



Education and Culture

Leonardo da Vinci

LEONARDO DA VINCI

thematic • contact • seminar

“TRANSPARENCY, RECOGNITION AND QUALITY IN VOCATIONAL TRAINING”

Contributing to the „Bruges Process“ in vocational training through the Leonardo da Vinci Programme

Programme

28 and 29 April 2003

at the Hotel Crowne Plaza, 1220 Vienna, Wagramer Straße 21

28 April 2003

- 09:00 – 09:30** Opening by Ms Elisabeth Gehrler, Federal Minister for Education, Science and Culture
- 09:30 – 10:30** Transparency, Recognition and Quality: Overview of European Activities by Participants to the Three Technical Working Groups at Community Level
- 10:30 – 11:00** Coffee Break with LEONARDO DA VINCI Project Exhibition
- 11:00 – 12:00** Overview of Thematic Groups
- 12:00 – 13:30** Lunch Break with LEONARDO DA VINCI Project Exhibition
- 13:30 – 15:00** Thematic Groups
- 15:00 – 15:30** Coffee Break
- 15:30 – 17:00** Thematic Groups

29 April 2003

- 09:00 – 10:30** Working Groups on Project Ideas
- 10:30 – 11:00** Coffee Break
- 11:00 – 12:00** How to Submit a Successful LEONARDO DA VINCI Project Proposal
- 12:00** End of Conference

I. How are the “Thematic Groups” organised?

28 April 2003, 13:30 – 17:00

I.I. Background information

The topics of the “Thematic Groups” at the seminar have been chosen according to the action areas of the “Bruges Process” and the “Copenhagen Declaration” (calling for close co-operation in the field of vocational training in Europe). They will therefore deal with issues embedded in the Bruges process:

- **Transparency, Information and Guidance**
- **Recognition of Qualifications and Competencies**
- **Quality in Vocational Training**

Increasing the visibility and transferability of learning results and competencies as well as safeguarding the value of vocational training have become priority European objectives in vocational training. Common approaches, methods and results can be strongly supported by the LEONARDO DA VINCI programme. LEONARDO DA VINCI aims to achieve results with use in practice and impact on vocational training policy and therefore provides for a framework for co-operation and action with regard to these European priority areas.

For the Thematic Contact Seminar several “Thematic Groups” clustered around the main areas of interest are being proposed in the programme (see below).

I.II. How can participants actively contribute to the “Thematic Groups”?

Call for active participation:

1. Project Ideas:

Participants are invited to present their ideas of possible LEONARDO DA VINCI project proposals during the seminar. These project ideas should focus mainly on the topics proposed within the “Thematic Groups”. Participants will have the possibility to present their specific ideas in the “Thematic Groups” as well as discussing their ideas with experts and people participating in the group. Moreover the seminar will provide space for making contacts for a European LEONARDO DA VINCI project partnership.

To make sure that your proposal will be dealt with in the “Thematic Group” of your interest we kindly ask you to send a short outline of the project idea to the LEONARDO DA VINCI National Agency Austria by 17 March 2003 the latest.

2. “Thematic Groups”:

In addition, participants as well as National Agencies are offered the possibility of enlarging the list of “Thematic Groups” in the three thematic areas by identifying additional topics they would like to discuss during the seminar. In this case we ask participants and National Agencies to send us their proposals for a “Thematic Group” by 17 March 2003 the latest. The proposal should comprise a clear outline of the theme as well as a nomination of speakers and project ideas presented in the respective “Thematic Group”.

I.III. Brief outline of the “Thematic Groups”

Transparency, Information and Guidance

“Thematic Group” 1: Giving Access to European Transparency Tools

Focus: Presentation and discussion of already existing transparency instruments such as Europass, European CV, Certificate and Diploma Supplement, European Computer Driving Licence, European Language Portfolio as steps toward the development of a single framework for transparency. Ways of ensuring the use of the existing transparency instruments on European and national level in order to enhance mobility and employability throughout Europe.

