

LIFELONG LEARNING PROGRAMME

Sectoral programme	Action	Duration of the activity
LEONARDO DA VINCI	Preparatory visits for decentralised actions	1-5 days
	Mobility	
	VETPRO ("VET Professionals" – professionals in vocational education and training)	1 - 6 weeks
	PLM ("People in the Labour Market")	2 - 26 weeks
	IVT ("People in Initial Vocational Training")	2 - 39 weeks
	Partnerstva	2 years
Multilateral projects:	Transfer of innovation	up to 2 years

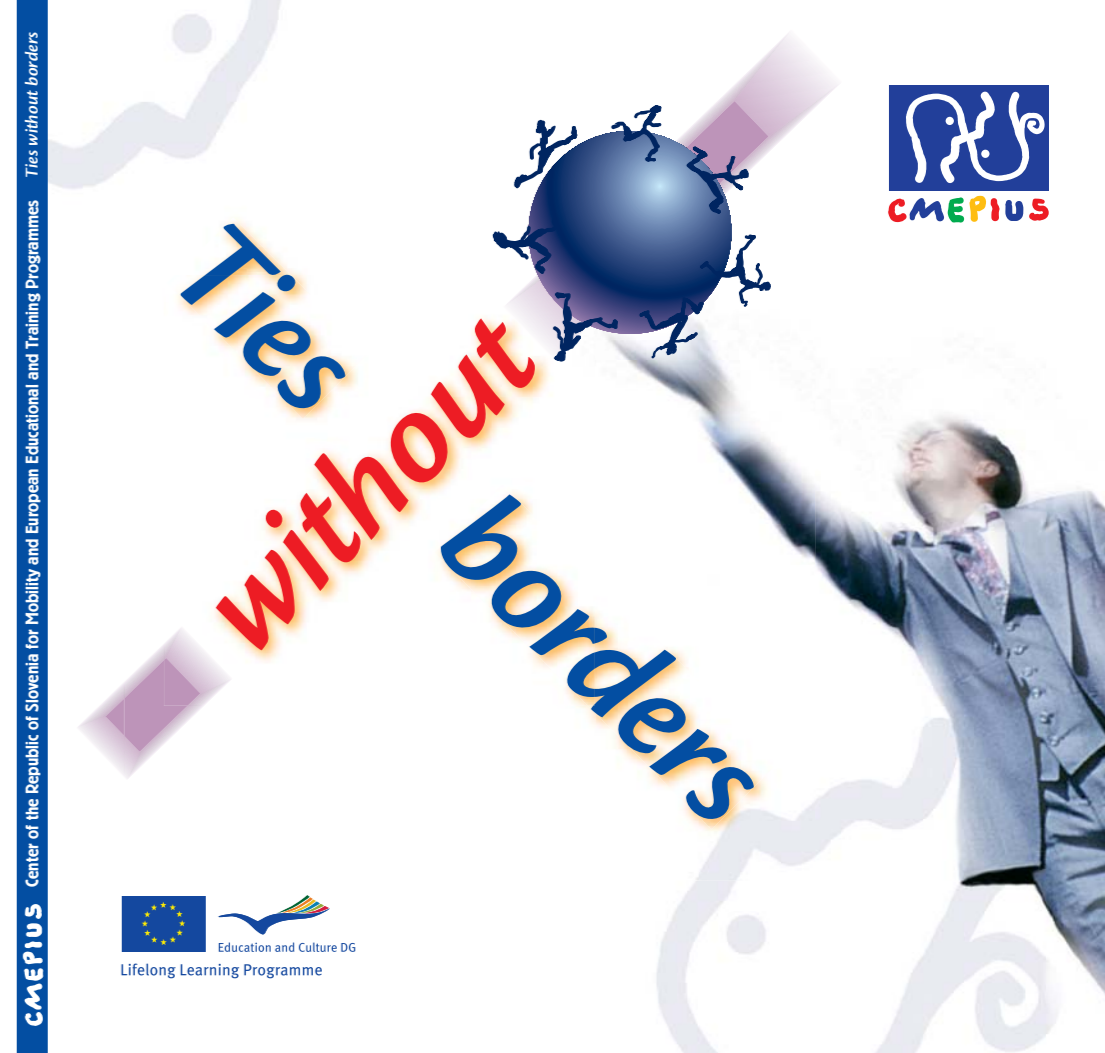
European Community Action Programme Lifelong Learning



