding. These improvements are assessed at the time and provide evidence towards their qualification framework. Many of the staff, parents and carers have commented on the positive changes that have taken place in individuals' attitudes, personalities and motivation levels following a placement.

The impact Leonardo Mobility placements have had on success and completion rates, as well as the Leonardo activities being highlighted by Ofsted as an example of good practice, also explains why Morthyng have been keen to offer such experiences to their apprentices, and to those with the potential to move into apprenticeships.

With a key specialism in the training and support of disadvantaged young people, offering Mobility opportunities to NEET (Not in Employment, Education or Training) groups has increased the likelihood of them progressing to an apprenticeship. Twenty per cent of former NEET participants have moved into an apprenticeship following Morthyng's 'Euro Vocational Skills Project'.

“Without the support of Morthyng and the Leonardo work placements I would not have got my Apprenticeship, it is what stood out on my CV and my application.”

Learner

Complementing apprenticeships

Leonardo Mobility projects working with apprentices can be complemented by professionals undertaking a Transversal Study Visit.

Creative Alliance based in the West Midlands hosted a Study Visit for professionals from across Europe looking at apprenticeships for workplace learning in the creative and cultural sector and schools.

The West Midlands is a hive for creative apprenticeships with more employers supporting creative apprentices than anywhere else in the country outside of London.

For the Study Visit participants, examining creative apprenticeships within the UK education system was a chance to increase knowledge while looking at best practice examples. For the participants, as well as the host organisation, it was also a starting point for discussion around the different vocational education practices across Europe and what initiatives are being established.

Noel Dunne, Director of Creative Alliance, said:

“This scheme offers us the opportunity to share learning and explore how we can make apprenticeships work across these sectors in Europe.”

If you are interested in taking part in our Study Visits programme, there are opportunities for 2013. Please see our website for more information at

www.transversal.org.uk

Read our In Focus briefing paper on Employability & Soft Skills:

http://www.transversal.org.uk/core/core_picker/download.asp?id=981

The green side of Grundtvig

Over the last seven years the Grundtvig programme has supported a range of organisations and individuals under the broad spectrum of the natural world and the environment. Here are just a few examples of how the programme has helped adult learners realise their potential through nature:

Grundtvig Learner Workshop

Eco-literacy: Biodynamic Gardening and Sustainable Development

ASHA Centre recently hosted its first Adult Learner Workshop 'Eco-literacy' which focused on sustainable living skills and bio-dynamic gardening. Participants from twelve countries took part in the six-day programme of activities which included themes of intercultural awareness, active european citizenship and sustainable living competences for everyday life at home, at work and in the community.

"Participants got a hands-on learning experience of the unique form of biodynamic gardening, with its planting calendar based on the rhythms of the moon and planets and its herbal preparations. Many were inspired to put these methods into practice in their home countries. Those who did not have gardens, nevertheless gained in being exposed for a week to the ideas and practices of sustainable living with 24 participants from around Europe. We became a large happy, inter-cultural family living, cooking and learning together."

Grundtvig In-Service Training

Permaculture Educators' Course

Tracy Hind, a volunteer who is training as a Permaculture Teacher in the UK, attended a Permaculture Educators' Course through Grundtvig's In-Service Training action. Here, Tracy explains why this course, held in Denmark in October 2012, was relevant for her,

"Permaculture education empowers people to take control over their lives, reduce their waste, reduce carbon emissions, use sustainable energy, eat and live more healthily, and develop community. I wanted to learn about permaculture education in other countries with different climates and political situations, and explore how we can work together to grow permaculture education across Europe.

Permaculture ethics and principles are the same world over, but are applied in local situations in vastly different ways to take into account of different issues, needs, landscapes and communities. My education as a permaculturist has been limited to the UK and I very much wanted to broaden my skills and knowledge to encompass learning from European countries.

I have been on many training courses in my adult life and this was one of the best.



The quality of the teaching was excellent, the course content and methodology was well thought through – inspiring, varied, energetic, well-paced and clearly explained."