“Thematic Group” 2: Guidance and Counselling

Focus: Strengthening the European dimension of information, orientation and counselling in the field of vocational education and training and careers guidance to increase the access to lifelong learning; innovative approaches of guidance on European vocational training and working opportunities to support mobility in Europe.

Recognition of Qualifications and Competences

“Thematic Group” 3: European Diploma and Competence Standards at Sectoral Level

Focus: Equal recognition of learning achievements is a prerequisite for mobility of European citizens. Common diploma and competence standards, especially at sectoral level, contribute to an European space of training and working. The workshop will present existing approaches and discuss future joint activities.

“Thematic Group” 4: Recognition of Qualifications of Disadvantaged People

Focus: Developing common principles and criteria for the recognition of qualifications of disadvantaged people; networking of existing LEONARDO DA VINCI projects in this area; interlinking initiatives in this field; building upon experiences and results of existing LEONARDO DA VINCI projects; participation in activities during the “European Year of People with Disabilities”.

“Thematic Group” 5: Recognition of Informal Learning

Focus: Informal learning is a main source for acquisition of knowledge and competencies. Recognising its value may enforce individuals in their capacity of knowledge development and help to enhance learning situations. Various approaches to valuing informal learning have been developed during the past years, and future initiatives may focus on common guidelines and frameworks.

“Thematic Group” 6: Assessing and Developing Human Resources within Enterprises

Focus: Human resources are the key factor for a knowledge-driven economy. The success of enterprises relies on the competences and qualifications of people, but they are little taken into account as intangible economic values. Principles and tools to recognise the value of human resources can help to disclose the ‘real’ value of knowledge-based enterprises and to develop strategies for HR development.

Quality in Vocational Training

“Thematic Group” 7: Quality Standards in Continuing Training

Focus: Continuing training is the second pillar of lifelong learning and takes place in different contexts and circumstances. A growing number of providers share an increasing market of continuing training. Tools and standards for the assessment of quality of continuing training can support individuals and enterprises in their decision on training offers and provide a motivation for lifelong learning.

“Thematic Group” 8: Networking of Quality Initiatives in Initial Vocational Training

Focus: Concepts and models for safeguarding and disclosing the quality of initial vocational training offers increasingly become a tool for training management and help to promote training locations within a growing market. Existing concepts may further be promoted by connecting them and networking between the various approaches.

II. Working Groups on Project Ideas

29 April 2003, 09:00 – 10:30

II.I. In-depth discussion of project ideas

The idea behind these small working groups is to allow for an in-depth presentation and discussion of LEONARDO DA VINCI project ideas. People interested in joining a project partnership or having similar ideas get the chance of exchanging their views. They can build on existing experiences and networks taking into account results which have already been achieved in a specific field of interest.

II.II. Ideas' Corner

First of all, this forum offers a place to present new project ideas that will be brought up during the seminar. There will be a special "Ideas' Corner" at the conference where participants can pin brief outlines of their project ideas and offer a working group. People interested in the topics will have the opportunity to subscribe to the working groups. The idea is to create a flexible, innovative atmosphere that supports European wide exchange and co-operation.

III. LEONARDO DA VINCI Project Exhibition

28 April 2003

A project exhibition will accompany the seminar by creating an open forum for the presentation of results and products of successful LEONARDO DA VINCI projects.

Interested LEONARDO DA VINCI project promoters or partners are requested to send a declaration of interest for a stand at the project exhibition to the LEONARDO DA VINCI National Agency Austria by 17 March 2003 the latest.

IV. Location/Map

How to get to the Hotel CROWNE PLAZA:

arriving at **Airport Wien Schwechat:**

- train **S7**
- change at station „**PRATERSTERN**“ to metro **U1**(red line) direction „Kagran“
- leave at station „**KAISERMÜHLEN VIC**“
- follow the map >>

arriving by train at **Wien Westbahnhof:**

- subway **U3** (orange line) direction „Simmering“
- change at station „**STEPHANSPLATZ**“ to metro **U1**(red line) direction „Kagran“
- leave at station „**KAISERMÜHLEN VIC**“
- follow the map >>

