

Erasmus for All is the new programme proposed by the European Commission for education,

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. It is planned to start in 2014 and it is expected to significantly increase the funds allocated for the development of knowledge and skills.

Erasmus for All would bring together all the current EU and international schemes for education, training, youth and sport, replacing seven existing programmes with one: Lifelong Learning (Erasmus, Leonardo da Vinci, Comenius and Grundtvig), Youth in Action, and five international cooperation programmes (Erasmus Mundus, Tempus, Alfa, Edulink and the programme for cooperation with industrialised countries). This will increase efficiency, make it easier to apply for grants, as well as reducing duplication and fragmentation.

The programme will support the following types of actions:

- **Learning opportunities for individuals**, both within the EU and beyond, including: study and training, traineeships, teaching and professional development and non-formal youth activities such as volunteering.
- **Institutional cooperation** between educational institutions, youth organisations, businesses, local and regional authorities and NGOs, to encourage the development and implementation of innovative practices in education, training and youth activities, and to promote employability, creativity and entrepreneurship.
- **Support for policy reform** in Member States and cooperation with non-EU countries, with a focus on strengthening the evidence-base for policy making and exchange of good practices.
- A **loan guarantee scheme** to help Master's degree students to finance their studies abroad and to acquire the skills needed for knowledge intensive jobs.
- The **creation of 400 'knowledge alliances**' and '**sector skills alliances**'. Knowledge alliances are large-scale partnerships between higher education institutions and businesses to promote creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship by offering new learning opportunities and qualifications. Sector skills alliances are partnerships between education and training providers and businesses to promote employability by forming new sector-specific curricula and

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innovative forms of vocational teaching and training.

Up to 5 million people, almost twice as many as now, could get the chance to study or train abroad with a grant from Erasmus for All. Among them would be nearly 3 million higher education and vocational students. In general Erasmus for All is open to all learners and trainers, through any public or private body active in education, training, youth and sport. It will support formal and non-formal learning experiences and activities across all sectors.

For more information you can check <u>Erasmus for All official website</u>, the <u>Press Release</u> or <u>Erasmus for All Leaflet</u>

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