Grundtvig Partnerships

Forests for All, All for Forests



'Forests for All' is a Grundtvig project programme which provides a threefold approach to learning based on culture, environment and volunteering. Focused specifically on the role that European forests have had on our cultures and identities,

adult learners from the seven partner countries have been exchanging experiences and knowledge of all the good – and not so good things that forests have brought to mankind over the centuries; everything from cough medicine and herbal elixirs to bee hives in trees to the darker moments of European history when forests were used to cover up atrocities by one community upon another.

Dr Nick Owen MBE, Director of The Aspire Trust who run the project explains,

"European forests have become for us and the wider partnership, a source of questions, surprises, laughter and many powerful learning moments. Veteran Forests, Exterminating Agents and the effect of coppicing have been phenomena we have learnt about which act as a constant reminder of the power that forests have over our minds, bodies and psyches.

In our most recent mobility to Vilnius in Lithuania, we met to review the work of the partners to date, visit local forests around Vilnius and experience the fascinating culture the city had to offer. Aspire took its 'Magnificent Seven', including five artists who are developing their skills in arts evaluation through their own art form. As a result, we produced a new range of artistic products which reflected and evaluated the week including a short animation, song and illustrated Irish Alphabet.

We are now planning the final mobility in the UK in July in the green pleasant land that is the Wirral Peninsula. Whilst there are not the forests of Poland or Lithuania on hand to visit, we will be preparing a cultural investigation of forests in a way that many partners are not expecting – and so ensure that we will never, ever be able to get tired of the delights and mysteries that forests have to offer us."



You can read more about the project at:
<http://forestforallallforforest.blogspot.co.uk/>

Lifelong learning, a vital contribution towards European active citizenship

At a time when the debate on the UK's EU membership is stronger than ever, 2013 has been officially named "The European Year of Citizens". Providing an excellent opportunity to discuss the rights of more than 500 million people in the 27 Member States, 2013 will encourage their active participation in the democratic life and public affairs of the European Union.

Twenty years after the establishment of EU citizenship by the Maastricht Treaty and only one year before the European elections, this is also the right moment to have a closer look at the social and civic role of lifelong learning and in particular at how EU programmes and projects promoting mobility in lifelong learning can help to shape up a European public sphere, stimulate active citizenship and contribute to the continuous development of an European identity.

Creating a European lifelong educational area, open to one and all would not have been possible without having the freedom to travel, study and work - one of the most important benefits of being a citizen of the European Union. While many Europeans are making use of these rights every day, many are unaware of the details -

"Increasing mobility as a source of 'European consciousness and the development of European citizenship'."

European Council, 1974, Paris

for example that they have access to training or education in any EU country under the same conditions as nationals, that they aren't required to pay higher course fees and they're entitled to the same grants to cover course fees as nationals of the country.

When we mention mobility in the context of education and training it is often the Erasmus programme that first comes to mind, as having "produced" a generation with a strong European character. Umberto Eco had not long ago praised the merits and successes of this initiative in developing a European identity "The university exchange programme Erasmus is barely mentioned in the business sections of newspapers, yet Erasmus has created the first generation of young Europeans". However prominent, this is not the only initiative which has contributed towards the development of a European citizenship.

According to the overall EC targets, by the end of 2012;

- Erasmus would have supported three million individuals in student mobility
- Comenius has involved at least three million pupils in joint educational activities
- Grundtvig supported the mobility of 7,000 individuals involved in adult education per year
- Leonardo increased placements in enterprises all over EU to 80,000 per year

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2012/jan/26/umberto-eco-culture-war-europa>

"Identify coherent strategies and practical measures with a view to fostering lifelong learning for all."

Feira European Council, 2000

But what do these figures mean in practice and how can these activities contribute towards European active citizenship? Training courses and individual mobility grants of Comenius, for example, give a lasting and positive stimulus to the development of adult education in many European countries – and they bring a stronger European dimension in this sector of learning. The Study Visits funded by Transversal are a great opportunity to get a first-hand insight into the education system of another country and can set the basis for the development of further European-wide actions. Most of the issues addressed by the participants in these projects need a European-level approach because of the close interdependence among the European countries.

