**Partner search from Tallinn Education Department (Estonia)**

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| **Programme** | Lifelong Learning Programme –  Comenius Regio Partnerships 2013 – 2015 |
| **About the Department** | Municipal education in Tallinn is coordinated by the **Tallinn Education Department**. According to the Development Plan of the City of Tallinn 2009-2027 one of the main aim is the improvement of the study quality, motivation of students and expanding their options, also promoting motivation and professional development of the teachers.  There are 66 general education (primary and secondary level) schools (total 41 180 students) and 131 pre-school childcare institutions (total 20 200 children) in Tallinn.  Tallinn is a capital city of Estonia (413 000 inhabitants). |
| **Project title (working title)** | School of the 21st century |
| **Project idea** | According to the EU strategic framework for European cooperation in education and training (ET 2020) one of the focuses is the **improvement of the quality and efficiency of education and training**. The major challenge is to ensure that all citizens are able to acquire key competencies at all levels of education and education and training need to be made more attractive and efficient. At the same time, there is a need to ensure high quality teaching and continuous professional development for teachers. There is also a need to improve the governance and leadership of education institutions.  The development of technology, the globalisation of economy as well as the changes in the European labour market require also the changes from the school. The improvement of the teaching methodologies and approaches from one side and the development of communication and cooperation between the students, teachers, support specialists and management of the school, parents and other partners on the other side are both needful in order to ensure high quality inclusive education and foster active citizenship of the students.  According to the several surveys the level of knowledge and skills of the students depends more from friendly and supportive class/ school atmosphere rather than the teaching methods used by the teacher.  **The aim of the project is the improvement of the students’ knowledge and skills by developing communication and cooperation in the partner schools and effective use of the best practice in the schools of two regions.**  We are interested in the cooperation with the education institutions of other countries. There will be **pilot schools** - two basic schools (students from the grades 7-9) and one gymnasium (grades 10-12) from Tallinn, a School Heads association and Tallinn City Education Department as the local partners from Estonia in the project. The university experts will be also included in the project activities.  The local and international project activities will be specified and agreed during the preparation phase of the project. |
| **Partners search** | The local government (i.e. education department) who is willing to develop bilateral cooperation is invited to apply for the work on the project. (Regarding the conditions of the programme both regions have to involve at least one local school and one other institution, association or centre in the project). |
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