European Platform on Learning Mobility

Call for Experts to draft Indicators for Quality in Learning Mobility

Call for Facilitator of the Experts’ Meeting on Indicators for Quality in Learning Mobility

Deadline for applications: 10 May 2017

Background

The team of the partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of youth (the youth partnership) is currently responsible for the coordination of the European Platform on Learning Mobility in the Youth Field (hereinafter EPLM), which a space for exchange and cooperation of researchers, policy makers, and practitioners.

Learning mobility is meant as transnational mobility undertaken for a period of time, consciously organised for educational purposes or to acquire new competences\(^1\). It covers a wide variety of projects and activities and can be implemented in formal or non-formal settings\(^2\).

The EPLM focuses on non-formal learning with links to informal learning as well as to formal education. Learning mobility in this framework aims to increase participation, active citizenship, intercultural learning and dialogue, individual competency development and employability of young people. Mobility is also to be understood as a possible source of genuine and diverse learning experiences, and it therefore becomes important to critically investigate links between learning mobility (settings and contexts) and identity building. The EPLM, in its work, not only considers European youth mobility policies and programmes, but is also more generally interested in learning mobility as a set of complex social processes transforming the conditions of growing up in Europe. Moreover, the EPLM focuses on physical and organised learning mobility but does not overlook the virtual mobility facilitating and supporting physical mobility experiences.

\(^1\) Competences are to be understood as an overall system of values, attitudes and beliefs as well as skills and knowledge, which can be put into practice to manage diverse complex situations and tasks successfully. Self-confidence, motivation and wellbeing are important pre-requisites for a person to be able to act out his/her developed competences\(^3\). SALTO T&C RC (2013). Competence framework for trainers.

\(^2\) ICON Institute for EU Commission, Education and Culture (June 2012). Study on Mobility developments.
Quality in Learning Mobility

As learning mobility is increasingly being employed as a pedagogical tool both in formal and non-formal contexts, issues of quality become a more pressing concern than before. And for good reason: good quality in learning mobility will ensure that outcomes are optimised and that processes of recognition are facilitated. Moreover, there is a – sometimes very direct – correlation between quality and quantity: the more we know about quality and how to achieve it, the more confident and effective we can be in our efforts to reach out and offer a mobility experience as a meaningful opportunity to all young people, and not just the most privileged and resourceful.

Charter and Indicators for Quality in Learning Mobility

In 2016, a charter on quality in learning mobility in the youth field was finalised and approved by the Steering Group (SG) of the EPLM. The charter is now published and available online. The charter will be the basis for developing a practical implementation manual, or handbook. The handbook will include a set of indicators that can be considered while planning, executing and evaluating learning mobility projects in the youth field. It shall help practitioners in their work by suggesting ways for ensuring quality in all phases of their mobility projects in concrete terms.

The indicators will be built upon the principles of the charter. Some elements of guidance for the formulation of the indicators are already available as they stemmed from a public consultation that the youth partnership underwent during 2016 for the definition of the principles of the charter.

Furthermore, the handbook will also include good practice examples of implementation of learning mobility activities.

Call for Experts drafting the indicators

The team of the EU-CoE youth partnership is calling for applications from experts in learning mobility in the youth field to draft the set of indicators. More specifically, we will appoint up to three experts who will, in a team

- Draft the set of indicators;
- Be present during the expert meeting of 6-7 July at the European Youth Centre Budapest, where up to 20 researchers, practitioners and policy makers will gather to provide feedback to the draft indicators and to enrich them;
- Review the draft indicators in light of the conclusions of the expert meeting, the feedback of the EPLM Steering Group and the youth partnership team.

Profile:

- Expert in learning mobility in the youth field;
- Ideally, familiar with non-formal education methodologies;
- Able to communicate fluently in English, orally and in written form;
- Preferred: expert in quality management.

Offered fee to each of the three selected experts: 5 working days x 300 EUR = 1500 EUR
Call for the Facilitator of the Experts' Meeting (6-7 July)

The team of the youth partnership is also calling for applications for being the facilitator of the experts' meeting on the indicators. The desirable competences and characteristics of the facilitator are as follows:

- Be experienced in facilitating events implemented at international level;
- Have a good knowledge of learning mobility in the youth field and/or on quality frameworks;
- Be familiar with the principles and values of non-formal learning;
- Be used to work with different groups of stakeholders;
- Have an excellent working level of English.

Offered fee: 3 working days x 300 EUR = 900 EUR

Tentative Schedule

The ideal schedule for the development of the indicators in 2017 is as follows

- 28 April: call for experts for drafting the indicators;
- 10 May: deadline for the call for experts;
- 17-18 May: SG of EPLM reviews the process and sets the expected outcomes;
- 24 June: first draft of indicators;
- 6-7 July: Experts’ meeting for indicators, European Youth Centre Budapest;
- Summer: Review of the feedback from the expert meeting. Second draft of set of indicators by 18 August;
- Autumn: Steering Group of EPLM discusses online the second draft of indicators;
- 2018: elaboration of good practice implementation examples.

How to apply?

To submit your application, please send your CV, and motivation letter to Davide Capecchi, by email to davide.capecchi@partnership-eu.coe.int by 10 May 2017. The selection will be finalised by 15 May 2017.

Any question?

For more information, do not hesitate to contact Davide Capecchi, member of the team of the EU-CoE youth partnership: davide.capecchi@partnership-eu.coe.int