

## Writing a European Development Plan

When your school applies for Erasmus+ funding on your behalf, it will have to answer four questions about its European development plan in [Section D of the application form](#).

A European Development Plan is a strategic view of your school's plans for European activities. It should include:

- a) a summary of your school's current status (i.e. where your school is now)
- b) a vision for the future (where your school aims to be in two, five or ten years' time)
- c) A set of specific needs (what's needed to get from (a) to (b))
- d) how the activities you have planned will meet these needs

You need to ensure that the activities you would like to engage in (for example - your SGI English Teacher Refresher course) relate to both individual participants and your school as a whole. So if you are able to successfully integrate these activities into your school's strategic development, they will have a stronger impact on the quality of teaching and learning at the school. Basically, your European development plan needs to give a context for your application, and should focus on internationalisation and modernisation, identifying staff development needs and making sure that information is disseminated and widely used. A good way of doing this is to study the description of the SGI course you are applying for on our website, and work this into your application.

### Question 1

The question asks:

*What are the organisation's needs in terms of quality development and internationalisation? Please identify the main areas for improvement (for example management competences, staff competences, new teaching methods or tools, European dimension, language competences, curriculum, the organisation of teaching and learning.)*

Your answer must be precise regarding areas identified here for further training, and there must be some focus on internationalisation and the European aspect. You could begin your answer by writing:

'Our school has little/no experience in ... '(New technologies in language teaching? Recent developments in teaching methodology?).

'Our school needs teachers who are able to...' (use new teaching methods, network with colleagues in other parts of Europe...)

'To do this, we need to...' (develop a strategy for internationalisation, manage activities with our European partners, make sure all our projects have certain quality standards, give our students internationally-recognised certification, make sure knowledge and skills are disseminated throughout our school...)

'A course at SGI will assist us in achieving this by...' (equipping us with these skills, developing intercultural awareness, helping us to develop a network of international contacts...)

### Question 2

The question asks:

*Please outline the organisation's plans for European mobility and cooperation activities, and explain how these activities will contribute to meeting the identified needs.*

In answering this question, you need to demonstrate how your plans for European mobility and cooperation activities fit into your plan as a whole and how the result of the training course at SGI will support the development of your organisation over time. You should mention the number of people who will be affected by the training: if there are a number of participants from your school, then more ideas and skills will be acquired and it will be possible to disseminate them more widely.

You could begin your answer: 'Our school wants to...' Include a maximum of two or three aims. You need to ensure these objectives are strategic, measurable, achievable and realistic.

So, you need to state what your aims are and explain in which ways they will be achieved, and also how they will be evaluated.

Then go on to say 'Therefore training of staff is needed to acquire the following competences ...' (implementing a wide variety of international activities that can be carried out in cooperation with partner schools, evaluating international activities and the European dimension in the curriculum, disseminating the activities and outcomes, strengthening intercultural awareness etc...)

### Question 3

The question asks:

*Please explain how your organisation will integrate the competences and experiences acquired by staff participating in the project into its strategic development in the future.*

Your aim in answering this question is to make it clear how you intend to share the ideas, techniques and methodology you have learned on your course at SGI, referring specifically to particular activities. For example, teachers could give training sessions to their colleagues, or lead workshops or seminars on what they have learnt.

As with Question 2, you should state how many people will be affected by the outcomes of your SGI training course.

You should demonstrate how the mobility activity (i.e. your training course at SGI) forms a part of a more extensive and long-term development and modernisation plan in your school, and also write about the impact of the training on pupils, teachers, other staff and stakeholders and the school as a whole.

You could begin 'Our school will...', and then list five or six things you plan to do.

### Question 4

The question asks:

*Will your organisation use eTwinning in connection with your mobility project? If so, please describe how.*

While eTwinning is not essential, it can make your application stronger. If you use eTwinning, then you will need to state the criteria you used to select your partner/s.

If you need any further assistance with writing this plan, please contact our Erasmus Plus Coordinator – Stephen Bell - [sbell@stgeorges.co.uk](mailto:sbell@stgeorges.co.uk) , +00 44 (0)207 2991703