

## Strengthening career guidance and counselling through international learning and sharing

### Introduction

For six years now, the [NICE foundation](#) and [In Dialogue](#) have worked together to raise the capacity of career guidance organisations and the competences of their staff, by using the funding opportunities offered by the Erasmus+ programme, sub-programmes adult education & vocational education and training (VET).

Career guidance organisations, and their counsellors, trainer, coaches, and managers can improve their competences and networks with other organisations and their staff by attending:

- *Courses:* In Dialogue offers various courses to develop the competences of career counsellors, coaches and advisors as well as management/ leadership and other staff the organisation may have. The courses are highly practical, though based on a solid theoretical foundation. [Read all on these courses here](#)
- *NICE Academy (Netherlands 2024):* Those intending to use Erasmus+ funding, can also use it for the NICE Academy in Deventer, September 2024. NICE Academies are structured events for learning and networking, and are planned in such way, that they are a structured training course eligible for Erasmus+ funding. More information on the 2024 NICE academy can be found on the site of the [NICE Network](#).
- *Job Shadowing:* visit other organisations in other EU member states (and some neighbouring countries), and walk along with their staff (shadow their work) to see and learn from other ways of guiding and counselling. Job shadowing's are on average around 3 days and the programme of the visit is set by the participant and receiving organisation.
- *Supervision;* join a supervision group that will meet at least 3 times at 3 different locations in Europe, to work on cases related to career guidance and counselling.

### Erasmus+

The Erasmus+, sub-programme KA1 education and training offers funding opportunities for professional competence development of individuals and capacity building of adult education & VET organisations. Through this programme, organisations can get a grant to send staff to professional trainings and job shadowing. The programme is only available for organisations in EU member states, plus Norway, Iceland, Lichtenstein, Serbia, Republic of Northern Macedonia and Turkey.

With one application, organisations can apply for up to 30 so-called mobilities (one mobility stands for one training, one job shadowing, etc. per person)<sup>1</sup>. If applied for the 20<sup>th</sup> of February 2024 deadline<sup>2</sup>, organisations can send staff to courses, etc. from the summer of 2024 and until the end of 2025.

### Who can apply?

The vast majority of the NICE Network members can apply for Erasmus+ KA1 adult education and/ or VET. If you are involved in teaching and training adults, outside of the formal (higher) education curricula (being it as your main aim or as a side activity) or if you provide educational guidance and counselling, you are most likely eligible.<sup>3</sup> In Dialogue will be glad to check with individual organisations if and how they can be seen as eligible under these parts of funding programme.

### Application process

In Dialogue, which has many years of experience in Erasmus+ funding (and of course, offering high quality international courses), will assist organisations e.g. by providing text suggestions for the application form, and offer guidance on how to complete it until the 20<sup>th</sup> of February 2024 deadline.

### Finances

The Erasmus+ grant will be enough to cover 90 to 100% of the course fee, travel and stay, depending on the range of activities applied for (with or without job shadowing). The course fee for all course is 775 Euros. The percentage of funding also depends on where you plan to travel to. We can help you calculating the funding budgets, before applying for funding.

Erasmus+ offers lump sums for all costs, keeping the administrative burden very low!

### Interested?

If your organisation is interested in applying, please let us know soon. **The deadline is the 20<sup>th</sup> of February 2024, 12 noon C.E.T.**, but we would like to be well in advance to support your application process. Do know: when applying, you do not have to mention specific staff members, only what sort of staff (e.g. management, principals, career advisors, etc.). Only later you decide who will go to which activity, when and where.

Yvor Broer (Managing Partner In Dialogue)

In Dialogue  
[info@in-dialogue.org](mailto:info@in-dialogue.org)

---

<sup>1</sup> For organisations with a so-called accreditation, there is no limit for the number of mobilities.

<sup>2</sup> This is the annual funding deadline. Some countries entertain an additional deadline, the 4<sup>th</sup> October.

<sup>3</sup> If you work at a higher education institution, you can probably also apply for Erasmus+. Ask the Erasmus+ contact person at your institution.