

## **“Request for Proposal”**

### **National VET Team Erasmus+ VET Impact Study**

Léargas – The Exchange Bureau (the “Contracting Authority”) invites proposal (“Proposals”) to this request for proposal (“RFP”) from economic operators (“Tenderers”) for the provision of the services as described in this this RFP (the “Services”). This procurement competition will be divided into 1 lot only. The contracting authority reserves the right to extend the term only if required on favourable conditions. The Contracting Authority estimates that the expenditure on this project will amount to more than the procurement threshold of € 5,000.00

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## **Instructions to the Tenderers:**

While every effort has been made to provide comprehensive and accurate information in all the documents prepared for the purposes of this Competition, the Contracting Authority does not accept any liability or provide any express or implied warranty in respect of any such information. Tenderers must form their own conclusions about the solution needed to meet the requirements set out in this RFP.

## **Proposal Submission Requirements:**

Proposals must be submitted via email provided. Proposals submitted via any other means will not be accepted.

## **Queries & Clarifications:**

All queries related to any aspect of this competition must be directed to [mpopovic@leargas.ie](mailto:mpopovic@leargas.ie) by 26/09/25.

## **Confidentiality:**

All documentation, data, statistics, drawings, information, patterns, samples or material disclosed or furnished by the Contracting Authority to Tenderers during the course of this Competition are furnished for the sole purpose of replying to this RFP only; and may not be used, communicated, reproduced or published for any other purpose without the prior written permission of the Contracting Authority.

## **Selection & Award Criteria:**

The contract will be awarded based on the internal evaluation by the evaluation committee for all the proposals shared by the service providers. The Services Contract will be awarded on the basis of the MEAT Criteria (Most Economically Advantageous Tender) as identified in accordance with the following criteria:

Award Criteria and Weightages for Evaluation			
S.no	Criteria	Description	Weightage (%)
1	Experience	Relevant experience in Erasmus+ Programs delivering similar services, especially within the charity, public body and other public sectors. Experience carrying out educational research.	25
2	Demonstrated Knowledge	In-depth understanding and knowledge of the Irish educational system, knowledge of Erasmus+ and other EU funded programmes, policies and perspectives as relevant to the VET sector.	25
3	Value for Money	MEAT Criteria based on overall cost-effectiveness, including the price, quality, and desired outcomes.	20
4	Methodology and Responsiveness	Project Implementation strategy/methodology of the proposed approach as per RFP and business case requirements, like deliverables, suggestions and ability to meet deadlines. Experience in multiple qualitative methodologies such as conducting interviews and focus groups. Expertise in summarising research and translating complex topics into accessible, plain English.	25
5	Sustainability	Commitment to environmental, social, and economic sustainability, including ethical practices and long-term impact.	5
	Total		100

## Appendix 1: Requirements & Specifications:

Service providers must address each of the issues and requirements in this part of the RFT and submit a detailed proposal and their approach to the proposed delivery of the Services.

### Background:

Léargas <https://www.leargas.ie> is a publicly funded, charitable organisation and a National Agency for Erasmus+ in Ireland, wishing to undertake an impact study to demonstrate the impact of Erasmus+ mobility projects in Vocational Education and Training (VET), for delivery by mid-2026.

The research will be undertaken under the supervision and guidance of the National VET Team.

## **What is the National VET Team?**

The National VET Team is a team of national Experts composed of professionals active in Vocational Education and Training (VET). The Team supports the development and internationalisation of the VET sector, collaborates with other National VET Teams to share best international practices in VET, and provides advice and support to EU-funded projects under the Erasmus+ programme.

## **Erasmus+ for VET KA1 Mobility**

The European Union programme Erasmus+ funds Vocational Education and Training mobility projects, known as Key Action 1 (KA1), across Europe to provide learning opportunities to individuals and to support internationalisation and institutional development of VET providers and VET organisations.

There are two main types of Erasmus+ VT KA1 Mobility projects: Short-Terms Projects for mobility of learners and staff; and Accredited Projects for mobility of learners and staff. Organisations that take part in Erasmus+ should also actively promote the programme priorities: inclusion and diversity, digital transformation, environment and fight against climate change and participation in democratic life, common values and civic engagement.

## **What is a VET mobility project?**

A mobility project is where an organisation sends its learners or apprentices to another country to take part in short or long-term works placements, peer to peer learning or in skills competitions. Teachers, trainers and VET staff from the organisation can also travel to another country for job shadowing, teaching or courses and training. The organisation applies for funding to prepare and manage the project, and for the costs of travel and participation.

