

Brussels, 15 July 2004

New generation of education and culture programmes

The Commission has adopted its legislative proposals for the new generation of programmes in the field of education and culture as part of a bigger package on the new financial perspectives for the 2007-2013 period. They comprise a proposal for a new Integrated Lifelong Learning Programme and proposals for the successors to the current MEDIA, CULTURE 2000 and YOUTH programmes. The proposal for the new programme on "civic participation" will be made in early 2005.

These four proposals are based on evaluations of current programmes and wide consultations with stakeholders on the future of Community programmes in the fields of education and culture. They also reflect the orientations set out in the Commission Communications of March 2004¹.

The total budget for these 4 programmes for the 2007-2013 is just below 16 billion €. In 2013, these four programmes will account for just under 2% of the total budget of the European Union.

(€ million)	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	TOTAL
Lifelong learning	1.220	1.387	1.617	1.859	2.176	2.505	2.856	13.620
Youth	111	126	128	131	133	141	145	915
Media	105	112	133	150	171	184	200	1.055
Culture	45	47	51	57	62	69	77	408
TOTAL	1.481	1.672	1.929	2.197	2.542	2.899	3.278	15.998

In total, the budget allocated to these programmes will increase by 185% in the years 2007-2013 compared to the 2000-2006 period and from about 5.6 billion € to 16 billion €. The increase will be most sizeable in the new integrated lifelong learning: the total budget will increase by 246% and from just under 4 billion € to 13.620 billion €. This reflects the priority given to education and training as part of the objective of developing the European Union as an advanced knowledge society, with sustainable development, more and better jobs and greater social cohesion. It will also contribute to the development of education and training systems in Europe (through innovative pilot projects) and to the emergence of a Single European Knowledge Area (through focus on mobility of people).

¹ Communication of the Commission « The new generation of Community Education and Training programmes after 2006 », COM (2004) 156. Communication of the Commission "Making Citizenship Work"; COM (2004) 154.

(€ million)	2000-2006	2007-2013	Increase in %
Lifelong Learning	3.935	13.620	246%
Youth	757	915	21%
Media	638	1.055	65%
Culture	294	408	39%
TOTAL	5.623	15.998	185%

Comparing 2006 budget with 2013 budget illustrates the planned increase in education and culture Community programmes. The budget for the Integrated Lifelong Learning Programme will jump from roughly 608 million € in 2006 to 2.856 million € in 2013, i.e. more than four times as much. The multiplying factor will be 2.0 for culture and 2.1 for media. It will be 1.3 for youth.

Within the Integrated Lifelong Learning Programme, ERASMUS receives 43% of the budget, followed by LEONARDO DA VINCI (27%) and COMENIUS (12%).

These programmes reflect the willingness of the Commission to rationalise existing instruments. For the education and culture programmes, the number of legal instruments is reduced from 16 to 8 and the number of budget lines from 35 to 8. Community programmes will also be more flexible and user-friendly. The planned revision of the financial rules could in this context lead to further simplifications.

The vast majority of the new Lifelong Learning and Youth programmes will be managed in a decentralised way by a network of national agencies. The strength of this system provides the user-friendliness through use of national language, understanding of national systems, etc. For the Integrated Lifelong Learning Programme, it is proposed to increase the proportion of credits managed by such agencies to more than 80%. The rest is managed directly by the Commission or delegated to an executive agency (which is planned to replace the existing Technical Assistance Offices and come into being in early 2005).

The lifelong learning programme will support a record number of people studying, training, teaching and working in another European country. The table below shows the growth in annual mobility numbers (actual to 2002, predicted to 2013) under the new programme and its predecessors:

	1983	1987	1995	2002	2006***	2007	2011	2013	Total
Erasmus students		3,244	84,642	123,957	165,000 (170,000)	213,000	310,000	390,000	3,750,000
Leonardo placements		2,500*	21,000*	42,500	65,000 (50,000)	67,000	115,000	150,000	1,250,000
Total	1,000	5,744	105,642	166,457	220,000	280,000	425,000	540,000	5,000,000

* Comett programme

** Leonardo da Vinci phase 1

*** University-level placements will transfer from Leonardo to Erasmus from 2007. The figures in brackets show the effect of this transfer on the estimated 2006 numbers, so that they can be compared with 2007 onwards.