Further evidence on the relation between lifelong learning and citizenship building in a European context is given by the participants in some of the projects.

One participant in a Study Visit supported via Transversal remarked: "Having met and discussed the arrangement of educational systems with many delegates across Europe, I now have a better appreciation of the similar challenges and opportunities we all face. Drawing comparisons between European countries (having observed education systems in other countries and appreciated the challenges/opportunities they face), I now feel better equipped to make suggestions about the development of services within my own organisation."

Making contact with a school in Malaga through eTwinning was just the start of an exciting journey. Sarah Stead, from Adel Primary School in Leeds adds: "My role as a teacher has completely changed... I feel motivated to educate our children about their future as European and global citizens."

http://ec.europa.eu/education/lifelong-learning-programme/doc78_en.htm



These testimonies, as well the overall impact of the lifelong learning actions, make for a strong case to continue and stimulate the education sector to play a pivotal role in developing civic involvement across Europe. We can achieve active citizenship by ensuring a larger participation in lifelong learning, by encouraging innovative partnerships and projects, by enabling the whole educative community (teachers, volunteers, students...) to participate in mobility schemes and by encouraging the emergence of a European civil society through the development of European associations.

In the European Year of Citizens, community-focused lifelong learning needs more than ever on-going resourcing and support, to continue bringing people together, to inspire them, to build capacity across Europe and help address the current challenges.

"The European Year of Citizens 2013 is dedicated to the rights that come with EU citizenship."

<http://europa.eu/citizens-2013/en>

The Human Story

Over the last few months, we have produced a series of videos looking into the impact of our programme on the lives of individuals. In a collection called 'Changing Lives', we take a look at three participants whose lives have changed for the better as a result of the Lifelong Learning Programme.

Dirk Bischof, first experienced a Leonardo - funded work placement scheme in 2001, when he took part in a three month work assignment with Cricklewood Homeless Concern in London. Twelve years on, Dirk is now Project Director for Embrace Cooperation, which works with organisations to reduce inequality in education and training. Leonardo mobility funding has helped them to set up European placements for people who work with disadvantaged students.

“Ever since we started Embrace in 2000 we have used the lifelong learning programme to give work experiences to people of all ages in a different country. This is really for them to discover their life dreams, what do they want to do? And going abroad often gives you the chance to see and do something different to what you are used to in your natural environment.”



Through Embrace, Dirk has recently had the opportunity to re-engage with Cricklewood:

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“Working with Cricklewood again to support local and regional people is very inspiring. I think through the Lifelong Learning Programme, I have really been encouraged to live my own life dream. In the same way that I was supported through the programme back in 2001, we have now also seen that the programme and lifelong learning itself has helped hundreds and hundreds of people to go for their life dream.”
.....

Jack Bateson, (who featured in our previous edition of edUKation), took part in a Leonardo Mobility as part of the Advanced Apprenticeship in Sporting Excellence (AASE). Jack, a young boxer who has been selected for the GB development squad working towards the 2016 Olympic Games, explains why the experience was so important to his development as one of our elite young athletes.

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“The chance to go to Tenerife really did mean a lot to me. The Lifelong Learning Programme has really helped me throughout the last three years with the AASE course. Being out in Tenerife for two weeks has given us a huge advantage over our opponents because we have now got the experience, we’ve done it before, so we are just re-enacting it when it comes to the competition. I hope there is a realistic chance of me being in the 2016 Olympics, I am going to take it step by step, year by year and hopefully in 2016 I will be on the podium!”
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Our third film focuses on Richard Tyler who after being made redundant and losing his home, speaks candidly about how an opportunity to volunteer on a project to a Bulgarian orphanage with the Bhagavat Trust (a Leonardo Certificate Holder), changed the direction his life was heading towards.

.....
“We went out to Bulgaria for two weeks and experienced things you wouldn't want to experience. The fortnight made me put things in a different light. I had been heavily involved with drink and substance abuse and to be given the opportunity to go to a foreign country to give aid to children that really need it, it's given me a kick to push myself and believe that I am not this washed up waste that I was before. It made me feel a bit more special.

