Programme	**LIFELONG LEARNING**
Subprogramme	**LEONARDO DA VINCI**
Action Category	**MULTILATERAL NETWORKS**
Action	**LEONARDO DA VINCI Networks**
Objectives and description of the action	The aims of Leonardo da Vinci Networks are to strengthen the link between the various 'actors' involved in vocational training, to improve the quality, European dimension and visibility of activities or issues of common interest in the field of vocational and educational training. In particular the Leonardo da Vinci Networks aim at: • Assembling, distilling and building on European expertise and innovatory approaches • Improving the analysis and anticipation of skill requirements • Disseminating the network outputs and project results throughout the Union in the appropriate circles. The objectives of Leonardo da Vinci Networks are: • Projects under this action should assist cooperation between VET actors, enterprises, economic sectors, social partners and training organisations • To identify the trends and skills requirements in this area and improve the anticipated benefit of vocational training programmes • Publish the results of work undertaken by such transnational networks through the relevant channels so as to promote greater innovation and transnational co-operation in vocational training. The principles for the implementation of Leonardo da Vinci Networks are: • Carrying out a work programme on a given subject (this principle implies that the EU financial support is granted for the implementation of the work programme and related activities rather than for the existence of the network per se) • Ensuring that the activities of the network are not confined to their contractual period only (from the outset each network should foresee a strategy to allow its activities to be continued beyond the period financed by the EU) • The proposals should also include the provision, based on the initial results, for a widening of the network, accompanied by a plan for canvassing new potential partners. The partnership must be multiplayer, i.e. involve a variety of players capable of contributing to the proposal's objectives. Its members may include local authorities, chambers of commerce, trade organisations for employers and employees (social partners), companies, including small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and research and vocational training centres, including universities. Inclusion of political decision-makers, such as local and regional authorities, will ensure the durability of the partnership. This action is not designed exclusively for the establishment of new networks. Members of existing networks (in the field of VET) may wish to form new networks to work in complementary areas or to use their combined expertise in new areas.

Who can benefit	All those in vocational education and training, other than at tertiary level, as well as the institutions and organisations facilitating such education and training, such as:
	• Institutions or organisations providing learning opportunities in the fields covered by the Leonardo da Vinci sectoral programme;
	• Associations and representatives of those involved in vocational education and training, including trainees', parents' and teachers' associations;
	• Enterprises, social partners and other representatives of working life, including chambers of commerce and other trade organisations;
	• Bodies providing guidance, counselling and information services relating to any aspect of lifelong learning;
	• Bodies responsible for systems and policies concerning any aspect of lifelong learning vocational education and training at local, regional and national level;
	• Research centres and bodies concerned with lifelong learning issues;
	• Organisation at tertiary level (higher education institutions) can participate in the projects, but the results should not target those attending vocational education and training at tertiary level
	• Non-profit organisations, voluntary bodies, NGOs
	
	<u>Note</u>: This Action is open to partner organisation from countries not participating in the Lifelong Learning Programme on the following conditions:
	  • Neither the applicant nor the organisation responsible for project management / coordination can be a third country partner;
	  • Third country participation is an **additional option** in an otherwise normal, eligible application and consortium.
	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.

Who can apply	Co-ordinating organisation on behalf of the consortium.
PRIORITIES	The priorities for this Action can be found in the LLP General Call for Proposals 2011-2013 – Strategic Priorities 2013.
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 Deadline(s):	31 January 2013
Duration	
Minimum Duration:	1 year
Maximum Duration:	3 years
Comment on Duration:	Extension of the eligibility period by up to a maximum of 6 months on request for Multilateral Projects and Networks as well as Accompanying measures is possible only in exceptional cases. 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. For participating organisations from "third" countries: see the website of the Executive Agency
Maximum Grant €:	200.000/year The maximum grant for all third country partners combined is 25.000 € in addition to the amount specified above.
Comment on Funding:	Maximum EU Grant 75% of eligible costs
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.
	None
Minimum number of Countries:	5 LLP participating countries
Minimum number of Partners:	5
Comment on participants:	At least one country must be an EU Member State. Any partners established in a third country are in addition to the minimum number of LLP participating countries specified above.
Award criteria	**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 the priorities are given in the LLP General Call for Proposals 2011-2013 – Strategic Priorities 2013 for the action concerned, at least one of them must be satisfactorily addressed.
	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. The work programme includes specific measures for evaluation of processes and deliverables.
	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.
	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.
	5. European Added Value
	The benefits of and need for European cooperation (as opposed to national, regional or local approaches) are clearly demonstrated.
	6. The Cost-Benefit Ratio
	The grant application demonstrates value for money in terms of the activities planned relative to the budget foreseen.
	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.
	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.
	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
CONTRACTING PROCEDURES	
Probable sending date of pre-information on the results of the selection process	June
Probable sending date of agreement to the beneficiaries	from July
Probable starting date of the action	October