Learning to know, learning to be able to live, work and understand others better. Nowadays learning for life means lifelong learning: from kindergarten to old age. CMEPIUS is more and more aware of the importance of lifelong learning and last year we proudly began implementing a new generation of European Community programmes in the field of education and training. The Lifelong Learning programme, which is our main concern, encourages international projects and mobility of individuals in the light of learning for life, awareness, work, meeting and respecting ourselves, others and the world.



Ob Zelenici 16
1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia
Tel.: +386 1 586 42 51
Fax: +386 1 586 42 31
E-mail: info@cmepius.si
www.cmepius.si



Lifelong Learning programme eTWINNING action

eTwinning is a special action of the Lifelong Learning programme, aimed at supporting and encouraging the use of up-to-date technology in education at the level of primary and secondary schools. For this purpose the EU established a special network of national supporting services, in Slovenia provided by CMEPIUS. We help and advise teachers how to prepare and implement projects, and at the same time we make sure that the old users of the action meet at the annual conference, called KONFeT, where every year the best projects receive the Golden Cable award.

In eTwinning, partner projects are created enabling teachers and students from different countries to meet and exchange cultures, languages and different school subjects. In eTwinning classrooms, students are more motivated for learning, and at the same time they develop communication competences and improve digital literacy.

The central tool is the eTwinning portal (<http://www.etwinning.net/>) where free tools for on line cooperation are available to users. Portal users can search for partners, cooperate and share their products.

Ties without borders - "With the help of international programmes, we open the door to experience" at the Centre of the Republic of Slovenia for Mobility and European Educational Programmes

Would you like an international experience with European cultures, people and languages? Have you attended a course or studied abroad and would like to upgrade your knowledge with working experience? Would you cooperate with Slovenian schools, companies and other organizations in the field of education and training? It is time to decide for an active shared life under the stars of Europe from faraway Greenland to Madeira and Guadeloupe. Have a look at this brochure. It is an educational and occupational necessity to know other countries, languages and ways of life. Knowledge and experiences, gained abroad, are recognised in Europe and beyond, which is yet another reason to get to know Comenius, Erasmus, Grundtvig, Leonardo da Vinci and all other European Community programmes and initiatives which, like the men of great genius after whom they have been named, encourage those who want more and step out of the ordinary!

At the Centre of the Republic of Slovenia for Mobility and European Educational Programmes – CMEPIUS – we will receive you kindly and, together with you, study the opportunities offered by the European Community programmes and initiatives in the field of education and training. They have been accepted as an opportunity and possibility in life by many Slovenian and European organizations and individuals. Your experience is also our experience and we share them at home and abroad. More than any other cooperation, this one allows for the expansion of knowledge and cultural awareness, contributes to European dimension and understanding.

You are kindly invited to join us in creating a new, better and more beautiful Europe!



ERASMUS



COMENIUS



LEONARDO DA VINCI



GRUNDTVIG



LIFELONG LEARNING PROGRAMME

As a national agency for decentralised activities of the Lifelong Learning programme, CMEPIUS takes care of:

- 4 sectoral programmes: Erasmus, Comenius, Leonardo da Vinci and Grundtvig,
- study visits for experts and decision-makers in education and training, which are organised within the Transversal programme (key activity 1: Policy Cooperation and Innovation in Lifelong Learning),
- the eTwinning initiative which aims at supporting and encouraging the use of up-to-date technology in education at the level of primary and secondary schools,
- a European Language Label, which contributes to awareness of the significance of linguistic diversity in Europe.



