



Vocational Education and Training (VET)

Erasmus+ Capacity building in the field of vocational education and training – Call 2026

January 21, 2026

Europe House, Bijelo Polje



Capacity building in the field of Vocational education and training

CB VET 2026

AIM

Capacity building projects are international cooperation projects based on multilateral partnerships between organisations active in the field of VET in

- EU Member States
- Third countries associated to the Programme
- Third countries not associated to the Programme

They AIM to support the

- Relevance
- Accessibility
- Responsiveness

of VET institutions and systems in third countries not associated to the Programme



OBJECTIVES

- ❖ Build capacity of VET providers to strengthen cooperation between private and public stakeholders in VET for demand-oriented and opportunity-driven VET interventions;
- ❖ Improve the quality and responsiveness of VET to economic and social developments to enhance the labour market relevance of skills provision;
- ❖ Align VET provision to local, regional and national development strategies.




THEMATIC AREAS

Focus on one or more




CAPACITY
BUILDING
IN VET




Public Private dialogue and partnerships in VET




Innovation in VET



Green and digital skills for the twin transition




Skills matching with current and future job opportunities




Work-based learning (for young people and/or adults)



Quality assurance mechanisms



Key competences, including entrepreneurship and citizenship competence



VET teachers/trainers professional development;
Development of curricula and training modules

HORIZONTAL ASPECTS

Applicants are required to take into account



Inclusion and diversity



Environmental sustainability



Digital dimension



Common values, civic engagement and participation

ACTIVITIES

Building and strengthening the capacities of organisations active in the field of VET principally in the third countries not associated to the Programme covered by the action

For example:

- ❖ Creating and developing networks and exchanges of good practice between VET providers
- ❖ Creating tools, programmes and other materials to build the capacity of institutions from third countries not associated to the Programme (practical training schemes training programmes and tools for assessing and validating learning outcomes in VET, individual action plans for participating institutions; professional guidance and counselling and coaching methods...)
- ❖ Creating mechanisms to involve the private sector (design and delivery of curricula, work-based experience)
- ❖ Developing and transferring pedagogical approaches, teaching and training materials and methods, including work based learning, virtual mobility, open educational resources and better exploitation of the ICT potential
- ❖ Developing and implementing international (virtual) exchange activities for staff primarily

What types of organisations can participate?

Eligible participating organisations:

- Vocational education and training providers
- Other public or private organisations active in the field of VET or in the labour market (non-exhaustive list):
 - * VET providers;
 - * Companies, industry or sector representative organisations;
 - * National/regional qualification authorities;
 - * Employment services ;
 - * Research institutes;
 - * Innovation agencies;
 - * Regional development authorities etc.

[Erasmus+ Programme Guide](#)

ATTENTION: WHO CAN BE APPLICANT/COORDINATOR?

Any public and private organisation active in the VET field and legally established in an EU Member State or eligible third country associated to the Programme.

Organisations from third countries not associated to the Programme cannot be coordinators.

WHAT COUNTRIES CAN APPLY/PARTICIPATE?

APPLICANT/ COORDINATOR

 **EU Member States (27)**
+
**Third countries associated to the
Programme (6)**
Iceland
Liechtenstein
Norway
North Macedonia
Serbia
Türkiye


PARTICIPANT (full partner, affiliated entity or associated partner)

 **EU Member States (27)**
+
**Third countries associated to the
Programme (6)**
+
Third countries **not associated to the
Programme**
in Regions 1, 2, 3, 9, 10 and 11
(see section “Eligible countries” in Part A of
the [Erasmus+ Programme guide](#))

Exception: *Organisations from
Belarus (Region 2) are not eligible*

What is the role of participating organisations

Erasmus+ Programme Guide
(part D – Glossary of terms –
Common terms)



