

## **The Development, implementation and Monitoring of Education Strategies for the next decade**

The Research and Development Department within the Ministry for Education and Employment in Malta is interested in putting forward an Erasmus+ project that will facilitate the building of a network of European institutions that:

- identifies commonalities and variances in education strategies adopted in different European countries;
- research the area of strategy design, planning and implementation;
- disseminates results emanating from the research projects;
- compares the country's education strategy with the ET 2020;
- facilitates training in strategy development, implementation and monitoring;
- provides the opportunity for project partners to shadow each other's implementation and monitoring plans;
- share practices in strategic design, planning and implementation in education;
- provides support among the project partners at administration level;
- organise public seminars and workshops that includes input from the project partners;
- share exemplars of monitoring methods, and provides support for the development of data management tracking systems that monitors the implementation of the strategy main targets.

The Ministry for Education and Employment in Malta is proposing a coherent strategy for lifelong learning opportunities from early childhood education and care to adult learning to ensure that all children, young people and adults have the opportunity to obtain the necessary skills and attitudes to be active citizens and to succeed at work and in society. This should not be hindered by differences in socio-economic, cultural, racial, ethnic, religious, gender and sexual status. While acknowledging that out-of-school factors like poverty and social exclusion affect student achievement, from 2014 to 2024 the Ministry seeks to improve students' learning experiences by encouraging creativity, critical literacy, entrepreneurship and innovation at all levels through a value-oriented formation including equity, social justice, diversity, and inclusivity.

On the 21 February 2014 the Ministry launched the Framework for the Education Strategy for Malta 2014-2024. The Framework has four broad targets in line with European and world benchmarks:

- reduce the gaps in educational outcomes between boys and girls and between students attending different schools, decrease the number of low achievers and raise the bar in literacy, numeracy, and science and technology competence, and increase student achievement;

- support educational achievement of children at-risk-of-poverty and from low socio-economic status, and reduce the relatively high incidence of early school-leavers;
- raise levels of student retainment and attainment in further, vocational, and tertiary education and training; and
- increase participation in lifelong learning and adult learning.

The Erasmus+ project will mainly focus on the first above target and is being recommended to follow the below outline:

#### First Year:

The main activities will focus on the rationale behind the education strategies in European countries in relation to the ET2020, and implementation programmes intended to reduce the gaps in educational outcomes, decrease the number of low achievers and raise the bar in literacy, numeracy, and science and technology competence, and increase student achievement.

Among the outcomes for the first year could be the organisation of a seminar to disseminate information that emanate from research about education strategies, their implementation and monitoring in European countries.

#### Second Year:

The second year will provide a number of opportunities to the participating countries to disseminate good practice, share past experience and expertise in the area.

#### Third Year:

Every participating country identifies a specific outcome that builds on the success of the previous two years. I would recommend that for Malta a Performance Dashboard for the local schools is developed. This will be developed in collaboration with the participating countries.

Those interested can send an email addressed to Dr. Francis Fabri (Director at the Research and Development Department within the Ministry of Education and Employment) to [francis.fabri@gov.mt](mailto:francis.fabri@gov.mt)

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