LEONARDO DA VINCI



GRUNDTVIG



Lifelong Learning

The main objective of the Lifelong Learning programme is to contribute by lifelong learning to the development of the European Community as a society with first-rate knowledge, sustainable economic development, more and better jobs, as well as enhanced social equity while ensuring good environmental protection for future generations. Special objectives of the programme include improving the quality and access to the opportunities for lifelong learning, encouraging participation of all age groups in the lifelong learning, including persons with special needs and disadvantaged groups, irrespective of their social and economic environment, creating awareness of European citizenship on the basis of understanding and respecting human rights and enhanced tolerance and respect for other nations and cultures, developing shared good practices in the fields covered by the programme, encouraging creativity, competitiveness and employability, etc.

The Lifelong learning programme aims at a wide range of target groups, from kindergartens and our youngest pupils to teachers, university students, young workers, companies and educational institutions, associations and non-governmental organisations, and adults who are returning to learning in their working adulthood or as seniors.

Each sectoral programme finances the following activities: mobility of individuals, international development projects and partnerships. Projects are distinguished by different objectives that a certain programme pursues; the Comenius programme is for general education up to the tertiary level, which is then covered by Erasmus projects and mobility. The general educational level is completed by the Grundtvig programme, which aims at adult education. All three programmes are supplemented by the Leonardo da Vinci programme, which takes care of vocational and professional education and training. In order to be able to prepare a good project, preparatory visits are available within each sectoral programme. Study visits are the only Transversal activity of the Lifelong Learning programme taken care of by the national agency. The mobility of managerial staff, professional and other individuals responsible in the field of general as well as vocational education, on average lasting for a week, is a good form of international cooperation, exchange of opinions, an opportunity to get to know other countries, their systems and practices, and make new contacts.





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Sectoral programme	Action	Duration of the activity
COMENIUS	Preparatory visits for partnerships	1–5 days
	Mobility	
	Educational staff (teachers and other staff)	1 day – 6 weeks
	Future teachers (Comenius assistants)	3 – 10 months
	Partnership	
	Bilateral partnerships	2 years
	Multilateral partnerships	2 years



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Sectoral programme	Action	Duration of the activity
ERASMUS	Preparatory visits for decentralised actions	1–5 days
	Mobility	
	Students – for study	3 – 12 months
	Students – for practice	3 – 12 months (college students min. 2 weeks)
	Teaching staff from higher school institutions and from companies	1– 6 weeks
	Staff training - teaching staff from higher school institutions	1 - 6 weeks
	Erasmus intensive language courses	2 - 6 weeks (60 lessons)
	Intensive programmes (IP)	2 - 6 weeks



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Sectoral programme	Action	Duration of the activity
GRUNDTVIG	Preparatory visits for partnerships	1 - 5 days
	Mobility	
	training for people in adult education	1 day – 6 weeks
	Partnerships	2 years



LIFELONG LEARNING PROGRAMME

Sectoral programme	Action	Duration of the activity
TRANSVERSAL PROGRAMME	Key activity 1: Policy Cooperation and Innovation	
	Mobility	
	study visits for experts in education and vocational training	1 week

CEEPUS and BILATERAL COOPERATION

Action	Duration of the activity
Students	3 – 10 months
Teaching staff (CEEPUS only)	1 - 4 weeks

Awards for best projects

Since the beginning, CMEPIUS has taken care of the quality of projects. This is the reason for joining the European Community initiatives and every year European and national awards are granted for exceptional achievements. Quality awards are recognition of work done by project promoters and project participants, awards for creativity, innovation, and last but not least, also a motivation for further international projects. At the same time they give meaning to the work of CMEPIUS as the national agency, which takes care of the projects.



The European Language Label

is a European Community initiative in the field of language learning and teaching contributing to the awareness of the significance of linguistic diversity in Europe. The aim of the initiative is to encourage good practices and innovation in language learning and teaching, distribution of successful project results, and public interest in improving language skills. The awarded projects focus on different language areas, with a wide range of target groups, from the youngest to the oldest, thus encouraging the learning and teaching of languages, also of those less widespread. They may be carried out at the national level within regional integration; however, the most common are the projects which represent good practice at the European level and which have been made within European Community programmes.



