**Erasmus+ Youth: Strategic competence training**

**Call for proposals: Facilitator / Trainer**

**1. Summary**

1.1 The EU’s new programme for collaborative learning in education and training, youth and sport, Erasmus+, has brought expectations of large-scale, systemic change. Ambitions for Erasmus+ have been set in the context of Europe2020, the strategy for inclusive and sustainable prosperity in the EU. This means that National Agencies, tasked with implementing the Erasmus+ programme (specifically, its Youth Chapter) must plan for impact at the level of structures and systems – bringing benefit to wider populations, beyond the numbers of people who are directly involved in Erasmus+ projects.

1.2 On behalf of the Co-ordinating Group of National Agencies (for the Erasmus+ Youth Chapter), the UK NA will host a intensive programme of learning and development for Heads of National Agency (or other senior staff), in the week beginning **Monday 7 September 2015**. The aim is to increase the impact of Erasmus+ Youth Chapter implementation by each National Agency.

1.3 Proposals are now invited from experienced trainers/facilitators who can,

* Design an appropriate learning and development programme, covering 2.5 days
* Work with the organisers to prepare for delivery of the programme in September 2015
* Lead delivery of the programme, for 20-25 participants, in September 2015
* Design and implement appropriate monitoring and evaluation for the programme, including in the follow-up period, October-December 2015.

The deadline for receipt of proposals is **Monday 1 June 2015**.

**2. Background**

2.1 Many Heads of (Youth) National Agency have voiced concerns that the ambitions of the Erasmus+ programme for impact on a large scale are not clearly understood, and that there is insufficient capacity in the National Agency network to bring about the intended level of change.

2.2 Within most National Agencies, the early period of Erasmus+ has been dominated by familiarisation with the content and processes of the new programme – and with the creation of structures to support compliant implementation. Whilst acknowledging these exceptional pressures, the EC and National Authorities are now looking for evidence that National Agencies can fulfil their strategic role, linking policy and practice at the national and European/international levels. The next phase of Erasmus+ Youth Chapter implementation must therefore balance *micro* with *macro* – in order to ensure the programme leads to change at the level of policy.

2.3 Heads of National Agency are central to this process – and should be supported in developing their strategic competence, including:-

* analysis of the external environment
* planning for the content of Youth Chapter implementation
* monitoring, evaluation and communication of the impact achieved.

**3. Objectives**

* to create a shared understanding among Heads of National Agency of the expectations for large-scale, strategic impact (eg. at the level of structures and systems) in the Erasmus+ Youth Chapter;
* to illustrate good practice in linking national policy objectives with wider – European and international – developments;
* to illustrate good practice in achieving strategic impact through Erasmus+ projects (in each Key Action and including Transnational Co-operation Activities);
* to illustrate good practice in Erasmus+ cross-sector collaboration, involving National Agency counterparts responsible for education and training;
* to illustrate good practice in achieving strategic impact through improved integration with the supportive programmes within Erasmus+ (especially: Eurodesk, SALTO, TCA);
* to identify external factors that influence the strategic impact of Erasmus+ Youth Chapter implementation (in particular, collaboration with National Authorities, as well as with sector organisations and other partners);
* to identify management approaches and other practical measures to be taken by Heads of National Agency (or other senior staff) to increase the strategic impact of Erasmus+ Youth Chapter implementation;
* to support each participant in planning their own learning and development in the area of strategic competence (to be reflected in SMART objectives);
* to facilitate follow-up from the learning and development event and to carry out evaluation of its impact on Erasmus+ Youth Chapter implementation.

**4. Content**

4.1 The event will have a practical focus. Commonly accepted theories of strategic competence (as found in management training) will be referred to only where they are clearly useful to participants in pursuing their learning and development.

4.2 Individuals will be encouraged to articulate their learning needs and to formulate realistic objectives for follow-up. They will also be encouraged to contribute to others’ learning and development, by making their knowledge and experience available to the wider National Agencies network.

**5. Administration**

5.1 The event will be managed by the UK National Agency, in consultation with the Co-ordinating Group of (Youth) National Agencies. The UK National Agency will undertake all aspects of event management at local level (including: selection of venue; programme co-ordination; payments, invoicing and reconciliation).

5.2 The event will be organised on a cost-recovery basis. The host National Agency will cover the up-front costs (including: venue, local transport, trainer/facilitator) and then collect pro rata re-imbursement from each of the National Agencies represented. Each National Agency will be responsible for international travel costs and other expenses (eg. additional nights’ accommodation).

5.3 The organisers estimate that 6 working days will be required from the facilitator/trainer, in order to design and deliver the programme as outlined above. A total fee of €1,740 (6 days at the current SALTO daily rate of €290) will be payable. Costs of any necessary travel and subsistence will also be covered.

5.4 Proposals, to include the applicant’s CV and an outline of the training event (to include: suggested content and approach to delivery; 2 x A4 max.), should be sent to Mark Morgan at the UK National Agency (mark.morgan@britishcouncil.org). The deadline for receipt of proposals is **Monday 1 June 2015**. For further information, please contact: Simon Chambers, UK National Agency (simon.chambers@britishcouncil.org).