A VET mobility project is an opportunity to increase the quality of initial and continuing vocational education and training (IVET and CVET) in Europe and strengthen the European dimension of teaching and learning.

## **Who Can Take Part in a Mobility Project?**

VET providers and other VET organisations in Ireland can apply to Léargas for funding to facilitate mobility projects. In Ireland, a VET school, institute or centre means an organisation that directly delivers further education programmes—with a vocational or apprenticeship element—at NFQ Levels 4, 5 or 6. These programmes typically include periods of vocational work-based learning. The programmes delivered must be full, rather than minor or special purpose award programmes. Apprenticeships, at all levels, are also eligible for funding.

## **Erasmus+ Partnerships for Cooperation**

Erasmus+ also funds education, training and youth Partnership projects in organisations across Europe as part of Key Action 2. This funding is to help increase the quality and relevance of their activities, to develop networks, to boost internationalisation and to transfer innovative practices. There are two types of Erasmus+ Partnership project, Cooperation Partnerships and Small-scale Partnerships. Any public or private organisation established in an Erasmus+ Programme Country can apply.

## **The Aim of the Study**

The aim of the study is to demonstrate the value, benefits and impact of Erasmus+, for the individual participants, participating organisations and the overall provision of VET and apprenticeships in Ireland.

It seeks to further demonstrate how the implementation and the priorities of Erasmus+ align with national policy and how they can facilitate implementation of Ireland's existing and soon-to-be launched FET Strategy 2025-2030.

The study also aims to outline alignments with European educational policy, particularly in relation to [European Skills Agenda](#) and recently announced [Union of Skills](#).

It is expected that the study will consider the views of national authorities, organisations accredited in Erasmus+ as well as newcomers and less experienced organisations undertaking short-term projects.

## Scope of the proposed study

Since this is the research into the actual impact of Erasmus+ Programme on beneficiaries, their target groups and the national policy, it is expected that the study will include results of a variety of qualitative and quantitative research methods (questionnaires, focus groups, interviews, statistics etc.,) and will be delivered in a report format including visual and narrative presentation of data.

Please see the table below for detailed list of target groups of participants and potential impact themes to be considered.

Target Group	Impact Theme
Learners including apprenticeships	Vocational Skills and Employability (nationally and across borders)
	Transversal Skills development / Uncertified Learning/Progression to Higher Education
	European Identity and any unexpected benefits from participating
Staff	CPD learning e.g. Innovative Teaching Methods, sector specific learning/Exposure to European practices
	Personal Development and impact on learning, provision etc.,
	Staff mobility impact on organisational development/any unexpected benefits from participating
Organisation	Innovation and Curriculum Development/Internationalisation/Value in hosting learners and/or staff
	Impact - change in how VET is delivered
	Overall impact on the organisation – holistic perspective/any unexpected benefits from participating
Horizontal priorities and policy alignment	Inclusion, green, digital, democratic participation
	Alignment with the national policy – FET Strategy- existing and new 2025-2029
	European Skills Agenda, Union of Skills etc.,

## The Role of the Author

- Attend initial 'kick off' meeting with Léargas/VET Team to ensure understanding and details of brief
- Conduct the relevant research and background work
- Collation of findings
- Ongoing feedback to National VET Team/Coordinator on progress

e) Writing of study containing results and recommendations.

As well as demonstrating the impact of Erasmus+ in the VET sector in Ireland, these recommendations should also be able to inform future work plans regarding outreach and engagement for Erasmus+ mobility in the VET sector.

### **The Role of the Léargas staff**

The National VET Team Coordinator/Support & Development Officer KA1, Vocational Education & Training will support the author by providing more detailed background information, access to National VET Team experts and technical support.

Léargas would like to invite proposals from interested and eligible researchers.

### **Eligibility of applicants**

To be selected as the researcher for this study you must have:

- Knowledge of the Irish education system.
- Knowledge and expertise of Erasmus+ and other European programmes, policies and perspectives as relevant to the VET sector.
- Experience carrying out educational research
- Experience in multiple qualitative methodologies such as conducting interviews and focus groups.
- Expertise in summarising research and translating complex topics into accessible, plain English.

### **How To Apply**

Please submit your proposal outlining envisaged methodology, scope, format, timeline and the cost of the study to the National VET Team Coordinator in Ireland Mila Popovic at [mpopovic@leargas.ie](mailto:mpopovic@leargas.ie) by Friday 26 September 2025.



**Appendix 2: Pricing Schedule:**

The service providers are expected to share/suggest their own pricing model (invoice based or project based) all-inclusive VAT and as per the services requirements.

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