Applicant/coordinator (compulsory) - a participating organisation that submits the project proposal on behalf of all the partners
Full Partners (compulsory) participating organisations which contribute actively to the accomplishment of the project
Affiliated entities (optional): organisations which contribute to the achievement of project objectives and activities. They are not counted for the minimum number of partners and consortium composition. They are receiving a grant and are listed in the financial table (budget)
Associated partners (optional): if they bring an essential added value to the project (e.g. specific project tasks/activities or support the dissemination and sustainability of the project). They are not counted for the minimum number of partners and consortium composition. They are not receiving a grant and are not listed in the financial table (budget)

Applicant/coordinator (**compulsory**) - a participating organisation that submits the project proposal on behalf of all the partners

Full Partners (**compulsory**) participating organisations which contribute actively to the accomplishment of the project

Affiliated entities (**optional**): organisations which contribute to the achievement of project objectives and activities. **They are not counted for the minimum number of partners and consortium composition.** They are receiving a grant and are listed in the financial table (budget)

Associated partners (**optional**): if they bring an essential added value to the project (e.g. specific project tasks/activities or support the dissemination and sustainability of the project). **They are not counted for the minimum number of partners and consortium composition.** They are not receiving a grant and are not listed in the financial table (budget)

	At least 4 organisations	From minimum 3 countries
Scenario 1	2 organisations (coordinator+ full partner) + 2 organisations (full partners)	2 EU MSs + 1 eligible Third country not associated to the Programme
Scenario 2	2 organisations (coordinator+ full partner) + 2 organisations (full partners)	2 Third countries associated to the Programme + 1 eligible Third country not associated to the Programme
Scenario 3	2 organisations (coordinator+ full partner) + 2 organisations (full partners)	1 EU MS + 1 Third country associated to the Programme + 1 eligible Third country not associated to the Programme

NOT POSSIBLE

Number of organisations from EU MSs and Third countries associated to the Programme **CAN NOT BE HIGHER** than number of organisations from eligible Third country not associated to the Programme
 Example: 3 organisations from 2 EU MSs + 2 organisations from 1 Third country not associated to the Programme (not possible)

➤ **ATTENTION:** Affiliated entities and associated partners are not counted in these above requirements.

Important facts

- ▶ Cross-regional projects are **not eligible**.
- ▶ Coordinator restriction: An organisation **cannot be the coordinator of more than two proposals submitted under this action**.

Call ID: ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CB-VET



Duration

36 months



Budget

Total EU grant per project: **max. 500.000€**
EU grant can cover maximum of **80%** of a total budget of a project
20% - Contribution from sources other than the EU grant (own resources, financial contributions from third parties or income generated by the project)