Since I've been back I have had the drive to push myself and I have now got a place to live and a job as a door to door fund raiser. Whilst I was in the interview they asked if I had been involved in charity work before and I was able to speak about Bhagavat and I think this tipped it in my favour to get the job. I've come a long way.”
.....

View all of our films on our You Tube channel:
<http://www.youtube.com/llpukeecorys>

Sharing your success

On a daily basis you share your experiences with us through photos, films, tweets and stories. They are inspiring, engaging and motivating and highlight how our funding helps to broaden horizons.

Through our competition, run by Ecorys and the British Council, we heard from fourteen individuals and organisations that had life-changing experiences thanks to Lifelong Learning Programme funding.

We heard from Leonardo Mobility participants who successfully gained employment in the UK and in other European countries as well as Senior Volunteers who developed practical skills, self-confidence and overcame cultural barriers.



“Without the Leonardo Programme, I wouldn’t have a job, be living in Germany or be having such a great time as I am here.”

Matthew Hedges, Winner Leonardo Written category

2012 winning entries

Leonardo

1st prize:
Scott Ferguson (photo left page)
Everything is Possible (film)
Matthew Hedges (words)

Highly commended:
Everything is Possible (photo)
League Football Education (film)
Sajjid Balolia (words)

Grundtvig

1st prize:
Everything is Possible (photo left page)
Everything is Possible (film)
Alison Walton-Robson (words)

Highly commended:
Caer Alyn Archaeological and Heritage Project (photo)
Polly Rodgers (film)
Catherine Richards (words)

Transversal

1st prize:
Caroline Gaydon (words)
Highly commended:
Dr Richard Spencer (words)

To read, watch and look at each of the winning, and highly commended, entries visit www.competition.lifelonglearningprogramme.org.uk

New publications!

Guiding you through

We have recently overhauled four of our Guidance Notes looking into key areas to help you run a smooth and successful project:

- Learning Together
- Making a Difference
- Understanding Achievements
- Sharing Success



You can download all the guidance notes here: <http://www.leonardo.org.uk/page.asp?section=00010001005800050003§ionTitle=Publications>

A programme for all stages of life

We have also launched our latest case study brochure, Imprints, featuring your stories across the whole Lifelong Learning and Youth in Action (YiA) Programmes as you share with us some of your project achievements.

Here is just a snippet of your stories!

Transversal: Study Visits provide excellent opportunities for educators to share and learn best practice with European counterparts. Geoff Walton highlights why his visit to Croatia was so beneficial for him: “The Study Visit was not only a great chance to network with colleagues from around Europe but also gave me an insight into how Croatia is using ICT in education. I would recommend this programme to colleagues because it gives you that all important first step on the road to building the strong partnerships with EU colleagues that are needed to bid for EU funding”.

In Focus - The second edition

We have produced a second edition of our briefing papers. These papers focus on the four thematic areas and highlight good practice from the Leonardo, Grundtvig and Transversal programmes and how this supports policy at a UK level:

- Routes to recognition
- Supporting Schools
- Employability & soft skills
- Supporting older learners



Read about thematic work and In Focus papers on our blog: <http://lpukecorys.com/2012/12/21/thematic-networking-update-active-citizenship-employability-and-an-ageing-uk/>



Youth in Action: Through the YES project, marginalised young people from all over Europe got together to stand up to gang culture. “I learned the obstacles that other young people face in Europe in relation to gang culture. I also gained confidence in dealing with other people and groups, which has since helped me in real situations like going to job interviews and meeting new people”.

Claude Umuhire

Building a sustainable future for education

The Lifelong Learning Programme 2007-2013



Well, it's been quite a journey over the last seven years of LLP funding. During the years we have shared hundreds of your fantastic projects and achievements. For those of you that like statistics, we thought we would highlight some pretty impressive figures!

The programmes keep growing in the UK - 2012 alone saw a rise in applications, an increase in funding across Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, as well as increased engagement on our social media channels.

