



The European Lifelong Guidance Policy Network (ELGPN) represents Member States' interests at EU level on matters concerning lifelong guidance policy and systems development within the framework of the EU Education and Training 2010 Work Programme as well as within the new strategic framework for European co-operation in Education and Training ('ET 2020') and the Commission's initiative on 'New Skills for New Jobs'.

Policy contexts

The Resolution of the Council and of the representatives of the Member States meeting within the Council on Strengthening Policies, Systems and Practices in the field of Guidance throughout life in Europe (May 2004) invited Member States to *'seek to ensure effective co-operation and co-ordination between providers of guidance at national, regional and local levels in the provision of guidance services'*. The mandate of the ELGPN was confirmed in the 2008 EU Council Resolution on better integrating lifelong guidance into lifelong learning strategies, which invited the Member States and the Commission, within their respective competences, to strengthen European co-operation on lifelong guidance, in particular through the ELGPN, with the support of the Lifelong Learning Programme, and in liaison with Cedefop.

Objectives and functions

The ELGPN promotes co-operation in the development of policies and systems for lifelong guidance provision at national level through European co-operation. The network identifies lifelong guidance policy issues for which there are gaps in policy development and implementation at national level and which merit collaborative action at EU level (such as peer-learning clusters, research, and other co-operation activities), in particular within six priority areas:

- career management skills;
- access to lifelong guidance services;
- quality assurance;
- co-ordination and co-operation between the various national, regional and local stakeholders;
- synergy between EU-funded projects on lifelong guidance, and their links with policy;
- EU policy analysis from a lifelong guidance perspective.

Working methods

The ELGPN work programmes include different working methods: plenary meetings, peer learning activities within field visits, task groups (6–8 members), commissioned technical work, and technical work funded from other sources. The activities are supported by the ELGPN website (<http://elgpn.eu>).

Membership

Membership of the network is open to each of the countries eligible for assistance under the Lifelong Learning Programme 2007–13. The participating countries designate their representatives in the network. Where national co-ordination bodies or fora exist, these provide a suitable basis for the composition of national delegations.

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Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme

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