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**HELLENIC REPUBLIC
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
AND RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS**

REGIONAL DIRECTORATE OF PRIMARY &
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SUBJECT: “EU Programme *Erasmus+*”

Erasmus+ is the new programme of the European Union for education, training and youth for the period 2014 – 2020. It integrates many existing programmes of the EU, covering all sectors of education, including among others, the integrated Lifelong Learning Programme (Erasmus, Leonardo da Vinci, Comenius, Grundtvig), the “Youth in Action” Programme and five international cooperation programmes (Erasmus Mundus, Tempus, Alfa, Edulink and the programme for cooperation with industrialized countries). Erasmus+ aims to enhance skills and employability and to modernize educational, training and youth systems in all areas of Lifelong Learning (Higher Education, Vocational Education and Training (V.E.T.), Adult Education, School Education, youth activities etc.). The supervision and implementation of the Erasmus+ Programme has been undertaken by the State Scholarship Foundation (I.K.Y). Please, visit its website (www.iky.gr) for more related information.

Erasmus + is a Programme comprising three Key Actions. Key Action 1 and Key Action 2 concern us directly.

In **Key Action 1**, which involves **Learning Mobility of Individuals**, mobility activities are open to **school education staff** (sending school) in order for them to participate in seminars, conventions, job shadowing/observation in a partner school or organization active in school education. The particular Action is open both to General Education (from Pre-school to Higher Education) and Vocational Education and Training (VET), which also offers **mobility opportunities for professional training**

to VET learners. A central element in this Action is that only organizations (schools) can apply for an Erasmus+ grant. Individuals cannot apply directly for a grant, although they can realize the mobility project. The duration of an activity may range from two days to two months. Grants applications should be submitted by 17 March 2014 at 12pm (midday Brussels time).

In **Key Action 2 – “Cooperation for Innovation and the Exchange of Good Practices”**, the **“Strategic Partnerships in the field of School Education”** offer the opportunity to organizations, active in the fields of education, training and youth, as well as enterprises, public authorities, civil society organizations active in different socio-economic sectors to cooperate in order to exchange and implement innovative and good practices in school education. This Action is open to the following categories of organizations:

- a) **Various organizations:** Cooperation between schools and/or organizations, of any type and grade, provided that they clearly contribute to reaching the objectives of partnership. Organizations of at least three different Programme Countries have to participate in this particular Action. The composition and activities of such partnerships should aim at improving the quality of school education and bring added value that otherwise could not be achieved. Such partnerships may help to address complex phenomena, such as drop - out and to promote participation of students from disadvantaged social groups.
- b) **Educational Authorities:** Cooperation between educational authorities of at least two Programme Countries each of them having at least two local partners (a school and an organization active in another field of education, training and youth, or an enterprise, public or private).
- c) **Schools:** Cooperation between two schools at least. The duration of such partnerships ranges from two to three years, depending on the objectives and the activities of the project. Applicants should submit their grant application by 30 April at 12pm (midday Brussels time). The application can be submitted by an organization (coordinator) on behalf of all participating organizations (partners).

Given that EU Programmes contribute to the modernization of education, and make both students and teachers active participants in European Affairs, while promoting the values of solidarity and cooperation, we encourage our school units

to participate in these projects to the greatest degree possible. We thus invite you to visit the website of The Regional Directorate of Education of Attica (<http://attik.pde.sch.gr>) where you can find information material for Erasmus+ as well as a Registration Form available for everyone who wants to participate either as coordinator or as partner.

**THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR
OF PRIMARY & SECONDARY
EDUCATION OF ATTICA**

DIMITRIOS GINIS