This year we've produced a map that showcases some of our key moments from 2012.

Looking to the future

2013 will see Leonardo, Grundtvig and Transversal draw to a close under the Lifelong Learning Programme and be replaced by the next funding programme, Erasmus for All. However, we will still be working hard in 2013 and will be sharing our, and our projects', successes with you on our websites, our blog and Twitter as well as on our newly launched Facebook page.

If you have a statistic about your project, why not tweet us at @llpUKecorys We'd love to hear from you!

2012

The Leonardo Programme has funded over **28,000** work placements (Leonardo participants approved by the UK National Agency 2007-2012).



Since 2007, over **6 million euro** has been allocated to 26 large scale co-operation projects relating to the recognition of qualification and skills.



Scotland received **9%** of Leonardo, Grundtvig and Transversal funding in 2012. **9%** increase in successful Grundtvig applications.

7 Information Days held across the UK meeting **700** delegates. **897** applications received for Leonardo funding.

Northern Ireland received **6%** of Leonardo, Grundtvig and Transversal funding in 2012.

63 best practice examples added to our Projects around the UK.

208 Study Visit participants funded to travel to **30** different European countries.

217 conversations received between projects and @llpUKecorys on Twitter.

7% Grundtvig and Transversal funding in 2012. **4** Briefing Papers produced focusing on key thematic areas.

170 delegates from **22** different countries at the final Inclusion conference. **85** posts featured on www.llpUKecorys.com

2043 views on our YouTube channel.



Since 2007, over **13 million** of Grundtvig funding has been awarded to individuals and organisations in the UK working in the adult education sector.



Since 2007, the Leonardo and Transversal programmes have allocated nearly **3 million euro** to UK schools.



Supporting you all the way

We have a range of online resources available, aimed at guiding you through the whole funding process, from first enquiry to disseminating your results!

Visit our websites

We have three websites dedicated to each of our three programmes. These contain detailed information about all of the opportunities available.

If you have any questions just give us a call. Our team will point you in the right direction.

See what others are doing

The 'Projects Around the UK' maps on our websites feature examples of organisations that have participated in the Leonardo, Grundtvig and Transversal Programmes. Reading about others' experiences will give you a clearer idea about what you could do.

Use our toolkit

We have produced a range of guidance notes, aimed at helping you get the most out of the resources available. Our latest guide, Get Connected, explains how to get the best out of social media and online technologies, useful to help you share your success stories!

Share your thoughts

We are always interested in your thoughts on policy developments, your news, or about how you are getting on with your projects. Read our Blog and be a blogger yourself: <http://llpUKecorys.wordpress.com>, or follow us on Twitter and send us a Tweet!: <http://twitter.com/llpUKecorys> or 'like' us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/llpUKecorys>

Stay in the loop

Make life easy for yourself by subscribing to our monthly e-flash bulletins. This way you'll receive plenty of advance notice about application deadlines, new guidance documents and forthcoming events.

This edition of edUKation was produced by Sara Aslett (Editor), Lelia Rotaru, Rebecca Fothergill, Emma Davies and Faye Hindle-Lewis. We'd welcome your feedback. Please send your comments to edUKation@uk.ecorys.com



Leonardo | Grundtvig | Transversal

Useful contacts

Leonardo is for you if you're involved in vocational education and training:

Website: www.leonardo.org.uk

Email: leonardo@uk.ecorys.com

Helpline: 0845 199 2929

Grundtvig is the place to look if you're involved in adult education:

Website: www.grundtvig.org.uk

Email: grundtvig@uk.ecorys.com

Helpline: 0845 199 1919

If you plan or oversee education or training provision, you may be able to go on a week-long **Transversal** Study Visit:

Website: www.transversal.org.uk

Email: studyvisits@uk.ecorys.com

Helpline: 0845 199 3939

For general enquiries, call 0845 199 2929 or email llp@uk.ecorys.com

For information about the Comenius (schools) or Erasmus (Higher Education) programmes see:

www.lifelonglearningprogramme.org.uk

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Apprenticeships

Green side of Grundtvig