Where to apply

Call ID:
ERASMUS-EDU-2026-CB-VET-WB

Funding and Tenders opportunities portal



Deadline

26 March 2026
at 17:00:00
(Brussels time - CET)



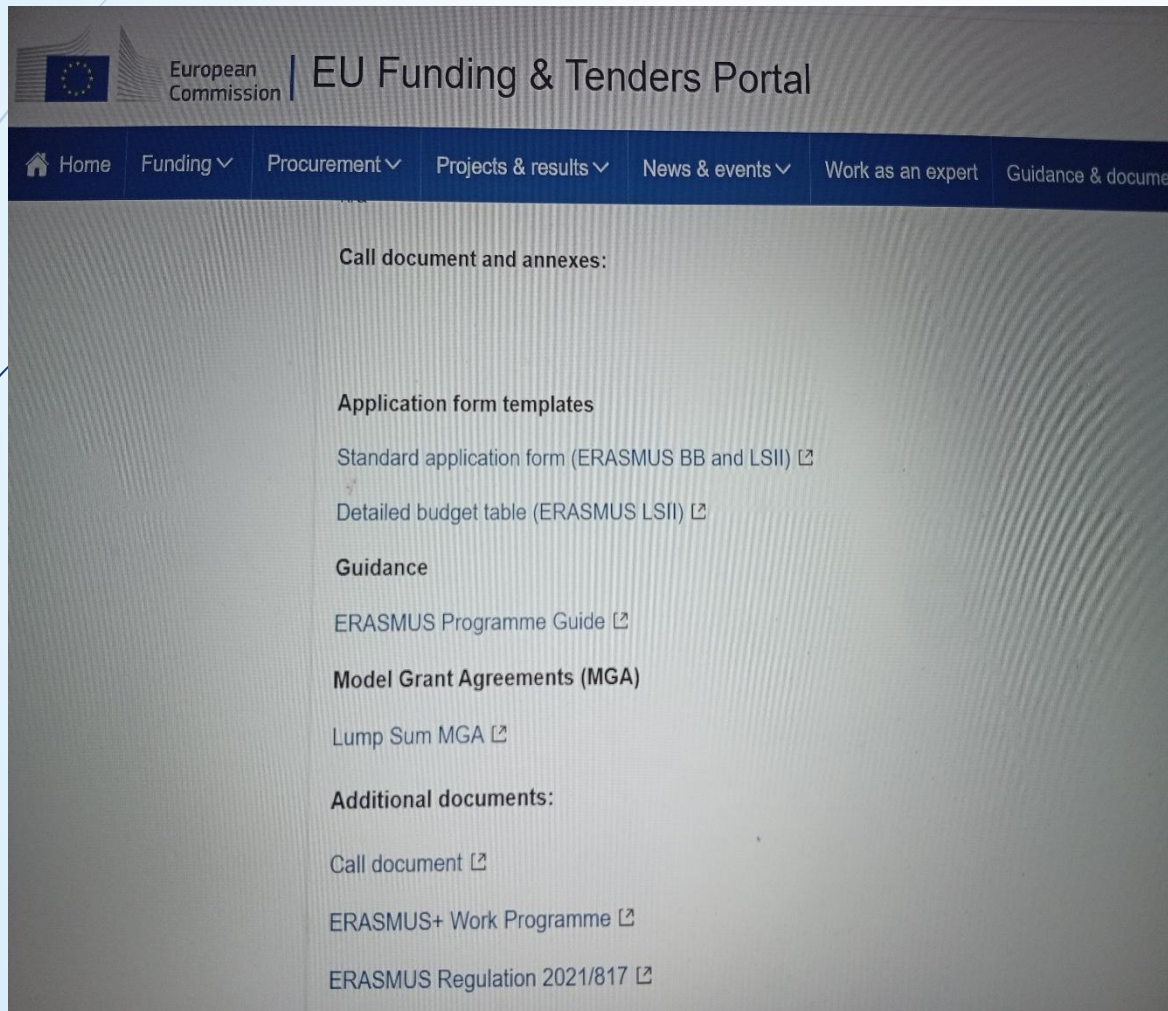
Important facts

- ▶ **CB VET Call Budget 2026: 8,482,000 EUR (for Western Balkans)**
- ▶ Part B Technical Description is limited to 40 pages.
- ▶ Applicant organisations must demonstrate adequate financial and operational capacity.

- ▶ **Evaluation period:** April - September 2026
- ▶ **Information to applicants:** September 2026
- ▶ **Signature of grant agreement:** December 2026

Tips for newcomers – how to start

CALL CB VET is in FTOP portal – visit the web page



Application form

EACEA-EPLUS-CBVET@ec.europa.eu



What makes a good project? I

- ❖ **Consortium composition** (including players in VET, world of work, decision makers)
- ❖ **Clear needs analysis** (for the region/countries, for your partners, for your participants)
- ❖ **Realistic impact** (explaining what will your project change in VET, concise objectives)
- ❖ **Concrete outputs and deliverables** (clearly supporting capacity in VET)
- ❖ **In line with policy documents and regional priorities** (see Programme Guide)
- ❖ **Balanced EU grant** (remember: focus is on third countries not associated to Programme)

What makes a good project? II

- ▶ **Projects which have done an impactful Needs Analysis** have a more focused/easier implementation
- ▶ **Projects which deliver impact for the learners** are particularly of interest for Feedback to Policy
- ▶ **Partner constellations:** Big consortia are more difficult to manage; those consortia which manage to establish already at proposal-stage a thorough and detailed collaboration have it easier in the implementation.
- ▶ **Communication/Dissemination/stakeholder engagement** starts as of day one: cover it in the proposal and 2-3 deliverables accompanying the implementation.