In 2005 we started to grant special quality awards in mobility projects in the Leonardo da Vinci programme also in Slovenia, called **Apples of Quality**. The apple as a symbol of healthy life has a power of knowledge, discovering new worlds and insights. It is a symbol of progress and free will, which drives us into discovering the undiscovered. In mobility projects, individuals and organisations have been bravely following their ideas and wishes and discovering a new world in order to get to know more about them, the others, and the world around them.

All best projects of the European Community programme in the field of education and training, the Lifelong Learning programme, reflect a clear idea, project objectives, their management is carefully planned, and the results of training abroad are not only individual but they result in positive changes also in the organisation which prepares and implements the project. These are projects that live beyond the point of official programme funding and they bring important development, conceptual and mind shifts in local, regional and wider environments.



The Golden Cable

is a national award for work and efforts for the best projects of the Lifelong Learning programme, eTwinning action, which is awarded at the annual KONFeT conference called KONFeT. The purpose of the award is to encourage quality in projects which results in the use of information technology in primary and secondary school classes.

The primary emphasis when selecting the best projects is on school cooperation. This means that the awarded projects are projects the whole school lives with. Different subjects and activities are involved and teaching staff and students from different classes cooperate. The second emphasis is on innovation. These are projects which can show the most innovative use of information technology, the introduction of new teaching methods and creative project topic choices.

In the future, the Golden Cable award will be recognised more and more, and it will contribute to making schools aware that it is essential to introduce information technologies into learning processes.



Other CMEPIUS tasks

BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

CMEPIUS coordinates a regional mobility programme for students and professors, called CEEPUS. The programme started in 1995. From nine countries which participated at the beginning, now institutions from Slovenia, Austria, Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Bulgaria, Romania, Croatia, Serbia, Macedonia, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo participate in the programme.

The CEEPUS programme supports scholarships to individuals within the approved network of major higher education institutions from different participating countries which then exchange students and professors.

Bilateral agreements

Through the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, the Republic of Slovenia supports, on the basis of bilaterally expressed interests in the form of concluded international agreements, an exchange of students and higher education teachers and researchers with different countries.

CMEPIUS is responsible for the technical implementation of calls for proposals from the publication to the signing of contracts with selected students.

In addition to this, the CMEPIUS website includes calls for proposals by foreign governments and institutions for Slovenian students. In all exchanges students from the countries who have concluded an international agreement with Slovenia for that purpose take precedence.

It also provides information to Slovenes and incoming foreigners on the actions required for the arrival and staying in the country of destination.

European Researcher's Mobility Centre – ERA-MORE Slovenia



The European Commission tries to facilitate and encourage the international mobility of researchers in different ways. In 2003 an initiative was submitted for that purpose and funds were provided for establishing national European Researcher's mobility centres – ERA-MORE. As the national centre, CMEPIUS provides researchers with information on research work opportunities as well as administrative, cultural, social and other practical conditions for accepting research work in different countries (visas, work permits, salaries and taxation, pension rights, health and social insurance, accommodation, recognition of professional qualifications, language courses, schooling and childcare, intellectual property).

This service is supported also by the European Researcher's Mobility Portal (<http://europa.eu.int/eracareers>; www.eracareers.si), which is an extensive source of information for researchers. The Portal is becoming a place where all information and tools for research mobility in Europe are provided at one place.

Financial mechanism EGP and Norwegian Financial Mechanism

CMEPIUS has also taken the role of an intermediary body for a technical expert fund and a fund for cooperation among educational and research institutions, established within the mentioned financial mechanisms. In this role we will be responsible for preparing and implementing calls for proposal and selection procedures for both funds. The estimated value of the funds for the period to 31 December 2010 is EUR 1.6 million.

The technical expert fund supports cooperation and transfer of knowledge (including scholarships and training) between Slovenian entities and Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein in the field of tertiary education and research.

The fund for cooperation among educational and research institutions supports the exchange of Slovenian students, lecturers and experts in these institutions and citizens of Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein.

Both funds may complement the Lifelong Learning programme and they may represent the co-financing of activities within Lifelong Learning sector programmes.