Programme	**LIFELONG LEARNING**
Subprogramme	**KA1 POLICY**
Action Category	**MULTILATERAL NETWORKS**
Action	**KA1 Networks**
Objectives and description of the action	The objective of this action is to support the creation of transversal networks that promote mutual policy learning and exchange of information on good practices and critical factors for the development and implementation of coherent and comprehensive approaches towards lifelong learning. Such networks should bring together actors across relevant sectors and levels of policy-making and implementation (national, regional, local) from at least 8 countries and provide a forum/ platform for joint reflection and European co-operation in identifying and promoting innovation and best practice. The main objective is the pooling of expertise to support lifelong learning policy development, experimentation and implementation at national/regional/local level. Cooperation and transfer of good practice should focus on the development and implementation of coherent and comprehensive lifelong learning approaches that cover and interlink different sectors and forms of learning and that bridge the worlds of education and work. Such approaches to lifelong learning should aim at promoting opportunities and learning pathways which are learner centred, flexible and without "dead-ends" using innovative and practical lifelong learning instruments to achieve the personal development, employability and the social inclusion of citizens of all age groups and backgrounds, in particular through: - Partnerships between the formal and non-formal education and training sectors, businesses, voluntary and community actors at the national, regional and local levels linked to employment and social inclusion initiatives. - Measures to improve key competences development throughout an individual's lifetime with a focus on increasing the equality of educational attainment by addressing the specific needs of underrepresented and socio-economically disadvantaged groups. - Enable more flexible pathways and better transitions, in particular through opening-up learning institutions to underrepresented groups, through implementing national qualifications frameworks and through schemes for the validation of prior and experiential learning including non-formal and informal learning; - Other measures and instruments to make learning more attractive and increase participation in learning activities at the workplace and in private life, including through effective schemes for (financial) incentives and support to stimulate learning provision and participation.
Who can benefit	Beneficiaries can be national and regional ministries in charge of education and training, other public bodies and stakeholders' organisations directly involved in the development and implementation of lifelong learning policies.
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):	28 February 2013
Duration	
Minimum Duration:	2 years
Maximum Duration:	3 years
Comment on Duration:	Extension of the eligibility period by up to a maximum of 6 months on the 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.
Maximum Grant €:	200.000/year. However, maximum EU contribution to projects will be 400.000€.
Comment on Funding:	Maximum EU Grant 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.

Minimum number of Countries:	8 LLP participating countries
Minimum number of Partners:	8
Comment on participants:	At least one country must be an EU Member State. At least half of the members of a consortium must be national or regional ministries in charge of education and training / the development and implementation of lifelong learning policies or other public bodies designated by such authorities to reply to the call.
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	November