Tips for newcomers – a successful project proposal

- ✓ Be coherent: avoid contradictions and “cut and paste” style applications
- ✓ Be concrete: use examples, justify your claims, provide evidence
- ✓ Be clear: read the questions carefully, provide information in the correct order as indicated in the form
- ✓ Be explicit: take nothing for granted; don't assume that experts have prior knowledge; avoid abbreviations or explain them
- ✓ Be realistic: the application is the basis of your project to be; it is also the cornerstone of the commitment you will sign
- ✓ Remain focused: concentrate exclusively on what is asked of you
- ✓ Eligibility: make sure you have followed all instructions and that the proposal meets all mandatory requirements
- ✓ Keep it simple: use short sentences, vary the length if you wish to make it more interesting but keep it simple and focused

❖ EACEA-EPLUS-CBVET@ec.europa.eu



Finding a coordinator/partner – Try different ways I

1. If you already have contacts with VET providers in EU or third countries associated to the Erasmus+ Programme, get in touch with them **to check if they plan to apply** under this action.
2. Contact **European networks** of VET Providers (e.g. EVTA, EVBB, EfVET, EUproVET) and networks that represent higher education institutions also active in the field of VET (e.g. EURASHE, EUCEN).
3. Organisation active in **lifelong guidance, counselling, learning mobility and career management** contact the European network [Euroguidance](#).
4. **Involve other organizations from your country** – make your project stronger.
5. Involve other organizations from **other countries of the same region 1 - Western Balkans:** Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo , Montenegro– it might be they have contacts to organizations from EU/third countries associated to the programme.

Finding a coordinator/partner – Try different ways II

6. Erasmus+ VET-related projects (2014-2020) on the [Erasmus+ Project Results Platform](#). Please use the ‘advanced search’, selecting Erasmus+ Programme and within the different actions please focus on vocational education and training.

7. Use the section “*Partner search announcements*” - <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/how-to-participate/partner-search> - in the [Funding & Tenders Opportunities Portal](#) (FTOP)

8. **Contact VET experts from your country** you know – it might be they help you to find a coordinator/partner.

9. **CEDEFOP – European Centre for Development of VET** <https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en> , **REFERNET** – is a network of institutions. It provides information on national vocational education and training (VET) systems and policies in the EU Member States, Iceland and Norway. <https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/networks/refernet/national-partners>

Finding a coordinator/partner – Try different ways III

10. [EPALE \(Electronic Platform for Adult Learning in Europe\)](#) platform and/or you could register to the [Community of European VET practitioners](#).
11. The [Katapult Network](#) includes a network and matchmaking tool to build relationships with new partners. The direct link to the matchmaking tool is [here](#). [How does it work?](#)
12. If you are a member of the European Training Foundation (ETF) Open Space, you may look for partners [there](#). In particular, you may contact the [Network run by the European Training Foundation \(ETF\)](#) that includes numerous VET centers in Europe and ETF partner countries as well as the [ETF Quality Assurance forum](#) that involves more than 20 countries. In this context, you may consult the [ETF regions and countries](#).
13. Contact **National Erasmus+ Office** (see the list [here](#)), which may have received requests for cooperation from potential CB VET applicants.

Running projects

- ▶ You can see the selected projects in the **Funding & Tenders Portal** call pages:
- ❖ 2022 - **Funding & tenders (europa.eu)** - Click on ‘Funded project list’
- ❖ 2023 - **Funding & tenders (europa.eu)** – Click on ‘Funded project list’
- ❖ 2024 - **Funding & tenders (europa.eu)** – Click on ‘Funded project list’
- ❖ 2025 - **Funding & tenders (europa.eu)** – A complete list will be subsequently available

Thank you for your attention!

National Erasmus+ Office in Montenegro

- **Office address:** Jovana Tomaševića 15, 81000 Podgorica
- **Phone:** +382 20 223 087
- **E-mail:** ljiljanaerasmusplus@ac.me
erasmusmontenegro@ac.me
- **Web site:** www.erasmusplus.ac.me

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